

the Messenger

PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



Parkdale United Church

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the Messenger

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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: **November 2017**
Editor next issue: Elise Mennie

Send submissions to:
messenger@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca

Where to find it...



Message from the Minister 3

Lectionary 6

Bible Study 7

Our New Pastoral Care Minister 8

Rev. Limongi is here! 16

Images and Stories 18

Refugee Family Update 19

Fall Rummage Sale 20

Kids Clothing and Toy Swap 21

Fall Children and Youth Programs 22

Christmas Pageant 23

Dalesong Picnic 24

Prayer Shawl 26

September Birthdays 28

Recipe
29	
Living into Right Relations 30
Yuletide Bazaar 34
Namby Pamby 36
Book Club 38

IMPORTANT: When submitting photos to the Messenger, please ensure you have asked permission of the individuals if their faces are clearly recognizable. They should know that an electronic PDF version of the Messenger is posted to the Parkdale website.

See: <http://www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/connections/photos/permissions> **2**

Autumnal Transformation

By Anthony Bailey

It was John Updike the novelist who claimed that “our brains are no longer conditioned for reverence and awe”. Also, the eminent philosopher Charles Taylor has argued in his tome *A Secular Age* (2007) that we live today in a time that is defined by what he calls “the immanent frame.” He mounts a very persuasive argument describing what this is and what it means. Simply put, he contends that at this moment in our world, we are living as if this world is all there is. This world is reality; any notion of a world beyond this one is a matter of personal opinion or speculation. Contrast this with times past when the world beyond this—the supernatural, the spiritual, the transcendent— was simply assumed and was clearly believed to be the most real.

There is some truth to the conclusions of Updike and Taylor, but while many subscribe to these positions, there are other

chapters in this story about the human community. In her book *Grounded: Finding God in the*



World, researcher Diana Butler Bass reveals an interesting movement. She found that many people are finding new spiritual ground through a God who is grounded in this world we share. In other words, it is not so much that this world is all there is, but that God is so connected to this world that this God may be experienced in the soil, the water, the sky, in our homes and neighbourhoods, and in what she calls the ‘global commons’. For some, it is the encounter with all in which we are daily immersed

that propels them to seek a deeper understanding and connection with God. Some come to express this in various Christian traditions, and others in other religious traditions.

Theologically, this is not foreign to Christian faith. Jesus *Emmanuel* (meaning *God with us*) took on flesh and reveals the power and identity of God not only in his words, but in the way he used gifts of Creation (mud, water, wine, bread) to bless and heal people. “*Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.*” (John 14:9)

For those of us who are seeking to understand and express our connection with this world and with the God whom we confess created it, I believe we too would do well to recognize the handprints, and footprints and ‘love’-prints of God which are all over Creation.

Madeleine L’Engle writes:
Each tree and leaf and star show how the universe is part of this one cry, that every life is noted and is cherished, and that nothing loved is ever lost or perished.

As “noted, cherished and loved” ones, God summons us – as each changeable leaf is summoned - to

give up all that is necessary in order to make room for the beauty and change that is yet to come forth from us. The invitation is self-involving and perhaps scary for most of us. However, by trusting the hospitality and grace of God, it can become as ‘natural’ as the change in autumn leaves. We are not meant to only behold the beauty of creation, we are ourselves purposed by God to experience the gifts of whole-life transformation.

Allow these autumn days and evenings and nights to be a canvas to which God draws our attention. May we pause to notice and revel in the transformations taking place in the leaves, and trees, and sky, and air...but also in ourselves. Like an attentive gardener and an expert potter, God longs to get God’s hands into the soil of our lives, and into the clay of our doubts and insecurities, and into the humus of our struggling faith and anxiety, in order to aerate, shape and curate Christ-like life in individuals, communities and this

the Messenger

world that God so loves. As
followers of Jesus here at
Parkdale United, when we gather
in worship and prayer and
thanksgiving and celebration and
study and social gatherings, may

we help each other welcome and
allow what God desires for us.

Anthony

A THANKSGIVING CONTEMPLATION

(submitted by Anthony Bailey)

May an abundance of gratitude burst forth
as you reflect upon what you have received.

