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# FLOCK TALK

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Asbury and West United Church

3180 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON M6A 2A9 Office: 416-783-6503 / Toll Free 1-877-226-2242

December 23, 2012

"The Friendly Church"

Edition 133



## THE PASTOR'S PEN

*Those who have walked in darkness have seen a great light (Isaiah 9:2).*

Although the sun is shining as I write this, and we certainly have not had any winter to speak of yet, part of me does not like this time of year. Twilight really began at 4:15 pm last night as I looked out my window. You could see some of the sky turning that dark blue and the clouds in the sky got that pink tinge to them that they do at sunset. And yet it was just 4:15pm. I guess that is what we get for enjoying the light of summer evenings when it is bright out until 9.

Light. We are people of light. I can't imagine what it was like to live in the middle ages in dark and dreary castles where candles were the only source of light. I like to see where I am going. I like to see the colours around me.

Light. On Sunday we put up our Christmas tree. There is all something magical about it. The bulbs are tiny but the red, green, orange, yellow, and my favourite ice blue lights just add a feeling of warmth to a room. Somehow, looking at those tiny lights, I am drawn to have a few quiet moments and be thankful for all that I have.

Light. I know I am drawn to those people who give light. Those who inspire. Those who are encouraging. Those whose words are uplifting. There are too many purveyors of dreary pessimism around. It is all too easy to complain that things are getting worse, that if only we could have done things another way,

pointing fingers of blame, spreading gloom to all and everyone. But those people that are able to find hope in the midst of disaster, continue to point to us a better way, these people inspire me. They are like lights shining in the darkness.

The people living during the time of Isaiah were certainly looking for light. They had gone through a period of great darkness. Gone were the days of David and Solomon when Israel and Judah were reigned over by wise kings. A series of weak leaders had followed them and then Israel and Judah had fallen. The best had been taken to Babylon, crops had been destroyed, even the temple-God's very house was gone. It was a dark time. In the midst of this, when it seemed that things were at the lowest ebb, Isaiah had the audacity to offer words of hope. He told the people that even though they walked in darkness now, they will see a great light. God won't forget them. God will see them through difficulty. Light would again come to their dark world.

This gives me hope. The days are short and the night seems so long at this time of year. Too many people talk of gloom. But just as Isaiah spoke to the exiles long ago, I can be certain that light wins out in the end. There is hope, there is peace. There is joy. And there is love. Wishing you a blessed Advent.

*Rev. Darren Liepold*





### SENIOR CHOIR

The Choir members from Asbury and West continue their hard work with the members of Northminster Choir.

We welcome Janiss Johnson back as she has rejoined the Choir in time for the Christmas season, which will be our last one at Northminster United.

The William R. Shewalter Memorial Organ fund remains at \$39,117.78. Your continued contributions will be gratefully appreciated.

*Mel Beckles*



### *Our New Organ!*

The Phoenix Organ Company is based in Peterborough, Ontario. They build digital organs that are being purchased by congregations as far away as Texas. The digital organ reproduces the sound of a great pipe organ, without the huge price or the continual maintenance that a pipe organ requires. Our new organ will have four different voices at the flick of a switch, and over 50 "stops" in each voice. The stops can play the sounds of many musical instruments, including trumpets, bells and to Alan McKenzie's dismay - the bagpipes. This organ will be the William R. Shewalter Memorial Organ that the choir and congregation have been fundraising for. Contributions to the organ fund continue to come in, and we are confident that we will have the full price before delivery next spring. Pictured below is the Phoenix technician working on the construction of our organ.

*Pauline McKenzie*



### CARE OF POINSETTIAS

-  Place in a room with sufficient natural light to read fine print.
-  Check to be sure growing media is moist, many plants become very dry in transit.
-  Place plants to avoid drafts or excess heat from appliances, radiators, or ventilating ducts.
-  Place plant high enough to be away from traffic and out of reach of small children and animals.
-  Put plant in a water-proof container to protect your furnishings.
-  Water plant thoroughly when soil surface is dry to touch. Discard excess water.
-  To prolong bright color of bracts, temperatures should not exceed 72°F during the day or 60°F at night.



