

# the Messenger

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PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



## **Parkdale United Church**

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**Many thanks and keep those contributions coming!!**

**We are always looking for new ideas, volunteers and submissions.** We reserve the right to edit, condense or reject submissions, but will try to find space for all.

Next issue: **June 2019**

Editor next issue: Danica Rogers

Send submissions to:

[messenger@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca](mailto:messenger@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca)

or the church office by **May 12th**

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**IMPORTANT:** When submitting photos to the Messenger, please ensure you have asked permission of the individuals if their faces are clearly recognizable. Make sure they know that their photo will be in an electronic version of The Messenger posted to the Parkdale website.

See: <http://www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/connections/photos/permissions>



## FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK



### **Visual Reflections from my Recent Trip To the Democratic Republic of Congo with World Vision**

As minister of a congregation that has partnered with World Vision for decades, I was invited along with mostly French-speaking Quebec congregational ministers, to participate in an exposure trip to the Democratic Republic of Congo (March 30 – April 6). It was an opportunity to “come and see”, as well as to experience the life, challenges and accomplishments of some rural Congolese communities with whom World Vision is partnering. I was profoundly impressed by the high regard and respect with which World Vision is held by those with whom they collaborate. “World Vision finishes what it starts” we were told by local residents.



Flew Ethiopian Airlines (High Safety Record)



Kinshasa (Congo) is very congested.

60% of the residents of Kinshasa are unemployed. In the country, infant mortality is high due to a lack of clean water, adequate food and medicine.

Meet the team comprised of pastors and World Vision staff.



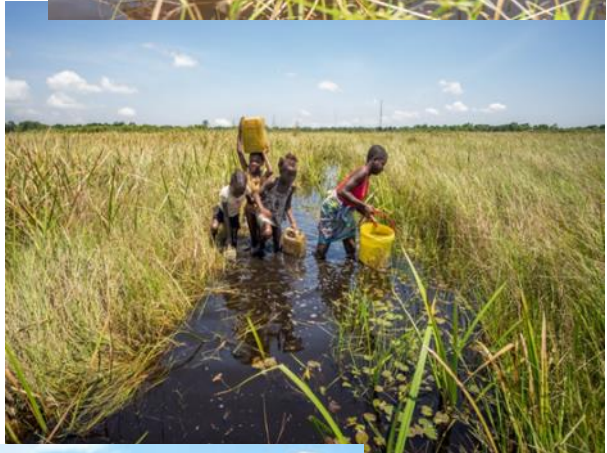
Funeral procession for an infant in a rural community. With sadness we passed by this procession on our way to one of the communities with which World Vision partners.





We walked with the girls 3 kilometres (each way) to witness their twice daily routine of fetching water. This is not drinkable water; it is used for washing and boiled for cooking. The source for drinking water is an additional 5 kms away.

World Vision is preparing to bring clean water to this section of Menkao by drilling and constructing a pump well, like the one in a neighbouring village community. (see below)



World Vision also works with local communities to build schools and hospitals, and provides funding to orphanages, youth-led child protection advocacy initiatives and women's micro-enterprise agricultural projects.

## School



## Orphanage



Hospital



Youth Activists for Child Protection





A women's cooperative agricultural micro-business to which World Vision contributes some money and business training.



I was deeply blessed by this experience and feel even more confident recommending World Vision as a excellent choice for financial contributions to support the vulnerable in the global context.

*Anthony*





## LECTIONARY FOR MAY

### **Third Sunday of Easter - May 5, 2019**

- Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)
- Psalm 30
- Revelation 5:11-14
- John 21:1-19

### **Fourth Sunday of Easter - May 12, 2019**

- Acts 9:36-43
- Psalm 23
- Revelation 7:9-17
- John 10:22-30

### **Fifth Sunday of Easter - May 19, 2019**

- Acts 11:1-18
- Psalm 148
- Revelation 21:1-6
- John 13:31-35


### **Sixth Sunday of Easter - May 26, 2019**

- Acts 16:9-15
- Psalm 67
- Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5
- John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9

### **Ascension of the Lord - May 30, 2019**

- Acts 1:1-11
- Psalm 47 or Psalm 93
- Ephesians 1:15-23
- Luke 24:44-53

### **Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth - May 31, 2019**

- 1 Samuel 2:1-10
  - Psalm 113
  - Romans 12:9-16b
  - Luke 1:39-57
- 

## Birthdays in May

### Our warmest greetings to:

1st	Sarah Ursacki	23rd	Katrina Grozinger
2nd	Emmanuel Okumu	23rd	Johanna Lace
4th	Kendra Huggins	24th	Mercy Lamunu
5th	Annecy Adams	25th	Graydon Emberg
6th	Angela Christopher	29th	Helen Hayes
6th	Evie Bosch	29th	Adam Hinds
6th	Beth Hamley	31st	Stanley Baird
7th	Curtis Cunliffe	31st	Judy Hamley
7th	Benjamin McInnis		
8th	Ruth Foster		
8th	Isaac Barbour		
11th	Alexander Fitzgerald		
16th	Helen Fortune		
16th	Mylcha Kerr-Faucher		
18th	Udobong Akpan		
20th	David Odumodu		
20th	Anael Chimu		
21st	Kerry Lynn Grozinger		
21st	Marley Payne-Odumodu		
22nd	Zoe Lo Botten		



*If you would like your name removed from this list, or if your birthday was not included and you would like to have it added, please contact the office.*

### Book Club

May 26: Nellie McLung, by Charlotte Gray



**All Welcome!**  
Meet in the Ladies Parlor after church  
on book club days.



## *Remembering*

Please remember in your prayers the  
the family of:

Anne and Doug Rutherford, on the  
death of Anne's father,  
Rev Dr Leonard Griffith.