May thanksgiving overflow in your heart, and
often be proclaimed in your prayer.

May you gather around the table of your heart
the ardent faithfulness, kindness, and goodness of
each person who is true to you.

May your basket of blessings surprise you
with its rich diversity of gifts and
its opportunities for growth.

May you always be open, willing and ready
to share your blessings with others.

May you never forget the Generous One who
loves you lavishly and unconditionally.

Joyce Rupp



LECTIONARY FOR OCTOBER



Proper 22 (27) - October 7, 2018

- Job 1:1, 2:1-10 and Psalm 26
- Genesis 2:18-24 and Psalm 8
- Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
- Mark 10:2-16

Canadian Thanksgiving Day - October 8, 2018

- Joel 2:21-27 and Psalm 126
- 1 Timothy 2:1-7
- Matthew 6:25-33

Proper 23 (28) - October 14, 2018

- Job 23:1-9, 16-17 and Psalm 22:1-15
- Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 and Psalm 90:12-17
- Hebrews 4:12-16
- Mark 10:17-31

Proper 24 (29) - October 21, 2018

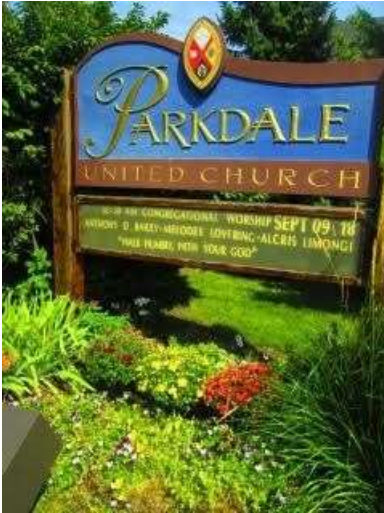
- Job 38:1-7, (34-41) and Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c
- Isaiah 53:4-12 and Psalm 91:9-16
- Hebrews 5:1-10
- Mark 10:35-45

Proper 25 (30) - October 28, 2018

- Job 42:1-6, 10-17 and Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22)
- Jeremiah 31:7-9 and Psalm 126

- Hebrews 7:23-28

Many thanks to the gardeners who assisted in keeping the garden looking wonderful from May to September.



Remembering

Please keep the families of the following loved ones in your prayers:

Passed away in September

Jeanetta McGarry

Clarence (Clare) Campbell

Dr James (Jim) Mount





lyla, daughter of Christina and Matthew Stacey, was baptized during the September 16 worship service.



Penelope, daughter of Crystal Kuarsingh and Michael Mendyka, was baptized during the September 16 worship service.



Congratulations!



The Wall of Inspiration was unveiled at City Hall on Sept. 14, 2018. The United Way award winners' names are engraved on the wall. There were 32 names added this year, including Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey.

Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey received the United Way Community Builders Award in February 2017.

He was honoured, with the other 2017 awardees, on September 14, 2018 at the Ottawa City Hall.

IMAGES & STORIES



You do not want to miss experiencing travel to Bali with Marilyn Follett.

When? **Friday, October 26th at 7:00PM**

Where? Ladies' Parlour.

Please join us afterwards for fellowship and refreshments.



Important Date Change: The Friday, September 21st presentation on Costa Rica, by Garth and Mary McLeod, was cancelled because of inclement weather. The strong wind and rain knocked out the power in our church, leaving us no alternative but to cancel. “The Wonder that is Costa Rica - Discovering its Diversity”

Changed
DATE!

~~has been rescheduled to Friday, November 30th, 2018~~
at 7:00 PM.

Celebrating our Cultures

**Saturday, October 20,
2018 at 5:30 PM
in Memorial Hall**

Don't miss this wonderful celebration of the vast diversity of cultures in our Parkdale family. Each one of us has cultural traditions handed down to us by our ancestors. This is a chance for us to share and learn about each other's cultures. Our special focus this year is on Syria, India and some Latin American countries.



Enjoy music, dance, fellowship and sumptuous cuisine!

We will ask for a freewill offering at this event. The proceeds will go towards a project helping Venezuelan refugees who are fleeing to Ottawa.