You are cordially invited to  
**A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!!!**

**Guest of Honor: Jesus Christ**

**Date:** Every day. Traditionally, December 25  
but He's always around, so the date is flexible...

**Time:** Whenever you're ready.

(Please don't be late, though, or you'll miss out on all the fun!)

**Place:** In your heart.... He'll meet you there.

(You'll hear Him knock.)

**Attire:** Come as you are... grubbies are okay.

He'll be washing our clothes anyway. He said something about  
new white robes and crowns for everyone who stays till the last.

**Tickets:** Admission is free.

He's already paid for everyone...

(He says you wouldn't have been  
able to afford it anyway...

it cost Him everything He had. But  
you do need to accept the ticket!!)

**Refreshments:** New wine, bread, and a  
far-out drink He calls "Living Water,"  
followed by a supper that promises to be out of this world!

**Gift Suggestions:** Your life. He's one of those  
people who already has everything else.

(He's very generous in return though.  
Just wait until you see what He has for you!)

**Entertainment:** Joy, Peace, Truth,  
Light, Life, Love, Real Happiness,  
Communion with God, Forgiveness, Miracles, Healing, Power,  
Eternity in Paradise, Contentment, and much more!  
(All "G" rated, so bring your family and friends.)



**R.S.V.P.** It's Very Important! He must know ahead so He can reserve a spot for you at the table.  
Also, He's keeping a list of His friends for future reference. He calls it the "Lamb's Book of Life."  
Party being given by His Kids (that's us!!)! Hope to see you there! For those of you whom I will  
see at the party, share this with someone today!



Another year nearly finished as we are coming to the end of our program. The year began as we visited Roy Thompson Hall for a concert by the Orpheus Choir. We visited the City Playhouse Theatre for a performance of "Hairspray". Our first guest speaker was Constable Wayne Pierce of 32 Division Community Service, his topic "How to Protect Yourself from the Internet and Telephone Scans".

May saw us being entertained by pianist George Heldt who took us down memory lane with songs from the Rock and Roll era. Our first trip in June was to Niagara-on-the-Lake, we browsed in some of the shops, then had a delicious lunch at the Whirlpool Restaurant in Niagara Falls, and then visited a Lavender farm. Our next bus trip was to Big Chute Falls, we had lunch at Chasties Mill Inn on Port Severn, after lunch we boarded a ferry for a trip on the river, we saw a yacht entering the locks, and at the end of our journey saw a yacht being transported by the big chute railway.

In October Rev. Irene Ty was our guest; she showed us slides of the visit to the Philippines during her sabbatical as well as her original home in China.

We had our usual pot luck lunches and our Iris stew. At one of our lunches we were entertained by Lisa Crawford on the Djembe drum. We are looking forward to our last meeting of Christmas pot luck and being entertained by a returning guest, pianist George Heldt.

Shirley and I would like to extend a welcome to all in the New Year 2013 and hope that your Christmas season would be a pleasant one.

*Melvyn and Shirley Beckles  
Committee Contacts*



## COPPER KETTLE

Ease yourself of the burden of carrying around all that loose change. Place your coins in the Copper Kettle that sits on the table in the hallway. You will ease Asbury and West's financial burden. The money in the kettle is used to help pay Asbury and West's ongoing expenses. We collected \$359.00 in 2012. We can break that record in 2013 if we dig deep into our change purses.

Please drop your coins either wrapped or unwrapped into the jug each Sunday. Folding money is also very welcome.



*Alan McKenzie*

## BUILDING RENOVATION COMMITTEE



Pauline and I go to a site meeting at 3180 Bathurst Street, every second Wednesday, to hear about progress and discuss any questions. We are very pleased with the progress. Our architect, Marie Black, visits the site every week to check on the work. Marie also reviews the contractor's bills, and in some cases has negotiated a reduction. Kembic Construction is working hard to complete the exterior portion of the renovations while the good weather lasts. Underpinnings, excavation for the elevators, window well enlargement, and foundation work are almost completed. City contractors are installing new water and sanitary sewer lines. This part of the renovation process is messy but you must break eggs to make a beautiful, tasty omelette!