## *Baptism*



Congratulations to Victor Agbeli and Nadine Powers on the baptism of  
their son Inan on April 14th. Shown L to R: Tarrah Mauricette  
(godparent), Victor Agbeli (father), Inan, Nadine Powers (mother).

## FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS and IGNITE!

**For more information regarding these programs, please contact**  
Camille Beaufort (ce@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca)

**Parkdale's Sunday school** welcomes children ages 3 & up and invites them to engage with scripture through readings, videos, activities, crafts and discussions. Children head down to their classes part way through the service, after the children's story.

<b><u>GODLY PLAY (ages JK to 6 yrs) – Blue room</u></b>	
May 5	Parable of the Great Pearl
May 12	Parable of the Sower
May 19	Parable of the Mustard Seed
May 26	Parable of the Leaven or Parable of the Great Banquet (YC)

<b><u>Grades 2 to 5 – Orange Room</u></b>	
May 5	Acts 1:6-14 (Theme: ascend)
May 12	Acts 2:1-21 (Theme: empowered)
May 19	Acts 9:36-43 (Theme: devoted)
May 26	Acts 16:16-34 (Theme: unexpected)

### **Youth Class – upstairs parlour**

**Scripture:** John – The last Seven words of Jesus

**Photovoice:** What do we really think of our Church?

**Service Leadership:** what do we value most?



## **MEET OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

### **Name, age and about your family...**

I'm Elliot, 12, and I have 1 brother, 1 sister and 2 parents in my family.

### **What are some of your hobbies?**

I like to play board games and card games, and I like to read.

### **What do you like about school?**

I like to be at school because I'm part of clubs and because a bunch of my friends go to the same school as me, and learning can also be really fun.

### **Something you'd like everyone to know about you....**

My favourite colors are orange and red.

### **What's your favourite part of Sunday school?**

I like my Sunday school teacher and the snacks, but I like Sunday school over all.

### **What would you like to do to make the world a better place?**

I would like to give homes to homeless people and food to the poor people.

### **Anything else you'd like to share with your friends at Parkdale?**

I like baking and eating food.



## **CHILDREN, YOUTH, & YOUNG ADULTS** **EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

**Parkdale's Kids Club** (JK through 8yrs; parents welcome to stay):  
May 19<sup>th</sup> and June 2. Please bring something to share for lunch.

### **Junior Youth Group** (grades 3-6)

Dates: May 12 and June 2

What to bring: something to share for lunch, favourite board game (Junior Choir members are invited to meet for lunch, attend practice and then join in with youth group.)

**Senior Youth (Grades 7+)**  
(ADULTS MOST WELCOME)

**Parkdale's Youth walk the GLOBAL 6K FOR CLEAN WATER  
– WORLD VISION**

Date: Saturday, June 1

Several of the senior youth have indicated they would like to walk.  
Roxanne and Zaya are willing to accompany the youth on this journey.  
Please sign them up!

**Building Community through Play** (sports, movies and games)

Dates: May 12 (tentative: outing to Skyzone or Flying Squirrel), and  
May 26

What to bring: something to share for lunch, favourite board game

**Cooking with Rob, Paul and Zaya**

Date: April 28, from 4 to 7:30 pm.

All youth (grades 7 and up) are invited!

**IGNITE! (ages 25ish+)**

\*\*\*Please note change of dates\*\*\*: April 29 and May 13

Bible study of Galatians - Mondays at 7 pm

For more information, please contact Lauren Barbour  
([Lauren.a.barbour@gmail.com](mailto:Lauren.a.barbour@gmail.com))

**Second Blessings Coffee Shop**

Everyone is invited for treats and refreshments!

Next coffee shop dates: **May 5<sup>th</sup>** and **May 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Summer BBQ - June 9<sup>th</sup>**

(volunteers needed)

Please plan to attend our annual teacher recognition BBQ. Donations will be accepted with additional funds received going to support Parkdale's ministry to children. If you are able to lend a hand with set up, tear down, serving, please let Camille know.

## **Kids Club**

Kids Club got off to a running start as 12 Parkdalers between 5 and 8 years scampered around the church dashing from room to room following clues in search of chocolate eggs and jigsaw pieces to solve the **MYSTERY** puzzle.

### **Would you be able to follow this clue to the treasure?**

“Find me between places of orange and blue,  
I am where you see the kids most new.  
Come and find me restful and sweet  
Lying on a rocking seat!”

**Or**

“I am another place you can pray  
Not **every** Sunday but on a quiet day  
My windows are beautiful and share bible news  
Your clue can be found on one of my pews!”

Can you guess what the secret message in the mystery puzzle was?



The Kid Clubbers made and ate Lenten chocolate chip and sugar cookies.

Clubbers also worked together to build a bridge with the game “Contraption”.

At the end of our afternoon together, the Clubbers rejoined parents toting a bag of treasure!

