

FLOCK TALK

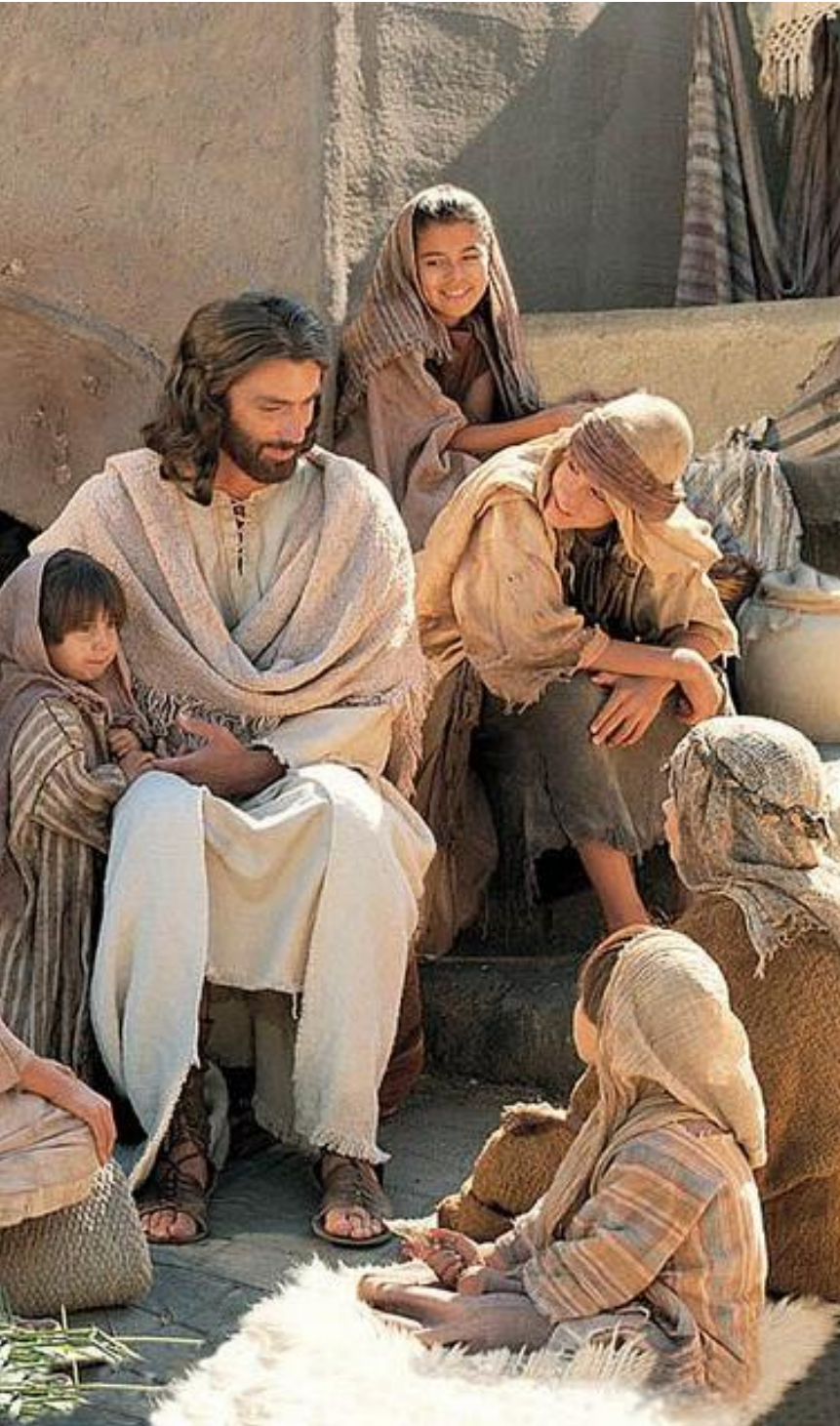
Asbury and West United Church

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

"The Friendly Church"

June 18, 2017

Edition 151



"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come unto me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.'"

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

It's June and flowers are blooming; birds are singing; trees are blooming and people everywhere are enjoying the beautiful summer days and gentle evenings.

Around my house Spring and Summer are in full swing. The vegetable garden is planted. The perennials are up and some are in full bloom. The annuals in all their glory are shining forth the colours of God's creation. Mountain Ash tree outside my window smells heavenly wafting in through the open window.

Rick and I opened the cottage and have spent two rainy, cold Sunday afternoons at the cottage freezing in June. One night at the cottage creation came right into the bedroom. I had fallen asleep in another room and was awakened by the sound of Rick shouting, "get out of here."