Our Church Home interior renovations are coming into focus. Marie Black developed a colour scheme for the entire building. She recommends warm neutral tones, with a touch of red and yellow that will bring out the colours in the stained glass windows. Please look at the colour board which is set up for viewing in the gym on Sundays. We selected a colour for the cabinets in our new second floor kitchen and main floor servery. A strong majority of committee members chose a warm reddish brown maple – a colour that will blend with our architect's colour design.

Our new Church Organ has been ordered from Phoenix Organs in Peterborough. Thanks to John Leek, organist at Northminster, who offered invaluable advice in choosing the organ and went to Peterborough in person to speak with the experts at the Phoenix Organ Company. (See page 3.)

Grassby and Associates are designing our sound and projection systems. Grassby has a great deal of experience in working with churches. These systems will be extremely important to the life of

our Congregation and will enhance Sunday worship services and the rental of our facilities.

We are amazed at how well the work is coming along with the condominium building next door. I attend the Condominium Owners' meetings and know that our new neighbours are excited about moving into our community in the fall of 2013. Asbury and West will have a golden opportunity to make our new neighbours feel welcome in the Bathurst and Lawrence area and also in our Congregation. Please be part of our plans to welcome our new neighbours and encourage them to attend our church.

The Building Renovation Committee is in the process of selecting a daycare operator who will occupy the newly renovated space in the basement. We are not sure who the new daycare operator will be at this time. We do know that the daycare space will be modern and attractive and will meet all current rules and regulations.

Renovation costs are high and everyone is working hard to keep costs low without stinting on quality. We will have an exciting, attractive and functional new Church Home that, with your involvement, will enable us to serve our Lord in the Bathurst and Lawrence community for many years to come.

I want to thank the members of the Building Renovation Committee for their dedication and hard work. My Christmas Wish is that 2013 will be the best year yet for the Asbury and West United Church Congregation.

*Alan McKenzie, Chair*





Basement



Looking out the front door



## WORSHIP, SACRAMENTS AND MUSIC MINISTRY

On December 5, our group had the first meeting devoted to planning the return to 3180 Bathurst Street. Darren gave us the results of his congregational worship survey to take home and study for our next meeting. The survey will help us greatly, so thank you to all who completed one. Besides thinking about regular worship services, we have just begun to think about a celebratory service for our re-opening, and will be grateful for any suggestions.

Another task was reviewing our job description, and looking at the increased work when we return to our own building. This work will include a number of tasks that we now share with our friends at Northminster; for example, decorating the sanctuary, preparing Communion and ushering. Finally, we drafted a budget for our group for 2013.

Our group continues to be grateful for all members who help to make worship an uplifting experience for everyone. When we share the work, all can take satisfaction in their contribution, and no-one feels overworked.

*Pauline McKenzie, Chair*

## OUR CHURCH COUNCIL

In an effort to ensure everyone understands the structure of the Ministry Groups (all the chairpersons make up Council) we are once again publishing the details. Outlined are the basic responsibilities of each ministry and the names of the volunteers from our congregation who serve.

We are grateful to Linda Cobon who has stepped forward to be our second Presbytery Representative. Linda will join Sheila Mascoll and Rev. Darren at the Presbytery meetings and we look forward to their future reports on the highlights. A Memorial Committee has been formed to oversee all aspects of memorial donations and gifts; thanks to Cheryl Holliday and David Tuck who join Rev. Darren to form this committee. Although Presbytery Representatives and the Memorial Committee are not ministry groups, the members report into Council.

There has been much talk and focus on the renovation of our church building. Soon the building will be ready for us to move back in. How will we get ready? What changes do we want to see? What things will be important to us? How do we want to the community to see us? The members of all our Ministry Group are hard at work with particular focus on plans for programs and activities for the future. Think of it as our spiritual renovation. Don't be shy to speak up with any of your thoughts and suggestions.

