FLOCK TALK

Asbury and West United Church

3180 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON M6A 2A9 Office: 416-783-6503

"The Friendly Church" Edition 154 April 1, 2018 Now is Christ rom the dead. 1 Corinthians 15:20; KJV

Our Mission Statement: We are a diverse community of Christians, called by God, who seek to make a positive difference in the lives of those who live in the Bathurst and Lawrence Community and beyond.



The Pastor's Pen

Hello Church Family,

Today is Monday, March 19, 2018. It is two days away from the first day of Spring. I am in the office of the church. I am not usually in the office on a Monday but this week is different. Soon everything around us will be different. This is an exciting time of year. The anticipation of warmer days, flowers, plants, trees, birds singing, rivers and lakes melting. Sometimes it is too much for my spirit to handle. Just think of it, everything coming to life. Oh! Sometimes it causes me to bow my head in complete awe.

This time of year is a time to celebrate and sing songs of praise to our Creator who set us in this perfect garden known as the planet earth. Spring is a time of hope and newness. This is a time to look out the window and see new life taking many forms. This is the time to dance and sing

because the world is going to break open in all its splendor.

It is right and good that Easter is in the Spring time of the year. This is a time to remember the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. A time to remember and have hope in God's love for each of us and this garden called earth.

Soon, everything will break open with life. Easter is a time to celebrate new life. Especially, the new life we are promised by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Hallelujah. He is risen, He is risen indeed!

Happy Easter,

Rev. Carol McKinley



the stone was rolled away

HE IS NOT HERE
he has
bisen

Matthew 28

Senior Choir

We are pleased and thankful to have Anthony Panacci at the piano playing the music on Sunday mornings.



Although we're small in numbers, the Choir is an enthusiastic group. We are always happy to welcome new members.

If you wish to join us please attend practice on Sunday mornings at 9:40AM.

We look forward to seeing you.

Glenda McBroom

"It was love, not the nails, that held Jesus to the cross."

"GOD, IT HURTS"

I said, "God it hurts". And God said, "I know".

I said, "God, I cry a lot". And God said, "That's why I gave you tears".

I said, "God, I get so depressed". And God said, "That's why I gave you sunshine".

I said, "God, I feel alone". And God said, "That's why I gave you loved ones".

I said, "God, my loved one is dead".
And God said, "I watched mine nailed to the cross".

I said, "God, where are they".
And God said, "Mine is on my right and yours is in the light".

I said, "God, it hurts". And God said, "I know".

Author unknown



The Young at Heart Seniors programme is well underway. Our numbers are holding steady at around 12 to 14 members.

On January 25th we celebrated Robbie Burns Day and on February 8th we had a Valentines lunch. February 25th we celebrated Black History Month highlighting the struggle of the Black Porters on the Railways and the final recognition that they were capable of doing their jobs. Our last meeting on March 8th we played games and had lunch.

We are hoping that other members of the congregation and their friends will join us for the remaining program which is as follows:

April 26 th	Proposed Speaker
May 10 th	Movie and lunch
May 23rd	Proposed coach tour
June 14th	Pot luck lunch / Georege Heldt on the piano
June 28th	Picnic at Earl Bales Park

Melvyn and Shirley Beckles, Group Contacts





PROPERTY MINISTRY

Property Report as Submitted to Council Meeting March 25

Alarm System - Talks continue with Otis (elevator company) and Focus (alarm monitoring company) to correct the problem with the alarm system and all other deficiencies from Focus annual inspection will be dealt with.

Lawn Sign - Meeting was held with church sign contractor and Heritage Department at City Hall to discuss proper steps and requirements as our site is designated heritage. Previous archaeological reports done during the renovation will be reviewed. All efforts are being made for cost efficiency for the project.

Short Term Rentals - A slight increase in rates and a modification to the room set-up times took place as of March 1st. Our rates are still considerably less than other rental facilities. Any booking before the increase will be honored at the old rate.