**Our next Kids Club adventure**, when we will again be hunting treasure, making and eating delicious goodies, playing games and having loads of fun, will take place on **May 19, 2019.**

*Submitted by: Jennifer Payne*

(Thank you to our junior youth who helped and participated in all the activities. And thank you to Jennifer Payne and Wendy McHenry for helping to run the afternoon.)



## **GRACEFIELD CAMPING WEEKEND** ***JUNE 21-23, 2019***

Everyone is invited! Children, adults, families and friends... Come and join us in enjoying the beautiful Gracefield Christian Camp and Retreat Centre.

### **Meals & Accommodations**

All meals are provided from Saturday breakfast to Sunday lunch. Various kinds of accommodation are available: Lodge rooms, cabins, tenting, trailer sites. All have access to indoor plumbing and hot showers.



## **\*\*Registration Deadline\*\***

**Sunday, June 2**

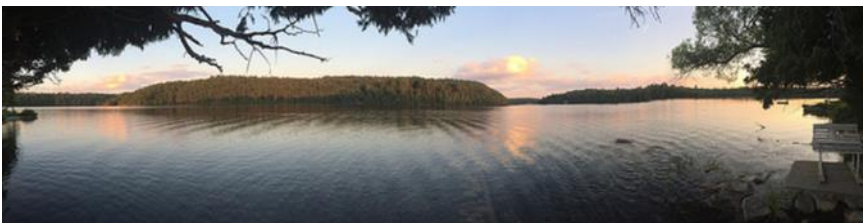
A table will be set up near the coffee shop on Sundays after service, starting Sunday, April 28. Forms will also be available in each Sunday school room, from Camille, and the office.

**Completed forms?** Payments with slips should be placed in the collection plate on Sunday.

**For more information,** please contact Camille Beaufort:  
[ce@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca](mailto:ce@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca)  
(819-455-9281)



**No Barriers Policy:** If the cost of registration is a barrier to you or your family, simply contact Camille in order to arrange registrations.



*The Statistics Canada Choir presents...*



**Pop songs of the 2000s  
Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at 7 pm.  
Parkdale United Church**

With popular songs from Adele to Zaz, sung in English and French, and accompanied by several musicians, this show will appeal to all generations! Net proceeds go to Parkinson Canada in Ottawa, for support services to people living with Parkinson's disease and to help fund research for better treatments.

**Tickets:** \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, FREE for children ages 12 or under. Advance tickets available online at [www.universe.com](http://www.universe.com). Search using keywords: StatCan, Parkinson or Pop.

For more information or tickets: contact Elise Mennie at 819-595-1294 or [dunmenni@hotmail.com](mailto:dunmenni@hotmail.com).

**About the Statcan Choir:** Since 1992, the Statcan choir has presented concerts in the Ottawa-Gatineau area to support local charities. All choir members are current or former employees of Statistics Canada. Two concerts were held previously at Parkdale, in 2016 and 2017, to support *In From the Cold* and *Centre 510 Indigenous Drop-In*.

**Note:** Concerts will also be held: **Sunday, May 12, 2019 at 3:00 pm**, Église Saint-François-de-Sales, 799 Jacques-Cartier, Gatineau; and **Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 12:00 pm**, Jean-Talon Building Conference Room, 170 Tunney's



## *Thank you to all Parkdale Volunteers!*

National Volunteer Week was April 7th -13th but it's never too late to say *Thank You!*

So **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers at Parkdale United Church for all that YOU DO!

It is amazing to think of all the activities, too numerous to name here, in which Parkdale folks are involved. These include not only assisting at Sunday worship but many activities throughout the week, reaching far beyond the walls of the Parkdale building.

Whatever you do at Parkdale, your gift of time and talents is so appreciated and valued.

Parkdale wouldn't be the vibrant place it is without you all!



## THANK YOU FROM THE LITERACY TABLE!

Heartfelt thanks to the members of Parkdale for donating so generously to the Literacy Table at *In From the Cold* in 2018-19.

We are frequently asked what our guests enjoy reading, and our response is --- everything! One afternoon I counted the different titles of the magazines on display, and to my surprise discovered that we had 95 different titles ranging from A (the Atlantic) to Z (Zoomer). Our guests have wide-ranging interests in books too, and among the favourites are best-sellers, biographies, history, coffee table books and anything related to animals. Large-print books, recipes, French books and crafts (especially those pertaining to knitting and wood-working) are also very popular.

Everyone also expressed appreciation for the donations of calendars, greeting cards, jigsaw puzzles and cloth and nylon bags.

Please save your reading material throughout the summer and fall so that we may replenish our shelves next November. You may leave books and magazines in the labelled green bin outside the chapel anytime. Do have a lovely spring and summer.

On behalf of the guests and volunteers at the Literacy Table, thank you again for your generosity and kindness. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda at 613-729-0705 or [Brenda.mcardillo@gmail.com](mailto:Brenda.mcardillo@gmail.com).

*Brenda Cardillo*





## IN FROM THE COLD An Evening to Give Thanks

For the 17th year of *In From the Cold*, the April 4th potluck was truly a celebration and evening to give thanks. Thanks for the opportunity to serve our grateful guests. Thanks for our generous donors. Thanks for our caring volunteers. Thanks for all those who support this ministry through prayer and financial support. And a very special thanks to Hazel Bowen, for 17 years of dedicated ministry with *In From the Cold*. We wish Hazel much enjoyment of new endeavors as she leaves IFTC. She has gifted us with the solid foundation she built through the years—so that we can carry on this ministry for many more!