Wishing you and yours many blessing this Christmas season. *Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson, Chair, Council*

## THE WORK OF OUR COUNCIL MINISTRY GROUPS

### COMMUNICATIONS

- Keep the congregation informed through: Website, Flock Talk, Bulletin Boards, Sunday Bulletins and Announcements
- Reach out to the community through: Website, Advertising

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Ensure that children and adults have Christian Education
- Evaluate and choose study materials for all ages
- Work with the minister to involve children & youth in worship services

### FINANCE

- Develop and administer the overall budget for the congregation
- Keep the congregation informed about financial matters

### HOSPITALITY

- Organize greeters before services
- Invite visitors to sign the Visitors' Book
- Facilitate companions for new persons during service
- Ensure that secretary has names and addresses of newcomers in order to send a letter
- Organize refreshments after service
- Sparkplug social events

### HUMAN RESOURCES

- Maintains confidential oversight of our staff
- Salary, working conditions, concerns

### MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE

- Help individuals to become members
- Keep the church membership roll up to date
- Help Carelink to keep contact with sick and shut-ins

### MISSION AND OUTREACH

- Ensure that the Benevolent Fund is collected, counted and used
- Make decisions annually about grants to community organizations
- Co-ordinate the Food Bank
- Inform the congregation about peace and justice issues

### PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVES

Our presbytery brings together over 100 churches. Our representatives attend six meetings a year on our behalf. They speak for us to the larger group, and also bring us news of what is going on at other churches. There are also opportunities to become involved in work for peace and justice and mission at a wider level in our community for those who wish it.



## OUR CHURCH COUNCIL (continued)

### WORSHIP, SACRAMENTS AND MUSIC

- Ensure that worship takes place
- Help the minister in planning services
- Make sure that the sanctuary is decorated and prepared.
- Prepare and assist at Baptism and Communion
- Take attendance at services, usher and collect offering

#### Communications

**Chair:** Lisa Crawford

**Secretary:** Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson

Pauline McKenzie

Ken Oleksiuk

Sylvia Shewalter- Nielsen

#### Faith Formation

**Chair:** Cheryl Holliday

**Secretary:** Dorothy Ostrom

Karen Barnes

Melissa Masih

Lydia Cariaga

Joseph Massih

Dorina Datt

Trissa Massih

Michelle Datt

Jocelyn Villamayor

Kim Davidson

#### Finance

**Chair:** Alan McKenzie

Lou Rhoden

Yvonne Wright

#### Hospitality

**Chair:** Lou Rhoden

Veronica Ennis

Joyce Rhoden

Yvonne Lampkin

Myra Seyfried

Carole Rhambarat

Harel Smith

Janiss Johnson

#### Human Resources

Sheila Mascoll

*Needs minimum one more person*

### WOMEN’S MINISTRIES

- United Church Women
- Joybreak
- Assist other women to form fellowship groups

#### Membership and Pastoral Care

**Chair:** Mel Beckles

Shirley Beckles

Phoebe Cleverley

Janiss Johnson

Yvonne Lampkin

Lynsia Panthaki

Ianthe Spencer

#### Memorial Committee

Cheryl Holliday

Darren Liepold

David Tuck

#### Mission and Outreach:

\*\*\*3 Vacancies\*\*\*

#### Presbytery Representatives

Linda Cobon

Sheila Mascoll

#### Worship, Sacraments & Music

**Chair:** Pauline McKenzie

Lisa Crawford

Judy Gillingham

Clayton Johnson

Glenda McBroom

Jose Polo

Connie Shewalter

Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen

David Tuck

#### Women’s Ministries

**Chair:** Ianthe Spencer

Cheryl Holliday

Lucille Hunte

Marina Mackin

Dorothy Ostrom

Kay Roffey-Dampier

Yvonne Wilson

#### Renovation Committee *(will*

*exist until end of renewal project)*

**Chair:** Alan McKenzie

Lou Rhoden

Yvonne Wright

Joyce Bullock

Judy Gillingham

Cheryl Holliday

Sheila Mascoll

Pauline McKenzie

Dorothy Ostrom

Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen

Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson





## MY FIRST CHRISTMAS IN HEAVEN

I SEE THE COUNTLESS CHRISTMAS TREES AROUND THE WORLD BELOW,  
WITH TINY LIGHTS, LIKE HEAVEN'S STARS, REFLECTING ON THE SNOW.  
THE SIGHT IS SO SPECTACULAR, PLEASE WIPE AWAY THAT TEAR,  
FOR I AM SPENDING CHRISTMAS WITH JESUS CHRIST THIS YEAR.