I thought we had a bear in the cottage. I stayed very still because I was told that's what we are supposed to do when confronted by a bear.

A few minutes later. Rick switched on the light and came out into the living room. The creature followed him into the kitchen. Finally, everything was quite and we both went back to bed.

A few minutes later I heard Rick jump out of bed and there on his head board was a pregnant mouse. The mouse disappeared behind the bed.

We searched and searched but no luck. Somewhere at the cottage on Three Mile Lake in the Muskoka's. A new mother and her babies are happily making our cottage their home. At least for now...

May God bless your summer adventures.

Rev. Carol McKinley

TOMORROW!!!



Pizza & Planning Party

Come on **Monday, June 19** and help plan the future of Asbury and West

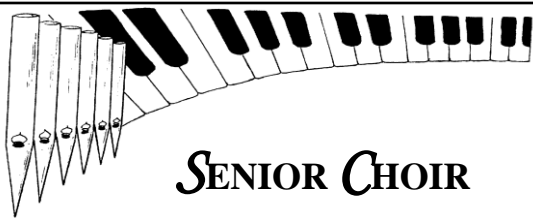
6:00 pm - Dinner in the Upper Room
(Just \$5 per person for pizza and wings)

6:45 - 8:00 pm - Meeting in the Sanctuary

Come with your ideas, suggestions and an open mind!

Everyone is welcome!!





SENIOR CHOIR

It has been a fantastic spring so far musically at Asbury and West. I was honoured to play at the hymn sing that raised quite a bit of money for our church last month. I must admit that even after a long career I played a couple of new hymns that had beautiful melodies and harmonies. Thanks go to Jocelyn and Sylvia for preparing the hymns and making the evening a great success.

Let's not forget the moving and touching Mother's Day service featuring our guest, Oksana Isoki and our very own Lisa Crawford singing Panis Angelicus. Oksana is our soprano soloist for Belle Voci as well as Lisa our mezzo. Our daughter Miranda and my wife Catriona gave a beautiful interpretation of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Pie Jesus" in memory of all Mother's that have passed. There wasn't a dry eye in the church. Our wonderful choir sang a passionate version of 'Ave Verum' and Ave Maria for the postlude which was led by Oksana, Lisa and Catriona. I am very proud

and thankful of all the hard work and dedication everyone in our choir puts forth every single week. Bravo to all!

Filipino heritage was the main focus at the June 4 service when member of our congregation proudly celebrated their heritage when they sang a powerful rendition of the Filipino National Anthem as well as a very joyful piece during the offertory. Hermie Cariaga sang her heart out with her solo "Ako Ay Pilipino" that received wonderful applause. Thank you to all who attended this wonderful service and to Reverend Carol and Lola Pinnock who took the initiative to inspire this great event.

On June 11, Cheryl prepared a special Sunday Celebration service entitled "We Are The Church". We always look forward to any service including children and families. Thank you all for celebrating with us and raising your voices in praising God together in unison.

Paolo Busato, Choir Director



RESULTS

BOOK, BAKE & BOUDOIR SALE

The Book, Bake & Boudoir Sale held Saturday, May 27 brought in \$350.25 for the church. Thanks to all who helped prepare on Friday, worked on Saturday and supported the sale. A special thank you to Janiss Johnson who helped pack up the leftover clothing on the following Monday for Value Village and the Scott Mission.



RESULTS**WHIMSICAL AFTERNOON**

Asbury and West's first High Tea event was held on Saturday June 3rd, and a wonderful fund raiser for the church. I am happy to report that it was well received, as voiced by those who came. They expressed their appreciation of the presentation, food and social atmosphere. It was a pleasure and a joy to be present and experience being among such a beautiful people, smartly dressed, being social.

Rev. Carol summarized it well, at Sunday's Service, that the Spirit was evident at the event.

With that I will first thank God for blessing us with a beautiful, sunny day, and every way, and for taking charge and control.

Special thanks to Cheryl Holliday for her prompting, with this event, for guiding me through the maze. Her assistance and presence at the event was greatly appreciated. Thanks to my reliable volunteers Joyce, Janiss, Vicky, Glenda, Cari, Yvonne, Phoebe, Lynsia.

To all who donated to the event, bought tickets, prayed, thank you.

Special thanks and prayers for Nivernie Stewart who freely gave of her time and resources as a donation by catering the food. I personally want to thank God for the opportunity to rise to the occasion.