## Stewardship Corner

### Water by the Numbers

God has called upon us to be good stewards of resources such as water and the environment with which He has blessed us. Water is life. By being good stewards of water, we are also being good stewards of our other resources. What we do (or not) with water has an obvious impact on the land and soil, as well as on our pocketbook. What we do (or not) with water here in Ottawa could have an impact somewhere else on the Earth. We are all one and the environment is all one.



To quote John Dohne (and later Thomas Merton), “No man is an island.” As the “butterfly ripple effect” suggests that a flap of a butterfly’s wings in one part of the one world could cause tornadoes in another part of the world, the small actions that we take locally could have effects not only locally, but much farther away and in far more complex situations.

Here is some basic information about water and the small actions (with resulting big effects) that we can take. Much more could be said about the water that we use than space allows.

#### **In the Bathroom – Showers and Baths**

An average adult uses about 100 litres of water for a 5-minute shower.

- That is 36,500 litres used per year, at a cost for water of about \$70 (*based on cost of about 0.193 cents for 1 litre of water*).
- The energy cost for this example is about \$256 (*Assume one kWh to heat 20 litres of water to 60°C and 1 kWh costs on average 13 cents, therefore cost to heat water to 60°C is about \$0.007 per litre* )
- Total cost = \$326 per year.

And if one takes one 15-minute shower each day, using 300 litres per shower, the numbers dramatically increase as follows:

- 109,500 litres of water will be used per year, at a cost for water of about \$211 (*based on cost of about 0.193 cents for 1 litre of water*).
- The energy cost for this example is about \$767 dollars (*Assume one kWh to heat 20 litres of water to 60°C and 1 KWh costs on average 13 cents, therefore cost to heat water to 60°C is about \$0.007 per litre*).
- Total cost = \$978 per year.

### **What to do:**

- Taking shorter showers and installing a low-flow shower head will help the environment and save a family of four about \$1,000 a year!
- Letting water run while brushing our teeth is like throwing money down the drain, so let's remember to turn off the tap.
- Similarly, turning off the shower when soaping will save even more money and the environment.

## **Laundry**

Consider that a family of four will do about 300 loads of laundry per year.

- An older type clothes washer uses about 151.4 L to 170.3 L water per load
- A high efficiency clothes washer uses about 53 L to 94.6 L water per load

### **What to do:**

- Consider replacing the old faithful with a high efficiency clothes washer.

## **Toilets**

Estimates based on a family of four each flushing four times a day and water cost of about 0.193 cents per litre.

- A toilet manufactured before the 1980s uses up to 20 litres of water per flush, for an annual water use of 116,800 litres and a cost of approximately \$225.

- A toilet sold during the 1980s or early 1990s uses up to 13 litres per flush, for an annual water use of 77,000 litres and a cost of \$149.
- A more modern toilet uses about 6 litres or less per flush, for an annual water use of 35,000 litres and a cost of approximately \$67.

### **What to do:**

- Steward our water resources; help the environment and reduce up to 80,000 litres of water (and save money) by replacing older toilets.
- A simple modification of the toilet bowl to reduce the volume of water used will also help.

### **Outdoors (Lawns)**

Up to 50% of the water that we use outside is wasted.

### **What to do:**

- Water lawns early in the morning or evening to avoid too much evaporation.
- If grass is cut no lower than 3 inches, excessive evaporation is prevented, weeds are crowded out and deep roots promoted.
- Aerate compact areas so that water can infiltrate better.
- Use soaker hoses instead of oscillating sprinklers, as the latter can waste up to 50% of water to wind and evaporation.
- Remember that lawns require on average about 1 inch of water once a week.

### **Leaks**

### **What to do:**

- Check for leaks around the house (e.g. toilets and faucets) and repair them for only a few dollars, to save possibly hundreds of dollars.

*Submitted by David Odumodu  
Chair, Stewardship Committee*

**Note:** *This updated article was previously published in the Messenger in 2012.*



Children lead the parade of palms on April 14th, Palm Sunday.



Dalesong sings *Hosannah!* with the congregation on Palm Sunday.



## Cornerstone Housing for Women



On Friday afternoon, March 22, 2019, Rev. Anthony Bailey, Helen Hayes and I attended the "Official Donor Wall Unveiling" at the Cornerstone women's residence located at 373 Princeton Avenue in Westboro. This is a new home for women in transition who seek support to rebuild their lives after experiencing trauma, abuse and homelessness. Our congregation, at last year's Annual General Meeting in February, 2018, voted to fund two rooms at this home at a cost of \$13,000.

From their website, here is more information about Cornerstone Housing for Women and its Princeton residence:

"We provide emergency shelter and safe affordable permanent housing for women in Ottawa... We strive to increase safe housing and to end homelessness. Our five residences cater to women at every stage of their journey...

Thanks to the incredible support of our community and wonderful partners, we have built a beautiful new housing community on **Princeton Ave** that will provide a comforting home for 42 women who need moderate support. The women who live in this new space in Ottawa's west end will be transitioning out of crisis, but will still need some help living in the community.