I HEAR THE MANY CHRISTMAS SONGS THAT PEOPLE HOLD SO DEAR,  
BUT THE SOUNDS OF MUSIC CAN'T COMPARE WITH THE CHRISTMAS CHOIR  
UP HERE.

I HAVE NO WORDS TO TELL YOU, THE JOY THEIR VOICES BRING,  
FOR IT IS BEYOND DESCRIPTION, TO HEAR THE ANGELS SING.

I KNOW HOW MUCH YOU MISS ME. I SEE THE PAIN INSIDE YOUR HEART,  
BUT I AM NOT SO FAR AWAY. WE REALLY AREN'T APART.  
SO BE HAPPY FOR ME DEAR ONES. YOU KNOW I HOLD YOU DEAR,  
AND BE GLAD I'M SPENDING CHRISTMAS,  
WITH JESUS CHRIST THIS YEAR.

I SEND YOU EACH A SPECIAL GIFT, FROM MY HEAVENLY HOME ABOVE.  
I SEND YOU EACH A MEMORY OF, MY UNDYING LOVE.  
AFTER ALL "LOVE" IS THE GIFT, MORE PRECIOUS THAN PURE GOLD.  
IT WAS ALWAYS MOST IMPORTANT IN THE STORIES JESUS TOLD.

PLEASE LOVE AND KEEP EACH OTHER, AS MY FATHER SAID TO DO,  
FOR I CAN'T COUNT THE BLESSING OR LOVE HE HAS FOR EACH OF YOU.  
SO HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND WIPE AWAY THAT TEAR,

REMEMBER, I'M SPENDING CHRISTMAS, WITH JESUS CHRIST THIS YEAR.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN



## MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

We continue to reach out to absent members, and Shut Ins. Within the Past two Months we have lost two out-of-town Home Members. Our Sympathy go out to the families of Fran Cairns and Isabel Robertson. The memorial services were held on December 1<sup>st</sup> . Fran was in Toronto, Rev. Darren presided. Isabel’s was held in Guelph.

We have one new member through Baptism, Yili Lu. We welcome her into the family of Christ.

We wish you all a blessed Christmas and best wishes in the New Year.

*Ianthe Spencer*



### Editor’s Note:

A long standing tradition at Asbury and West is the delivery of poinsettias plants to our “Home Members”. The tradition continues this season with the generous help of many volunteers within our congregation. Thanks to the folks who generously donated their memorial plants and to those who made the deliveries. Please keep our Home Members in your prayers.



Myra Badley  
Fredrica Cameron  
Betty and Fred Enta  
Gloria Everson  
Lilla Jaleel  
Evelyn Lyon

Gerri Moore  
Lloyd Ostrom  
Helen Smith  
Fred Sunahara  
Joyce Bullock  
Viola Warford



As the Editors of “Flock Talk” we express our sincere appreciation to all those who contributed to the editions of “Flock Talk” during the 2012 season. Without the support of so many people, your newsletter simply would not have been possible.

We wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year!



*Jocelyn & Sylvia*





## FINANCE MINISTRY

Christmas is the time for giving and for family. We are grateful to those who responded to our 2013 Stewardship Pledge campaign because they found a way to give more to their Church Family during these hard economic times. Twenty-one people pledged to use envelopes in 2013. This is two fewer than last year. However, those envelope users that did pledge increased their pledge amounts by a total of \$3,492.72 for the year. We received two new PAR pledges bringing the total to 15. PAR pledges for 2013 increased by a total of \$4,011.84 for the year. The total amount pledged using both methods increased by \$7,504.56. Thanks to all those who participated in the Stewardship Pledge Campaign. It really helps with our budgeting.