All inquiries regarding Property should be directed to the Co-Chairs, Yvonne Wright and Clayton Johnson.

SHE WILL BE MISSED....



COBON, Louise (nee DEACON) Louise Cobon, died on February 16, 2018 in her 94th year at Humber River Hospital in Toronto after a very short stay in acute care. Family members were by her side. She leaves a great void in the lives of her children Ron (Diane), Peter, David (Susan) and Linda, her grandchildren Jennifer (Rich), Donald (Carolyn), Debbie and Carl (Cassandra) and her great-grandchildren Tyler, Coen and Mitchell. Born in Lachute, Quebec, she attended MacDonald College in Ste. Anne de Bellevue and in 1944 joined the Royal Canadian Navy (WRENs). She was stationed in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, where she met her husband, Harry Cobon (RCN Signal Corps). They were married in 1945 and moved to Toronto after the war. The family highlight every summer was returning to Quebec to spend time on Lake Louisa. Her husband died in 1981. A longtime member of Asbury and West United Church and a longtime employee of Grand and Toy. A memorial service will be held at a later date in Lachute, Quebec.





Editor's Note: Abbreviated version of the obituary published in the Toronto Star February 24-26, 2018.



WE WILL REMEMBER.... VIMY RIDGE DAY Monday, April 9, 2018

Monday, April 9, 2018

Canada's most impressive tribute overseas to those Canadians who fought and gave their lives in the First World War is the majestic and inspiring Canadian National Vimy Memorial. It overlooks the Douai Plain from the highest point of Vimy Ridge, about ten kilometres north of Arras.

The Memorial does more than mark the site of the engagement that Canadians were to remember with more pride than any other operation of the First World War. It stands as a tribute to all who served their country in battle in that four-year struggle and particularly to those who gave their lives.



Women's Ministry



Our programs vary from month to month which makes it all the more exciting when we get together. Sometimes they are social; sometimes educational; sometimes

a test of our creative skills; sometimes just business.

In January it was educational. Cari-Lynne Pine spoke to us about her job at the YWCA with regards to homelessness. The YWCA (Woodlawn) provides emergency shelter for women and children who are fleeing from domestic abuse, shelter for youth, refugees, to men who have lost their jobs, and to men and women suffering from mental issues and addictions. However the immense need is greater than accommodations available. We watched a YouTube documentary entitled "Homelessness in Toronto".

Cheryl Holliday, Women's Ministry, Chair



Our UCW has been invited to join with Cummer Avenue United Church Women on April 17th, for their monthly meeting. They are having a special speaker, Marjorie Bain, from the Women's International Church Council of Canada, on the Council's 100th Anniversary.

Dorothy Ostrum

PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION!

Everyone enjoyed our Parade of Palms during the service; thanks to the children of the Sunday School for leading the way. Special music for Palm Sunday by The Choir, Lola and members of the Filipino community.

















MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE **M**INISTRY

Our continued goal is to bring members into the fold of Asbury and West United Church. At present we have five members showing interest and Rev. Carol will meet with anyone wanting to become a member. We are planning a reception in September.

We keep in touch with absentee members with telephone calls and cards are sent. We also visit as needed along with Rev. Carol. The members of our Ministry are Rev. Carol McKinley, Melvyne and Shirley Beckles, Phoebe Cleverley, Lucille Hunte, Janiss Johnson, (Secretary), Yvonne Lampkin, Nancy Sisson and Ianthe Spencer (Chair).

Ianthe Spencer, Chair



What is Benevolent?

Organized for the purpose of doing good.

How is My Benevolent Offering Used?

Asbury and West has a history of reaching out to people in our community who are struggling. Your donations of items to the food cart are most appreciated. We also provide food cards so that those coming to our door can buy milk and bread.

Your Benevolent Offering is used to purchase these Food Cards. We encourage you to use the Benevolent Offering Envelope to help buy milk and bread for people in our community.