The space is round and warm with a big open entryway that was built so the house would feel like walking into open welcome arms. It has a peaceful back courtyard, a big yard with a lovely swing, and was created as a sanctuary for all who enter. This residence also includes a respite suite that is served by a committed team of volunteers from the neighbourhood."

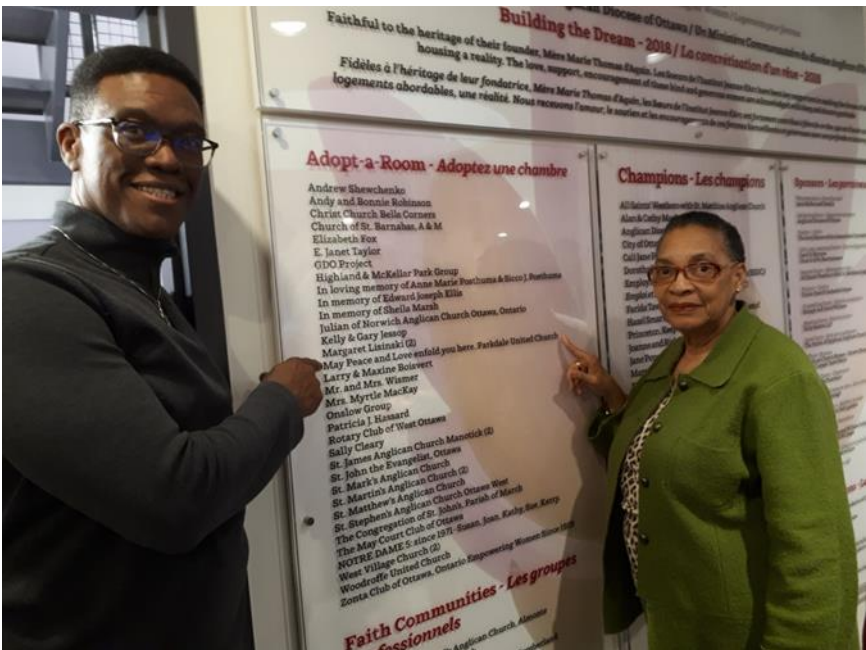
The new Princeton Avenue residence was previously owned by a French catholic order of nuns, les Soeurs de l'Institut Jeanne d'Arc. It

was a privilege for me to attend the donor plaque unveiling in the company of the five nuns who gave up their own residence to women in need of a home. We heard firsthand how grateful the new residents are, one of whom spoke passionately at the event. It was a humble feeling being in the presence of the nuns and some of the 42 women now housed there. As Barry Hobin rose to point out last year at the 2018 AGM, "while the money we are giving is important, this is really a great story for the congregation to know about. The story is that we, as a congregation, are living our vision - *to form followers of Jesus in such a way as to transform our community and our world.* We understand fully

the profound need to come alongside the community in tangible ways and are committed to doing the right thing. Here we are supporting women in need, helping to house them in a comfortable home."

Our church is blessed to have funds available to give in this way, and not only to Cornerstone. In 2018, we also donated \$15,000 from our Memorial Fund to the Multifaith Housing Initiative for their newest affordable housing project for families, "The Haven" in Barrhaven.

*Submitted by Faye Beaufort*



## Report of Council Meeting—March 26, 2019

Summary submitted by  
Helen Hayes

As we do at all Council meetings, we opened with a time of reflection and devotion. Anthony led this session with a Lenten devotion, during which we were asked to read and reflect on excerpts from Psalms 130, 139, and 51. This was followed by a thought-provoking video by Rob Bell, entitled “Lump”, at the end of which we were assured that nothing can separate us from the love of God; nothing we can do will make Him love us less. Members then read together an assurance of grace and sang “God You Meet Us”.

The major item of business was the discussion of the Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) Report, for which Matthew Baker, Chair of JNAC joined us. There was considerable discussion of the draft report, much of which related to a request by our M&P Committee for more detail in the job description. Council was advised that the JNAC had deliberately left considerable

flexibility in the job description, in order to leave room for the new person to make his/her own mark and to bring forward new ideas. We were also informed that the congregational survey had proved very useful in providing direction on where the congregation sees a need for more focus, i.e. youth transitioning to young adulthood.

After agreement was reached on proposed changes, Council accepted the amended Report, and Matt left the meeting. Later in the meeting, Council authorized the convening of a congregational meeting on April 14, for the purpose of accepting the JNAC report and creating a Search Committee for a new Minister of Youth and Families.

There were two items of correspondence, a letter from Hiromi McPhail, offering to host yoga classes at Parkdale; this was rejected, as the proposal is not in accordance with our fund-raising policy. The second letter was from Orleans United Church, a

request for Anthony to preach there on September 29, 2019, which Council approved.

Kathleen Stephenson, Treasurer, tabled the financial summary to the end of February 2019, which was accepted with no discussion. There was then a discussion of our UCC congregational assessment for 2019 (our contribution to the administration costs of the UCC). Two options were presented: a payment of \$26,002, representing a 10% increase over last year's assessment, capped for three years; or \$28,485 – 4½% of eligible revenue in 2018 – more than 20% higher than our 2018 Presbytery assessment. The amount of \$26,002 had already been paid, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, who also wanted the question to be put to Council, with the recommendation that the lower amount be paid. After considerable discussion, Council authorized the payment of the higher amount.

Written reports had been provided to Council by Committee chairs and staff in advance of the March 26th meeting. A summary of these is provided here.