Envelope users can pick up their 2013 donation envelopes each Sunday in December. Picking up your envelope packages saves mailing costs. PAR donation cards are available on the table outside the Sanctuary. PAR users can place this reusable PAR Donation Card on the collection plate. It indicates their donation is automatically deducted from their bank account once a month. (Read more about PAR on page 13.)

I am saddened to report that Judy Gillingham has resigned as Treasurer after years of loyal service. We are being helped by Clyde Harris of Alwyn Enterprises who has a vast amount of experience helping congregations with their bookkeeping.

However, we need a new Treasurer who must be a member of our Congregation and should have some accounting and computer skills. Please let me know if you are able to help in this important role. It will require approximately four hours of your time each week.

The Finance Ministry Group is working on the 2013 budget. It will be quite complex because our Congregation will remain at Northminster United Church for part of the year and return to 3180 Bathurst in the late summer. Our Congregation has been struggling financially while we are out of our own building but there is great hope for the future.

We were delighted with the \$4,560.00 raised during the Douglas McKenzie Memorial Walk-a-thon. The proceeds went to the Building Renovation Fund. Congratulations to all those involved! Our newly renovated building will be amazing. We have enjoyed our time at Northminster but there is no place like home!

Best Wishes for the Christmas Season. Let's all work together to make our return to our beautiful new Church Home the highlight of our 201<sup>st</sup> year history.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

*Alan McKenzie,  
Chair*



**LISA CRAWFORD'S**  
**STEWARDSHIP TALK TO ASBURY**  
**AND WEST UNITED CHURCH**  
**November 11, 2012**

I want to talk to you about PAR which stands for Pre Authorized Remittance.

I don't have a lot of money so I budget what I have. Some goes to pay bills, for food, day-to-day living and rainy day savings. If I had money left at the end of the week, it would go to our church. I tried to aim for a set amount each Sunday but the church always seemed to come last. If I was on holidays or missed a Sunday, the church suffered. That was until I heard about PAR!

Now the money for the church comes out of my account on the same day each month and I budget for it the same way I do my rent and other bills. This means that when I'm not at church, I am still contributing and because I've worked it into my budget plan, I'm not short in other areas. I've just managed my money differently. I know that if my financial circumstances change, I can easily change my pledge.

I feel good about using PAR. It fits my lifestyle well. I know it also benefits the church which



makes me feel even better. Pledges help our Finance Committee set the annual budget just like I have to set my own budget. I know that Asbury and West United Church needs reliable sources of funds to maintain daily bills just as I do.

All forms of pledges and donations are heartily welcome. Many people prefer to use the traditional church envelopes which are available upon request. If you have decided to join many other members of our Congregation that donate through the Pre Authorized Remittance (PAR) program, information and the enrollment forms are readily available. Don't forget to include a voided cheque when you include your form.

Please give prayerful thought to your donation. In addition to a financial pledge, please give your time, knowledge and expertise to your church as well. We all need to get involved in our congregation's plans for the future.

Thank you.

*Lisa Crawford*

*It's here...*

<http://www.asburyandwest.org/> and <http://asburyandwest.blogspot.ca/>  
 Both the church's web site and blog now have the ability for visitors to donate to church funds "online" through Canada Helps. Thanks to Cate Billinger and Ken Oleksiuk for making this possible.



Since Flock Talk won't be with you again until we celebrate Easter, we thought we would sneak in a little Lent now.

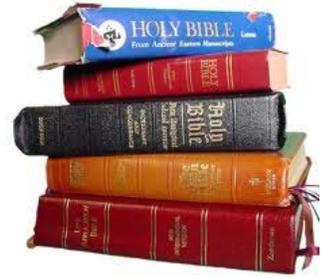
**ADVICE FOR LENT**

Fast from criticism, feast on praise.  
 Fast from self pity, feast on joy.  
 Fast from ill temper, feast on peace.  
 Fast from jealousy, feast on humility.  
 Fast from selfishness, feast on service.  
 Fast from fear, feast on faith.