Envelopes are always available on the narthex table (lobby) for your contributions. You can also purchase 5\$ or 10\$ food cards from Metro and/or No Frills. Simply put the food cards or cash in the envelope and place it on the Sunday offering plate.

We are blessed to have this opportunity to serve God in this outreach ministry. Thank you for your support.

The Council of Asbury and West United Church



CARE LINK

Several years ago Members of Session (our former board) decided that we needed to do more visiting to shut ins and members of our congregation who were sick. The late Rev. Doug McKenzie thought that we would need some help to do effective visiting. It was decided that we would participate in a mini course in team visiting in hospital and in home. We were advised to buy the Book THE MINISTRY OF LISTENING written by Donald Peel.

When the visiting group was formed there were about twenty members. We decided to name this group Care Link. We worked well together and meet once a month for discussions. As time went on the group got smaller and smaller due to illness and death. Our dear Louse Cobon was a dedicated member of this group. She passed away on February 16th, 2018. We miss you Louise, REST IN PEACE.

Another change that evolved was no longer referring to members as 'shut ins' but rather Home Members.

Care Link has no chair but rather each month one of us will chair the meeting. The members of Care Link are Rev. Carol McKinley, Melvyne Beckles, Lucille Hunte, Sheila Mascoll, Lou Rhoden, and Ianthe Spencer.





Asbury and West is Seeking Organist and Choir Leader



The diverse congregation of Asbury and West United seeks an Organist and Choir Leader who is an independent contractor for the capacity of 3-4 hours per week. Responsibilities include providing worship service music, rehearing, conducting and accompanying a dedicated volunteer choir and congregational singing. Phoenix organ and pianos available.

Music selection and decisions made in a collaborative atmosphere with the Minister and quarterly meeting (1 hour) with members of the Worship, Sacrament and Music Ministry.

Knowledge of Christian traditions and music along with sensitivity to the liturgy of the United Church of Canada would be an asset. For further details and to see our beautiful sanctuary, please visit www.asburyandwest.org

Send your application & resume to: Asbury and West United Church, c/o Music Search Committee, 3180 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M6A 2A9 OR email to secretary@asburyandwest.org Deadline: April 30, 2018, Start Date: June 3, 2018.



Don't forget Mother's Day on Sunday, May 13.



Don't forget Father's Day on Sunday, June 17.

COUNCIL

Without Easter

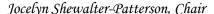
Without Easter,
there would be no hope of heaven.
Without the hope of heaven,
there would be no repentance,
no personal transformation,
no attempt to follow biblical principles.
Without Easter,
the world would be in chaos
and darkness.
Jesus' death and resurrection
means we can be reborn,
to live better, to do better,
to shine light into the shadows.
Hallelujah!
Happy, Happy Easter.

By Joanna Fuchs

Without Easter there would be no church. And without YOU there would be no Asbury and West. To refresh your memory and provide details for our newer members in attendance each Sunday, listed to the right are the responsibilities associated with each Ministry. The Chair of each Ministry makes up the body of Council. Everyone is welcome to participate with no previous experience required. Everyone is welcome to the monthly meeting of Council as the Congregational Representative.

As we renew our faith this Easter through the resurrection of Jesus, take time to see how you can renew your commitment to your church. Where can you make a contribution, how can you give of your time and talent? Into what shadow of Asbury and West will you shine your light?

Wishing you and all your loved ones the blessings of the risen Christ.





COMMUNICATIONS (Chair: Vacant)

Keep the congregation informed through Sunday bulletin and announcements, bulletin boards, website, social media and Flock Talk and reach out to the community through Website, social media and advertising.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Chair: Cheryl Holliday)

Ensure that children and adults have Christian Education,

evaluate and choose study materials for all ages and work with the minister to involve children & youth in worship services.