**Communications Committee:** Carolynn Halkett reported that work continues on revising the Parkdale website with completion hopefully this Spring. Carolynn was delighted to report that one of the new members knows Word Press and offered to join the Committee.

**Worship:** Barbara Faught noted that she had received an offer of help with banners from one of the new members who was received during worship on March 24, 2019.

**Stewardship:** David Odumodu outlined a number of planned activities. Information for the bulletin and messaging for the community will be prepared for Earth Day – April 22, 2019.

Parkdale will contribute to the *Ottawa Spring Cleaning the Capital* campaign on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, for clean-up of our church neighbourhood. May 4th is also the Saturday for events associated with the church's 88th anniversary; the events are seen as complementary, and the involvement of the community will be positive for the church and the community.

Recycling efforts are going well. Compostable materials are being

## Report of Council Meeting, March 26th—cont.

utilized in most, if not all events. Compostable food and paper waste are being collected in lined green bins. Trustees were not able to construct an outside shed for the green bins this winter due to the ice but will be doing so when it is feasible. This will alleviate the problems associated with storing the green bins inside the building.

Hiking / Walking – folks are encouraged to come out for walks/hikes as these afford us opportunity to appreciate nature and therefore steward it, as well as the health benefits and the opportunities for fellowship.

### **Mission, Outreach and Justice:**

Faye Beaufort noted that she had two new members interested in joining MOJ Committee. Faye also reported that the youngest child in Elsa's refugee family, Temesgen, spent some time in CHEO in late March, where it was determined that he had a mild form of malaria for which they began treatment which it is hoped will eradicate his malaria. The entire family is now in school. Elsa and her 21-year old daughter take the bus to Bayshore public school for their ESL classes. Yaret, age 17, walks to Woodroffe Public School. He will remain there for Adult ESL classes when he turns 18 on April 19, 2019. Temesgen, age 12, is in Grade 6 at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School.

**Pastoral Care:** Mary McLeod reported that Easter lilies had once again been ordered and will be distributed after the service on Easter Sunday. The Pastoral Care Team plans to assist with hosting an ecumenical event sometime after Easter to support Compassionate Care Ottawa, with Rev Alcris and Norm Tape. The spring Special Communion will be on April 27th.

**Ministry and Personnel:** Judy Hamley reported that Norman Reid is expected to return April 10, 2019, from his leave of absence. Judy thanked Jeff Clifford for filling in so competently while Norman was away. This winter was particularly challenging with the amount of snow shoveling it took, sometimes more than once a day. Thank you, Jeff! Judy also thanked Carole Shaw and Ryan Pascal for covering Sunday mornings. We are certainly blessed to have such dedicated caretaking staff!

Judy also noted that M&P will be meeting individually with all the staff in June to review the past year with them. Feedback from any Council member or member of the congregation is always welcome at any time. Direct your feedback, positive and/or constructive, to



M&P through the email at  
[MandP@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca](mailto:MandP@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca)

Judy also advised of upcoming vacation/study leaves as follows:

**Anthony:**

**April 30 –May 2** (study leave)  
Stewardship Conference-Generosity Transformed. Anthony is the keynote speaker (Indianapolis) <https://stewardshipresources.org/generosity-transformed/>

**May 13-17** (study leave) Annual Festival of Homiletics-theme Preaching as Moral Imagination. Anthony is a speaker (Minneapolis) <https://www.festivalofhomiletics.com/>

**June 10-24-Vacation** (2 weeks)

**Aleris:**

**June 27- July 5- Vacation** (9 days)

**Property Trustees:** Helen Hayes reported that blinds have been installed in the Ladies' Parlour kitchen. The sun shining in the kitchen is lovely at this time of the year but in late Spring and Summer, the kitchen gets very hot. Hopefully the blinds will provide some relief.

On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, a few volunteers tackled the shelves outside Melodee's office, cleaned the former youth room and created a storage area for CE material there. There remains more cleaning, sorting, and trashing to be done in other areas of the church and another day will be

found to continue work on this. A lock has been installed on the IFTC storage room off Tape Hall in order to provide secure storage for items that are bought on sale and stored. There has been a bit of a problem with things disappearing so this should help mitigate that problem.

Thermostats, some very old, throughout the church are in the process of being replaced with digital thermostats.

The ramp providing access to the sanctuary level from the Gladstone parking lot is in very bad shape; estimates for replacement/repair are being sought.

**Anthony's report:** Anthony reported the completion of member preparation sessions; nine enthusiastic and engaged people were welcomed into membership, including one by adult baptism, on March 24. Praise God for all of them! Tuesday morning Bible Study of the thirteen apostles ended on April 16 with communion and a pot luck lunch. This study assisted participants to see the way in which Jesus related to each of his very different apostles and how we can see ourselves reflected in their personal dispositions. Communion chapel services continued at Westwood and at Carlingview Manor, with support from Hazel Bowen, Muriel Bellman, Elaine West and Jane Barbe.

On Shrove Tuesday, we enjoyed a time of eating and fellowship over pancakes and sausages, juice, coffee, tea and dessert. About 75 members of all ages from the congregation and a few neighbourhood guests joined in this time of fellowship and brief reflection of the meaning of “Fat Tuesday” and its connection to the beginning of the season of Lent. Our Ash Wednesday service, led by Rev. Alcris and Anthony, had about 55 in attendance. It was an opportunity to reflect on the symbol of the dust and God’s good care and accompanying of us in our human and faith journeys.