*Author Unknown*

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY



### Church School:

Just a few weeks ago the children packed two stockings for a boy and a girl at the North York Women's Shelter. These replaced packing boxes for Operation Christmas Child. They were delivered to the shelter with the gifts that were brought to the Christmas Dinner.

The Christmas Party was held on December 16 during the service with a visit from Santa. Thanks to the UCW who donates money to buy the candy.

The Nativity Pageant will take place during the service on Christmas Eve.

### Youth:

Youth started out the season looking at Scripture selections in the context of relationships and human interaction. For example they looked at the story of Jesus visiting the home of Mary and Martha, and tried to understand the dynamic from each of the three person's point of view. They talked about personal situations that were similar: Did you ever go to someone's house for dinner and they were so busy bustling around that you didn't spend quality time with them? Were you ever in a situation where you felt other people weren't pulling their weight?

On White Gift Sunday the youth presented the "Amazing Race" which offered some perspective on the journeys of Mary & Joseph, the Shepherds, the Magi, and Time Travellers from 2012 who are all trying to get to Bethlehem to meet the new baby. A job well done!

The youth class is under the leadership of Wendy Jang of Northminster.

### Adult Education:

Starting Sunday, February 10, Darren will facilitate sessions called "Faith in the Movies" looking at theological themes in movies. These will be held on Sundays after church except for the Sundays that Council meets.

From all the Church School staff, and the Christian Education committee members, may you and yours have a wonderful Christmas and enjoy many blessings in the New Year.

*Cheryl Holliday*  
Chair, Christian Education





# Kids

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An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, "How do you expect to get into Heaven?" The boy thought it over and said, "Well, I'll just run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says, "For Heaven's sake, Jimmy, come in or stay out!"

\*\*\*\*\*

A mother took her three-year-old daughter to church for the first time. The church lights were lowered, and then the choir came down the aisle, carrying lighted candles. All was quiet until the little one started singing in a loud voice, "Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you..."

\*\*\*\*\*

Every evening, a mother and her young son, knelt down beside his bed so he could say his prayers. One night, obviously bored with the same old prayer, the little boy said this: "Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep, if I should die before I wake.....can I have breakfast with you in the morning?"





Founded 1985

Thanks to everyone for once again making our annual Pot Luck Christmas Dinner a huge success with approximately 80 people attending. And all the food! It was a terrific evening complete with a Christingle Service, our own Asbury and West and Northminster carollers, and the many gifts donated for the North York Women's Shelter. Thanks to Doreen Porter for her piano accompaniment and to everyone for your donations to the Shelter which were delivered the next day.

Joybreak closed the year with our Christmas Party. We had a wonderful and relaxing time of fun, refreshments and a small gift exchange.

We wish you all a warm and blessed Christmas.