HOSPITALITY (Chair: Lou Rhoden)

Initiate social and anniversary events and enlist the help of members of the congregation to organize refreshments after service.

MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE

(Chair: Ianthe Spencer)

Encourage individuals to become members, maintain up-to-date church membership, coordinate revisions of church directory and name tags. Keep in contact with members and Home Members.

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL (M&P)

(Chair: Vacancy)

Maintains confidential oversight of our staff including all salary, working conditions and concerns. Training is available.

STEWARDSHIP (formerly called Finance) (Chair: Phoebe Cleverley)

Develop and administer the overall budget for the congregation and keep the congregation informed about financial matters. Administer the Benevolent Fund and make annual decisions for grants to community organizations.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES (Chair: Cheryl Holliday)

Oversees all matters related to the programs and special occasion for the United Church Women (UCW) and Joybreak and encourages all women to participate.

WORSHIP, SACRAMENTS AND MUSIC (Chair: Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen)

Oversees all aspects of worship. Assists the Minister on planning worship services and coordinates the preparation and decoration of the sanctuary for services. Prepares for and assists with the elements of Baptism and Communion. Takes attendance at services, ushers and gathers the offering.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

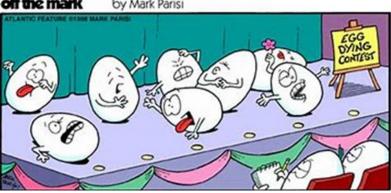


FOR SALE - Single owner tomb. Only used three days, and still has that new tomb smell. Reason for sale.. resident was resurrected.

Tastes Like Chicken by Josh Alves

CLOSE YOUR EYES AND I'LL HIDE THE KIDS AGAIN.

off the mark by Mark Parisi





Laughter is the best medicine!





"No fair! — Emily's finding Easter eggs with a GPS!"





God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.





"We finished dying all the eggs, so now we're decoratin' Daddy's golf balls."





"Sharing the Gifts We Have Been Given"

Stewardship Ministry

We have been meeting regularly and doing our best to manage the financial affairs of our church, with the assistance of personnel and publications from the United Church of Canada.

We are grateful for the support of our congregation, both in terms of financial contributions and taking part in Sunday worship, mid-week events, providing leadership, and serving refreshments. Thanks to our faithful Christian Education teachers, we have an excellent program for children and youth. We are all inspired by Rev Carol's ideas and stories shared in Learning All Together Time on Sunday mornings.

But, we are still working with a deficit budget, which means that we are paying out more money than we are taking in on a yearly basis. We can only correct this situation if more of our people pledge regular support, either through giving envelopes or through PAR (Pre Authorized Remittance). We also need your ideas and leadership for fundraising events, large or small.

Lets us prayerfully dedicate ourselves to continue to fulfill our Mission to our community and beyond.

Phoebe Cleverley, Chair



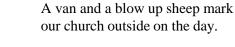
On February 4, Asbury and West experienced something a little different. Life 100.3 Ontario's Christian Superstation came and led us in morning worship. With Rev Carol always thinking outside of the box, she introduced us to an organization that as their mission statements says, "To provide ministry, entertainment and information through radio in a contemporary and God-honouring way, pointing both Believers and unchurched listeners to the message of Jesus Christ." Scott Jackson delivered a messages to our congregation, while Tom Row shared his musical gift of voice and playing the guitar. It was a truly an enjoyable service. If you missed this service, not to worry, they will be with us again on Sunday, June 17 in celebration of Father's Day.



Scott Jackson (L) lead us in worship and Tom Row (R) Shared is musical talents.







A booth in the narthex to give out bibles and sell some items after the service.



ARE YOU ON P.A.R.?

Have you thought about making your church donation by P.A.R. (Pre-Authorized Remittance)? Through PAR, automatic monthly withdrawals are made from your bank account. PAR is easy to set up and can be adjusted at any time should your circumstances change. If you are already on PAR, don't forget that you can increase your donation anytime. Simply speak to Cheryl Holliday, in confidence, about the process.