Surprise our taste buds by bringing your favorite main dish or dessert. See the sign-up sheet in Gladstone

Hallway behind the Sanctuary, on the boards at both Parkdale entrances or in Memorial Hallway on Sunday, October 7th and 14th. At coffee hour on these dates, you can have

a taste of treats from 3 different countries represented in our church.

We hope to see a display



celebration. Wear your own or that of a country you like, or even borrow a costume from a friend!

what dish or dessert you will bring. (The latter will help us plan whether we need to add to the food we will receive).

All are welcome, don't worry if you



of native traditional costumes at the

Also, please bring us your

CDs, before or on
October 7th, of any
can't cook or bring a
dish.

If you would like to help
with organizing and setup,
please contact Estelle
Allen or Faye Beaufort
through the office at
613728-8656 or

music you like.

An information desk
will be set up in
Memorial Hallway after
the service on October
7th and 14th. You can
find out more about the
event at this booth,
bring your CDs on the
7th, or tell us

***Focused Prayer Group — Living with Cancer —
Fridays, 2 pm, Ladies Parlour***

Beginning September 21, we are having a weekly prayer group of those who are currently undergoing or are impacted by cancer. This group is a space for Christians living with cancer to meet with other Christians undergoing similar challenges and to hold one another up in prayer, as we also intercede for the broader suffering of the world. The community of cancer patients at Parkdale is faithful, strong and diverse, and so there is much support to be gained by collectively sharing the struggles, hopes, victories and challenges, as we support and pray for each other. Please come as you are able, no RSVP needed. To coordinate ridesharing, if needed, or if you have any questions or

comments, please email Rev. Alcris at alcris@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca.

Next time you prepare your favourite recipe, why not cook and freeze an extra batch to bring to the church for the Caring Kitchens Ministry?

Caring Kitchens (CK), the ministry of frozen/ fresh food items (homemade or purchased), is to support those coming out of hospital, experiencing illness, getting treatments, grieving a loved one's death, or who need a little help. This is a practical way to love and support each other as a faith community when we go through special life circumstances. The possibilities are many: homemade or purchased frozen nutritious meals, soups, casseroles, baked goods, cookies, desserts, etc.; gluten-free or nut-free are appreciated too. (Instructions and information are in the Office, Tape Hall Kitchen, and/or Events bulletin board).

You could also consider being on an "as-required" basis list to be contacted occasionally to provide a fresh meal or freshly prepared food; or as a driver to deliver a meal. (You will be contacted with no obligation on your part if you are not able on that specific occasion). The sign-up sheet is on the Events board. Note: When you know of someone from the congregation who might need an extra touch of care/support through the CK, please let us know. If you have any questions, please contact: Diana Mason at dsmason@rogers.com or Rev. Alcris at alcris@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca. Thanks in advance.

October 25 Advance Care Planning Workshop

Last April we offered our first Advance Care Planning (ACP) workshop. It was attended by 22 participants. They evaluated the presentation and discussion as very helpful and relevant. (*You can refer to Peter Meerburg's article in the May Messenger*). By popular demand, we are offering a second ACP workshop, this time in the morning, as suggested. It will be held on October 25th at 10 am, in the Ladies Parlour.

Advance Care Planning is a process of reflection and communication to help you make decisions about your health care at the end of life, no matter what age. Besides all the legal technicalities there are also very personal, intimate priorities, important things that are unique and different for each one of us. For example have you ever thought who you would like to have with you? Would you like to have music? Is there anything you wish to have? Are there any nonnegotiables for you? This workshop also touches on how to have this conversation with family and friends, especially with your substitute decision-maker in case you are incapable. By participating in this workshop, you will learn how to develop your own advance care plan. You will be able to identify what is important, what is non-negotiable for you; and will be approaching this topic with a group of friends in a nonintimidating informal way. It is a fun, practical and extremely useful workshop.

Highly recommended! Contact the church office or Rev. Alcris if you wish to attend.

The workshop will be facilitated by Norm Tape and another member of *Compassionate Ottawa*.