Cheryl Holliday Contact

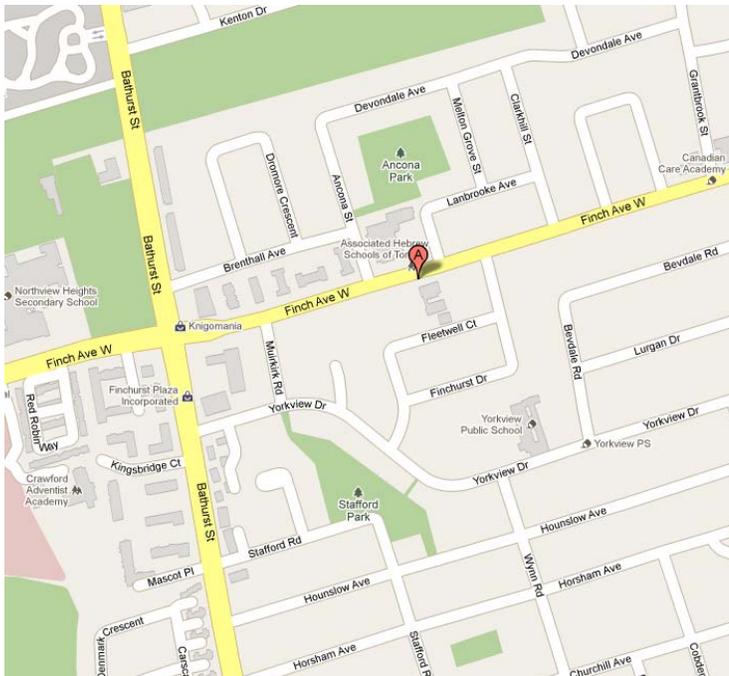




## Asbury and West has Relocated ...



While we're renovating  
Please join us at  
**Northminster United Church**  
located at  
**255 Finch Avenue West**  
**Willowdale, Ontario**  
**Tel: (416) 225-7941**  
**Reverend Irene Ty**



### Location

Northminster is located on south side of Finch Avenue, 1 block East of Bathurst. Sunday morning services begin at 10:30. If you're coming by public transit, you can take the subway to Finch station and then a 36 bus west approximately 1 kilometre. If you're coming by Bathurst Street, get off at Finch and the church is a short walk east along Finch Avenue. For those of you coming by car, there's parking on the south side of the church around the back.

### Building accessible

Yes (except for our washroom). There's a driveway off Finch Avenue where you can park. From there, go along the west side of the building to the side entrance (which is really the main entrance) where you'll find a ramp.

### Children

If your children are infants, we have a nursery where they'll be well cared for. Just ask a greeter or an usher about the nursery and they'll be glad to help you out. If your children are school-aged, bring them into the sanctuary with you. About 10 or 15 minutes into the services, there's a time for sharing with the children. After that, they'll go out to Sunday School with our volunteer teachers. Our teachers are here all summer long.





Have you taken a few minutes in the past week to pray for members of our congregation who are in poor health, who are shut-ins, who cannot get out to church? Take a minute to phone one or two, or call to make some personal visits, or send out a couple of cards just to let them know we care about them. They'll appreciate your thoughtfulness. If we have forgotten any persons -- please let the Editors or the church office know.

Due to the Privacy Act in Canada, we are no longer able to publish any personal information such as home phone numbers and addresses. If you wish to contact one of our "Home Members", please contact the church office.



### HOME MEMBERS

Myra Badley  
George Breen  
Joyce Bullock  
Fredrica Cameron

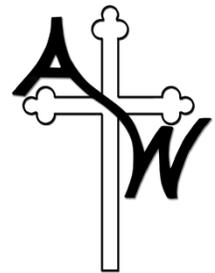
Bea Cares  
Betty & Fred Enta  
Gloria Everson  
Cliff Firmin

Linda Garland  
Lilla Jaleel  
Evelyn Lyon  
Gerry Moore

Lloyd Ostrom  
Helen Smith  
Fred Sunahara  
Viola Warford



## Asbury and West United Church



*When you need to get in touch with us . . .*

3180 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M6A 2A9  
Office: 416-783-6503 / Toll Free 1-877-226-2242  
Office Hours: Tues - Friday 9:00 - 12:00 pm, closed Monday  
Email: [secretary@asburyandwest.org](mailto:secretary@asburyandwest.org)  
<http://www.asburyandwest.org/>

Rev. Darren Liepold

Intentional Interim Minister

Cate Billinger

Church Secretary

Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson (416-239-5821)

Flock Talk Editors

Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen (905-770-7457)



**NEXT DEADLINE - Sunday, March 17, 2013**  
**Next Edition - Easter Sunday, March 31, 2013**

Material accepted ANYTIME (the earlier the better !!!).  
Please place all materials in the "Flock Talk" folder on the Secretary's desk in the Church Office. Articles are subject to editing for length and clarity.





*Our first stained glass window was installed during December 1983 and dedicated on Sunday, August 24, 1984 during a Mulholland family reunion in Toronto. The "Nativity" was donated in memory of Elsie Mulholland by many members of the Mulholland family. The land on which Asbury and West is build was originally donated by Henry and Jane for Wesleyan Methodist Church in the 1830's.*