To all who donated....thank you! A total of \$900 was raised.

Well done to my church family, friends and love ones. God Bless!

Lola Pinnock

**DAD**

God took the strength of a mountain,
 The majesty of a tree,
 The warmth of a summer sun,
 The calm of a quiet sea,
 The generous soul of nature,
 The comforting arm of night,
 The wisdom of the ages,
 The power of the eagle's flight,
 The joy of a morning in spring,
 The faith of a mustard seed,
 The patience of eternity,
 The depth of a family need,
 Then God combined these qualities,
 When there was nothing more to add,
 He knew his masterpiece was complete,
 And so, he called it
 Dad

~Anonymous

MARK YOUR CALENDAR


JOHN McDERMOTT

John McDermott, Tenor
 in
Concert
November 18, 2:00PM
 at
Asbury and West United Church
3180 Bathurst Street, Toronto
 (2 blocks North of Lawrence Avenue
 on the West side)





Tickets \$55
 For more information
tickets@asburyandwest.org



*"Sharing the Gifts We
Have Been Given"*

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

Please remember - the church does not close for a summer vacation and needs you to keep your pledges and offerings up to date. An easy way to continue your commitment when you are absent is through our Pre-Authorization Remittance plan. Please see Cheryl Holliday for details and registration.

Asbury and West needs \$22,500 to cover operating, program, payroll and contract expenses each month. Our financial standing at the end of May 2017 shows we were short **\$6,218.59**.

Thank you for your support.

Your Stewardship Ministry

Financial Standing May 2017			
Date and Attendance		Local Operations	Revenue
May 7	61	Envelopes, Loose	\$796.30
May 14	75	Envelopes, Loose & Initial	\$680.00
May 21	44	Envelopes, Loose	\$391.00
May 28	55	Envelopes, Loose	\$1,412.25
PAR			\$1,104.00
Sub Total			\$4,383.55
Tenants' Contracts		Montessori School; Immanuel Church	\$9,782.00
Room Rentals			\$900.00
Special Offerings/Donations for the month: Mother's Day, UCW			\$480.00
Fundraising (Hymn Sing, Chocolate/Cookbook Sales, Luncheon)			\$735.86
Total Revenue, all sources =			\$16,281.41
NORMAL MONTHLY OPERATING COST			\$22,500.00
Excess/(Shortfall)			(\$6,218.59)

Figures do not include M&S contributions.



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!

LOONIE BIN = COPPER KETTLE



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

We have collected \$40.31 YTD.

Walk-up Sunday brought in \$173.70 YTD.

Thank you for your generous support!

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



FROM THE KNEELING PERSPECTIVE

On Mother's day Sunday May 7th, Rev. Carol made reference to a flower. Below you will find a picture of the Archangel flower and a small excerpt from her sermon....

A few years ago I brought a small sack of wildflower seeds to church for the children's time, wildflowers come in many varieties and sizes one of them is called the yellow the "archangel". The archangel is a spectacular orange flower with a golden coloured canopy that spreads over the top of it like an angel's wing. If it was a large hothouse flower - like an orchid some of us would rush out and buy it. But it is so small that you have to get down on your knees to see its beauty.

This observation may also apply to spiritual things. As people we are often attracted to what appears showy or grand. But when we are in a quiet, worshipful frame of mind we are often more aware of the great beauty in humble things. Some things are best appreciated on our knees not just the things of nature, where close examination can reveal God's attention to detail, but also other people. People like our parents; our mothers whom we honour today.

The secret of what honouring is and what it involves is found in the command that Jesus gave to his disciples; the command that not only should we love one another, but that we should love them as he loves us. To love others, to love our parents, or our brothers and sisters, or our neighbours, can be very hard at times. In a Spiritual sense love always demands that we give up our lives, that we give up our "selves" willingly.

To love as Jesus loves means quite simply that we will forgive others the pain that they cause us; that we will reach to bless those who seem indifferent to us, even hostile towards us; that we will care even when we do not feel cared for; that we will pray for others and seek the best for them even when they seem bound to betray us, as Judas betrayed Jesus.

To love someone else as Jesus loves us does not require that we understand them; nor does it require that we approve of their actions or their lifestyle or their decisions; and it most certainly does not require that they love us, though it is always very nice when they do.

To love someone as Jesus loves us, to obey Christ's command and thereby discover that we are not alone, only requires that we submit the feelings of our hearts and the attitudes of our minds to the wisdom and the counsel of God....

And the people said, "AMEN".