Thank you for your support!



COPPER KETTLE

Please drop your change in the big Copper Kettle. Folding money gratefully accepted. Available every Sunday.

We have collected \$25.90 YTD.

Thank you for your support!



We are also collecting Canadian Tire money to assist with future purchases. Please consider this form of donation to your church.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Sunday School

As a Lenten project, the Sunday School made Prayer Pretzel packages to distribute to the congregation.

What is a Prayer Pretzel?

The pretzel has a deep spiritual meaning for Lent.

The story goes that in 610 A.D. an Italian monk created pretzels as a reward to children who learned their prayers.

In the old Roman Empire, the faithful kept a very strict fast all through Lent: no milk, no butter, no cheese, no eggs, no cream and no meat. They made small breads of water, flour and salt, to remind them that Lent was a time of prayer. They shaped these breads in the form of crossed arms for in those days they crossed their arms over the breast while praying. Therefore they called the breads "little arms" (*in latin - bracellae, translation bracelet*).

Today the pretzel continues to serve as a reminder that Lent is a time for prayer.

Cheryl Holliday, Chair



Interesting and Fun Facts About Easter

- † Christians believe that the Easter egg is said to symbolize and represent joy, celebration and new life and the resurrection
- † The tallest chocolate Easter egg ever was made in Italy in 2011. At 10.39 metres (34 feet) in height and 7,200 kg (15,873 pounds) in weight, it was taller than a giraffe and heavier than an elephant!
- † Easter is not fixed to a specific day. It usually falls between March 22nd and April 25th. It is supposed to fall on the first Sunday after the full moon following March 21st.
- † The Easter Bunny tradition made its way to the US in the 18th century. It is believed to have originated in Europe where it was actually the Easter Hare. Other Easter traditions include wearing Easter bonnets, making Easter baskets and having Easter egg hunts.
- † The art of painting eggs is called pysanka, which originated in Ukraine. It involves using wax and dyes to color the egg.
- † Peep peep... did you know Americans buy more than 700 million marshmallow Peeps during Easter? This makes Peeps the most popular non-chocolate Easter candy.
- † Are you an ears, arms or tail person? Seventy-six percent of people eat the ears on the chocolate bunny first, 5 % go for the feet and 4% for the tail.
- † Easter is the oldest Christian holiday.

Happy Easter!



GAMES PLUS MORE

Word Search

SACRIFICE

TTSCHRIST

OLEASTERB

NAGLVCTKU

EMGVRISEN

PBSACROWN

P S C R O S S U Y

VHOYTOMBR

CHOCOLATE

Bunny Calvary

Chocolate

Christ

Cross

Crown Easter Eggs

Lamb Risen

Sacrifice

Saviour

Stone

310116

Tomb

Colour Me



Jesus IS Alive! Spot the 13 Differences







Carrying the Cross

On Palm Sunday, April 8, 1990 "Carrying the Cross" stained glass window was dedicated by members of the congregation in loving memory of former members of Asbury and West United Church.



The Empty Tomb

"The Empty Tomb" stained glass window was given by the Choir at the evening Christmas Candlelight service in 1994. This window was dedicated to God's glory in music and in honour of choir members past, present and future. This window completed the last in the series of eighteen windows in our sanctuary.



The Resurrection

"The Resurrection" stained glass window is another beautiful congregational window from gifts and memorial donations to loved ones and former members of Asbury and West United Church. This window was dedicated on Sunday, October 6, 1985.



From The Editors' Desk

At this Easter time, we invite you to visit our beautiful stained glass windows and the story they tell us. Take time to pray in the Garden of Gethesemane, walk the road to Calvary, and rejoice at the Empty Tomb. Happy Easter to you and your family.

Jocelyn & Sylvia

Calendar of Events



April

Sun April 1 - Easter Sunday....HALLELUJAH, HE HAS RISEN!