Birthdays in October

Our warmest greetings to:

- 1st Hannie Fitzgerald
- 2nd Alice Menzies
- 2nd Isaiah Duah
- 5th Cora McQuinn
- 8th Carl-Henry Mercy
- 8th Ruth Bush
- 11th Delphine Ahmed-Robin
- 11th Arianne Epale
- 16th Doreen Bullied
- 17th Maddy Crabtree
- 17th Mark Bradley
- 19th Alexis Bannoff
- 22nd Julianna Jeglic
- 23rd Jessica Ann Clark
- 25th Hannah Johnston
- 27th Tyrese Musenga
- 29th Isabelle Duncan

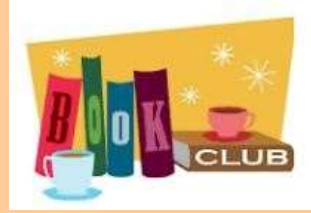
- 31st Camille Beaufort



If you would like your birthday to be a secret and your name taken off the list, or if your name was not included and you would like it to be added, please let the office know.

Parkdale Bookclub

2018—2019 Selections



Oct 21 Forgiveness by Mark Sakamoto

Nov 18 A Wedding in December by Anita Shreve

Jan 20 Warlight by Michael Ondaatje

Feb 17 The Right to be Cold: One Woman's Struggle
to Protect her Culture, the Arctic and the Whole Planet
by Sheila Watt-Cloutier

Mar 17 A Man called Ove by Fredrik Backman

Apr 21 Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky

May 26 Nellie McClung by Charlotte Gray



Happy 60th Celebration!

SWEET SIXTY

On Sunday August 26, 2018, the Parkdale United Church congregation held a Surprise 60th Birthday Party for Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey.

Anthony was indeed surprised –*we managed to keep all the preparations secret, can you believe how good we were?* He was very happy to see the Tape Hall full of so many well-wishers in a nicely decorated room in yellow and blue with a beach theme; and the Barbados' flag colours, of course, on the head table where he

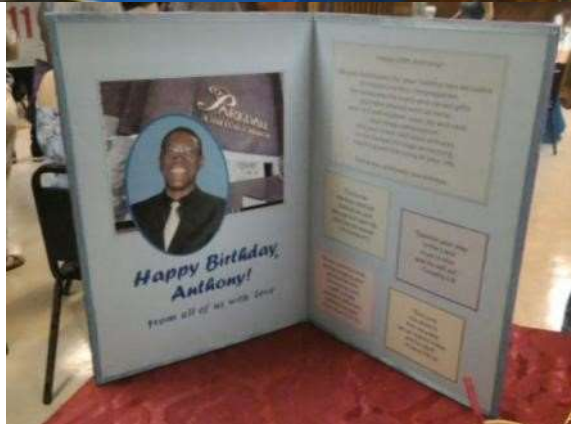
sat continuously playing and the Sunday School children made a beautiful banner with their hands imprinted to congratulate our dear Rev. Anthony. Our very own artist, Vita Savelieva, made a beautifully crafted birthday card, big enough for all of us to sign. Peter Meerburg was the MC and read

Happy Birthday letters sent to Anthony from friends in different parts of the world. Also Kathleen Stephenson and Barbara Faught took the microphone to read special birthday thoughts for him. We are very grateful for Rev Bailey's ministry among us, and look forward to many more years of blessings!!!

-Hepsy Griffiths

with Wendy and three of his four children. We had two piñatas, one for him (and tall people) and one for the kids (and short people- Rev. Alcris' height was the standard measurement). Tall and short, older and younger had lots of fun when all the candy fell from piñatas as the volunteers finally broke them. You can see Anthony blindfolded and tackling the piñata with a hockey stick in the photograph. We also had a beautiful display of food in the form of a truly Parkdale potluck. We had pastries, fruit and two whole cakes! A video of his life and family times was







*Parkdale
United Church*

Yuletide Bazaar

Saturday, November 3
10 am to 12:30 pm

Shop for Unique gifts:

Baking, Preserves & Soups
Jewellery
Specialty Crafts & Handmade Items
Antiques & Collectibles
Kitchen & Bath Boutique
Old Linens
Books, Plants
Fashion Boutique
Attic Treasures
and
Coffee Shop



Greetings from the planning committee and table conveners for this year's Bazaar. It's time to start **donating and preparing** for the Bazaar. It is a major fund raiser for the church. So please mark your calendars for **Saturday November 3, 2018**. Doors will open at 10:00 am. Set-up for the Bazaar is Thursday November 1st and Friday November 2nd. It is a great time of fellowship and fun and an opportunity to renew friendships and meet new members of the congregation.