Anthony participates actively on many Parkdale committees and working groups: Stewardship; Mission, Outreach and Justice; Worship; Refugee Support, and Property Development, to name a few. Parkdale’s Collaborative Justice Team had a meeting on February 14 with the Collaborative Justice representatives concerning the progress of the young offender who defaced our church building in 2016. We continue to be very encouraged by his transformation and progress.

On March 21, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Rev Alcris and Anthony co-led an interactive seminar on understanding racism and working to eliminate it. During February, Black History Month, Anthony made a number of presentations, including to St. Paul Catholic High School,

Notre Dame Catholic High School, Immaculata Catholic High School, and Connaught Public School, and preached at St. Stephen’s Anglican Church for their Black History Month service on February 24.

With respect to Ministry in the Public Square, on February 23, Anthony was one of the speakers at the *Global Alliance Awards Gala* for those of all ages in the African/Caribbean and other communities making significant contributions to the well-being of their schools, communities and society at large. On February 25, he was invited by MP Greg Fergus to a Parliamentary sponsored event for CARICOM, celebrating the relationship between Canada and primarily Caribbean countries. It was also an opportunity to speak with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau about his support of the anti-black racism strategy being rolled out by the Liberal government. On March 4, Anthony made a theological and missional presentation to the Strategic Gathering of Staff and Board Members of the Ottawa Mission. The purpose was to help frame its strategic direction and initiatives in light of an understanding of God’s desires and priorities for those experiencing poverty, homelessness, addiction, mental illness, as well as those in palliative care in their hospice and those training for vocational endeavours. On March 15, Anthony represented Parkdale at the Ottawa Mosque to offer support after the horrendous massacre of Muslim worshippers in New Zealand, and

was invited to speak words of comfort, support and outrage. On March 21st, Anthony was a presenter at Treasury Board Secretariat for the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. On March 24th, Anthony offered opening and closing remarks and prayers at the memorial event at the temporary Parliamentary space on Wellington St. for the victims of the Ethiopian Airlines crash, with members of some of the victims' families in attendance. On March 27th, Rabbi Scher, Imam Delic and Anthony spoke to Grades 10 and 11 at Lisgar Collegiate Institute about their respective faith traditions' perspectives on responding to violence, hatred and racism with love, justice and allyship.

Last but certainly not least, Anthony gave thanks for the opportunity to

travel with World Vision from March 30 – April 6. Along with seven other pastors and WV staff, he visited community development projects in the Congo, where WV is seeking to strengthen and improve their collaborative partnerships with local churches and communities to provide access to clean water, sustainable agricultural initiatives, education, health and nutrition.

The next meeting of Council is planned for **May 7, 2019**. Members of the congregation are always welcome to attend these meetings.

**Note:** Subsequent to the March 26th meeting, a motion respecting Robert and Hilary Merritt, who had asked to be recognized as Voluntary Associate Ministers through Parkdale, was passed by Council via email.



The Bell Ensemble from Rideau Park United Church, directed by Jeanette Caton, shared their music with us at Parkdale on Sunday, April 7th, 2019.

## Congregational Meeting - April 14, 2019

*Summary submitted by Elise Men-  
nie, Interim Council Secretary*

A special Congregational meeting was held to consider the JNAC report (Joint Needs Assessment Committee) on April 14, 2019, at 12:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

Council Chair Garth McLeod called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm and Rev. Bailey offered an opening prayer. Quorum was established (minimum of 20 members) as at least 56 members were in attendance. There was a motion to allow adherents to vote as well as members, which was carried. Garth asked if anyone wished to move that the vote be done by secret ballot instead of by show of hands and no one so moved.

Matt Baker, chair of JNAC gave a summary of the report and the responsibilities of the vacant position of Minister of youth and families. From the survey of members held last December, the committee identified two main gaps in needs: helping youth transition between the youth program and early adult years, as well as recruiting and training of volunteers. The position would be full-time to provide an effective ministry for youth and families, supporting and equipping a lay leadership network with meaningful roles in the delivery of

programs. The minister would work collaboratively with other paid staff, lay leaders, Sunday school teachers and congregational members. The minister's time would be divided into three key responsibility areas: Programming - Sunday school, outside children and youth activities, recruiting and training volunteers, etc. (60%); Worship – planning and leading (20%); Other – meetings with staff, lay leaders, U.C. Regional Council, etc. (20%). The position would be an Ordained Minister, Diaconal Minister, or Designated Lay Minister.

Following discussion about possibly opening the position to candidates from other denominations than the United Church, it was noted that such a candidate, if chosen, could be appointed by the congregation as a "Congregational Designated Minister". There was also discussion of the idea of hiring 2 part-time persons (one for children and one for youth) instead of one full-time. However, committee members noted that they emphasized lay contributions and a collaborative approach so that the new minister would not need to be everything to everyone. Concerning advertising the position, it would be up to the Search Committee (which would be appointed at this meeting) to use the Parkdale and the U.C. websites and ask the congregation for help in broadcasting the opening.

Before adopting the JNAC report, the assembly accepted a motion to amend the report, adding “or Congregational Designated Minister” to “Type of position: Ordained Minister, Diaconal Minister, or Designated Lay Minister”. The report was then approved.