Mon April 9 - Vimy Ridge Day (see page 5) Sun April 15 - Rick McKinley, guest speaker

Sun April 22 - Anniversary Sunday, guest speaker Sandra Kirby

May

Sun May 10 - Ascension Sunday

Sun May 13 - Mother's Day

Sun May 20 - Pentecost Sunday

Mon May 21 - Victoria Day

June

Sun June 17 - Father's Day

Sun June 17 - Christian Radio 100.3 returns to our morning service

Thurs June 21 - Aboriginal Day

July

Sun July 1 - Canada Day

Mon July 2 - Canada Day (Statutory Holiday)

Aug

Wed Aug 15 - Assumption of Mary

September

Mon Sept 3 - Labour Day

Sun Sept 23 - Deadline for Flock Talk Thanksgiving edition

October

Sun Oct 8

- Flock Talk available

Mon Oct 9 - Thanksgiving Day

Wed Oct 31 - Halloween

Regularly Scheduled Events - ALL ARE WELCOME

• Caring for the Temple (Beginner Yoga) Tuesdays at 7:00pm.

• Caring for the Temple (Chair Yoga for Seniors) Wednesdays at 12:30pm, bring your lunch for noon.

• Choir Practice, Sunday morning at 9:40am.

• Conversations (Bible Study) Wednesdays at 11:00am.

• Joybreak (Women) every 4th Monday at 7:30pm except Feb, July & Aug.

• UCW 3rd Tuesday at noon, except Dec., July & Aug. Bring your lunch.

• Worship Service & Children's Church School on Sundays at 10:30am, followed by refreshments after the service.

• Young at Heart (Seniors) 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 11:00am. Bring your lunch.

MINISTRY GROUPS and COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS Chair: Vacancy

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Chair: Cheryl Holliday Council Rep: Kim Davidson

HOSPITALITY Chair: Lou Rhoden

MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE Chair: Ianthe Spencer

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL (M&P)

Chair: Vacancy

PROPERTY
Co-Chairs: Yvonne Wright
& Clayton Johnson

STEWARDSHIP Chair: Phoebe Cleverley

WORSHIP, SACRAMENT AND MUSIC

Chair: Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen

WOMEN'S MINISTRY Chair: Cheryl Holliday

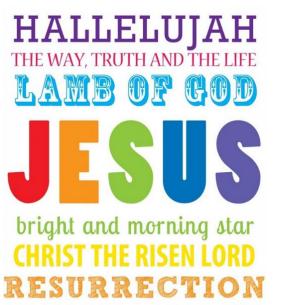
MEMORIAL Committee Cheryl Holliday, David Tuck

PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVE Vacancy

CONGREGATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Vacancy

Council Chair: Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson



BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED

Asbury and West United Church

Contact us at ...

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00 - 12:00 pm, closed Monday

Email: secretary@asburyandwest.org Website: http://www.asburyandwest.org/

Blog: http://asburyandwest.blogspot.ca/p/announcements.html

Rev. Carol McKinley minister@asburyandwest.org Minister

Cate Billinger <u>secretary@asburyandwest.org</u> Office Administrator

Alvaro Perez custodian@asburyandwest.org Church Custodian

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NEXT DEADLINE – Sunday, September 23, 2018 Next Edition – Sunday, October 8, 2018

Material accepted ANYTIME (the earlier the better).

Please place all materials in the "Flock Talk" folder on the counter in the workroom or email the editors. Articles are subject to editing for length & clarity.

Have you taken a few minutes in the past week to pray for members of our congregation who are in poor health, or who are unable to get out? 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. Please let the church office know if we have forgotten any one.



HOME
MEMBERS

Cecil Anderson Fredrica Cameron Hollie Hepburn Evelyn Lyons Marina Mackin Helen Smith Fred Sunahara

Flock Talk Editors





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