We need your donations!

Donations can be made at any time.

We are looking for:

jewellery, antiques or older items of interest, china, collectibles, knitting, attic treasures, books, plants, linens, ladies' fine accessories and top-end/ designer women's fashions, Christmas items and children's toys. All donations can be left at the church office during regular business hours or on Sunday before or after church. Please remember we do not take clothing at the Bazaar except for

We are also looking for:

Baking for the Bake Table (pies, squares, cakes, fudge, loaves, cookies, etc) and **finger treats for the Cafe** (banana or lemon loaves to cut up, squares, cookies, muffins). Please list the ingredients on baking, especially noting if there are nuts included or if gluten free. Baking and perishable food items can be dropped off on **Friday November 2nd anytime during business hours or in the evening from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at the Gladstone entrance**, where someone will be available to let you in.

The Bazaar is always such a success because of the generosity of the congregation through donations, volunteers to prepare and work at the Bazaar, and buyers. You are the key to our past and future success!

If you have any questions or haven't signed up yet to volunteer, please contact me or our volunteer coordinator Deb Paterson. Thank you!

Judy Hamley - Convenor

only high-end/designer women's
fashions.

613-729-1341
judy.hamley@gmail.com

Church Council Meeting — June 19, 2018

By: Julee Pauling

Rev. Kim Vidal gave Devotions during the Presbytery pastoral oversight session that immediately preceded the meeting of Council.

Correspondence

Cards were received from Dorothy Durant, thanking the congregation for continuing to send the Messenger, and from the Urban Christian Outreach, thanking Parkdale United for hosting their 25th Anniversary.

Committee Reports

David Mason—Finance Update: The Committee Chair reviewed receipts and disbursements this year compared with last year. Expenses are up while revenues are down, leaving the church with a deficit in the General Fund of approximately \$64,000 as of this date. Beth Gutsell mentioned that there was an all-day workshop for Stewardship and MOJ Committees at St. Paul's Church in Cornwall. Garth will pass this

information on to Chair of Stewardship.

Judy Hamley—Ministry and Personnel: The Committee Chair recognized the wonderful ministry this year by all the staff and personnel. She wished all personnel well over the summer and thanked them for their strong leadership.

Faye Beaufort—Mission, Outreach, and Justice (MOJ): The Committee Chair talked about the difficulties in Venezuela and raised for consideration the possibility of finding some meaningful ways to extend ministry to Alcris's family and community in Venezuela. Secondly, Faye mentioned that Elaine West will attend a Habitat for Humanity meeting on June 20th.

Staff Reports:

Rev. Bailey: The Global 6Km was a great success—over \$10,000 was raised for World Vision and its potable water campaign. Reverend Bailey's report itemizes the impact the funds will have. A decision was made that Parkdale would participate in this campaign every year. Notably, five people saw the Global

6Km signs outside the church, walked in to ask about it, and immediately signed up for the run. Anthony mentioned that having signs communicating to the community about the work and life of the church could be a wonderful means of outreach.

Melodee Lovering: Melodee acknowledges her long report, and the many happy challenges we're facing since the youth population has grown so large. Over 80 people are registered for Camp. The Redevelopment Committee is going to come and talk to the youth at Camp to solicit their input.

Continuing Business

1. Council Meetings: Dates for Council meetings generally will be the fourth Tuesday of each month. Upcoming meetings are September 25, 2018, October 23, 2018, and December 4, 2018.

2. Coffee hour following summer services: Garth has been asked about serving refreshments after worship on Sundays. A notice will go out in the bulletin with a Worship Committee, Barbara Faught, led a discussion about the use of the repaired organ. Council moved to consider bringing in a guest organist from time to time.

sign-up sheet for volunteers to take on particular days.

3. General overview/review of the music program: The Chair of



Getting an early start on fall cleaning?

It is never too early to donate your gently used jewellery, watches and scarves. Leave them with Don in the office and it will get to the PARKDALE BAZAAR jewellery table organizers so they can get a head start.



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.