Six people had offered to serve on the Search Committee: Barbara Faught, Paul Crabtree, Camille

Beaufort, Zaya Kuyena, Ruth Foster and Rev. Hilary Merritt. The assembly accepted a motion to add a youth representative under 25 years, to be selected by the youth. Then the assembly accepted the appointment of the Search Committee as named.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm and Matt Baker offered the closing prayer.



On Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019, we enjoyed a musical celebration of the Resurrection. Moving in Spirit, the Senior Choir, Dalesong, three trumpet-ers and a horn player all took part in praising God!



## Images & Stories

### Romania

Images & Stories  
Parkdale United Church  
March 2019



language is Romanian (Latin based), the main ethnic groups are Romanian 84%, Hungarian 6.1%, Roma 3.1%, German 0.2% and Ukrainian 0.2%. The main religions are Christian Orthodox 81%, Roman Catholic 43%, Reformed 3%, Greek-Catholic 0.7% and Unitarian 0.3%.

This was the last presentation of our 2018-2019 *Images & Stories* season, held on March 29th. And Dan Monafu did not disappoint the roughly 30 guests who gathered in the Ladies' Parlour to listen to his presentation about Romania—his native country. Dan was born and grew up in the capital city, Bucharest, and came to Canada at age 15. Bucharest is the largest city with a population of about 2 million.

As the travel magazines say, the famed natural beauty of Romania is largely unknown to our broad Western audience. As Dan's talk progressed, we eagerly learned that Romania sits on the west coast of the Black Sea, with Moldova, Ukraine, Hungary, Serbia and Bulgaria as its bordering countries. It is a relatively small country of 240,000 sq. km - roughly half the size of the island of Newfoundland. While the official

As Dan mentioned, most people would only remember Romania under President Nicolae Ceausescu; in particular, the December 1989 revolution which led to the quick execution of Romania's last Communist leader, Nicolae Ceausescu, and his wife Elena. However, we were fascinated by the history lesson of Romania given by this history student who returns to his country nearly every two years to experience the progress and enjoy the beauty of his country of birth.

He took us quickly through tribes of Indo-Europeans migrating from Asia, that occupied the present territory of Romania in about 3000 B.C. Then, by about 2000 B.C., a subgroup called the "Gatae" emerged. You will understand the rich history lesson we received when he explained that Herodotus, the famed historian of that time, praised these

people as “the fairest and most courageous of men”. He spoke of the ruins of Sarmisegetuza Regia, an archaeological site which is now a UNESCO World Heritage site. It was at that time the capital - being the most important military, religious and political centre of the Dacian Kingdom prior to the war with the Romans. There are as well impressive cave paintings in northwest Transylvania from 10,000 B.C. which indicate that Romania had been inhabited since the Paleolithic Age. He spoke of the Statue of the Greek poet Ovid and touched on the Greek influence about 700 B.C., at which time Western-style civilization developed significantly. However, it was the conquest of the proud Dacians by the Romans in 106 A.D. that is of great significance to the Romanian people. Suffice it to say, the Romans were so proud of their conquest that the Emperor Trajan erected what’s known as Trajan’s Column in the city of Rome.

By the 12<sup>th</sup> Century, German settlers began to establish towns, leaving some really beautiful Germanic villages throughout central Romania. Of much interest in Sibiu is the German architecture where many buildings have “eyes” in the roofs. It was fascinating to see the magnificent architecture of the monasteries founded by Stephen the Great and seeing the Voronet - another UNESCO Heritage Site. The blue colour painted on the outside of that building is called “Blue of Voronet” which has never been replicated.

Romania, however, has one historical and national architectural style called the Brancovenesc style – the name coined from the castle that belonged to the Brancovesti.

We were taken through a rapid glimpse of Romania’s history: from its early wars leading up to today’s Romania as a vibrant democracy. We saw that Bucharest – the city where Dan was born and that he left at age 15 – has become a very trendy place. You will today see a blend of architecture from Communist concrete grey through to the shiny glass of modern cathedrals, banking and shopping places. We ended up looking at the world’s windiest highway in the Carpathian mountains – the Transfagarasan – and finally, the Bran Castle – popularly known as “Dracula’s castle” – famous to Westerners but not really liked by Romanians who know its real story.

This account of the evening’s presentation is just a taste of the varied and fascinating history of Romania which we were so fortunate to learn from Dan. You can see from this partial account that Romania is a country of rich history, yet to be travelled, discovered and enjoyed by Westerners. Dan encourages us to do just that. Dan, I am sure you could tell that you had our undivided attention and interest by the many questions and comments from the guests. Thank you for such an interesting presentation – an evening well spent to end our *Images & Stories* season .

*Faye Beauport*

## Living into Right Relations

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I believe churches are meant for praising God. But so are 2 a.m. car rides, showers, coffee shops, the gym, conversations with friends, strangers, etc.

Don't let a building confine your faith because we will never change the world just by going to church.  
We need to be the church.

*Submitted by Susan Mailer*



We enjoy meeting you and being together in ministry.  
Parkdale's congregation responds to God's call and Jesus' teachings by:



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

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



Supporting each other through pastoral care and concern

***Reaching out to people in need***

**PROMOTING JUSTICE**

Praying for guidance, wisdom, and support.