SPECIAL EVENTS AT ASBURY AND WEST ...

Planting sunflower seeds with the Sunday School in May



205 Anniversary, Sunday April 23





The Young at Heart seniors made a coach trip to Port Dover. We are anticipating a Pot Luck Luncheon with George Heldt at the piano and a picnic at Earl Bales Park to end the first part of our yearly program. We are hoping to start part two in September and inviting more members of the congregation to join us.

*Melvyn and Shirley Beckles,
Group Contacts*

The **Positive Thinker**
sees the **Invisible**,
feels the **Intangible**
and **achieves** the
Impossible.



PROPERTY MINISTRY

Property has been very busy since Easter. The following are some highlights:

- The damage from the flooding of one classroom of the FHMS Day Care was satisfactorily undertaken by the school's insurance company.
- Maintenance was competed on the boiler and HVAC
- Repairs were made to the leaking humidifiers which have now been turned off for the summer season
- A payment issue with the alarm company, Chubb Edwards, was resolved and we were credited \$800.00
- Government Inspector visited and subsequently Otis Canada Elevator company completed all necessary maintenance for the elevator and lift
- A wall that was damaged due to water leaking from the boiler has been repaired by Alvaro; plastering, sanding, painting
- Pictures were taken of the church and Alvaro and Cate were interviewed by a representative of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation for an article profiling Cranbrooke Village for a future issue of the Real Estate Magazine
- Consultations continue for a new church sign
- Short-term rentals continue to bring people to our excellent facilities and raised \$2700.00 from January to April inclusive

*Yvonne Wright and Clayton Johnson,
Co-chairs*

CHURCH COUNCIL

Our Remit Vote

During our regular monthly meeting held Sunday May 28th, considerable time was spend in serious discussion before we voted on four (4) remit topics.

The United Church of Canada is changing and we have a say. The vote is very important. Each church receives one vote on each remit topic and, if a church does not submit their vote, it will be considered a NO vote. The total number of votes (submitted or not) will be counted to determine the majority result. The deadline for submission is the end of June.

Remit #1 Three Council Model. This remit proposes a major change to the structure of The United Church of Canada. Currently we have four levels of church decision-making structure: Pastoral Charges, Presbyteries, Conferences, and General Council. It is proposed that the church have three councils, or levels, with specific ministries and responsibilities. The proposal replaces both of the current middle courts with a new regional council. We voted YES.

Remit #2 Elimination of Transfer and Settlement. "Transfer" is the process of moving members of the order of ministry from one Conference to another for the purpose of settlement, or call and settlement. "Settlement" is the process of matching members of the order of ministry with United Church pastoral charges that request settlement. Under the proposed new processes communities of faith will have to find their own ministers through their needs assessment and search committees.

All members of the order of ministry will seek their own calls. We voted YES.

[Note - This is the process we used (pilot project) when our Search Committed called Rev Carol to our church.]

Remit #3 Office of Vocation . If passed, this remit would create a new permanent Office of Vocation as part of the General Council structure. The Office of Vocation would ensure the United Church continues to be served by trained, skilled, competent, and responsible ministers, with accountability to the Board of Vocation. We voted YES.

Remit #4 Funding a New Model. This remit would approve giving the General Council the power to assess pastoral charges to cover the costs of governances and support services for the denomination. The overall concept is to consider all revenues received and subtract outward giving and one-time amounts. The exact assessment formula will be refined over the next two years but will not be higher than 4.5 percent of total revenues raised for pastoral charge operations. We voted NO.

There is one more Remit to be voted on with a deadline in February 2018. We will make our decision this fall.

If you have questions or would like more details please be sure to speak with any member of Council or Rev Carol.

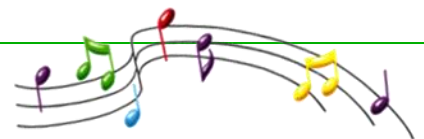
Wishing you are yours a safe enjoyable summer.

Blessings,

Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson, Chair

HYMN SING FUNDRAISING

RESULTS



Thursday May 4th marked our second annual Fundraising Hymn Sing. Requests were submitted, funds were paid, music was organized, words were readied for the big screen, the comfortable sanctuary chairs were rearranged and refreshments were prepared. And a few musical facts and smiles were gathered.

And then the people assembled. We opened the evening with prayer to thank God for all the hymn books we have used over the years and for the words of scripture and the life of Jesus that inspired the hymn writers. God was also thanked for the talent of those who had composed the tunes that so beautifully fit the words.

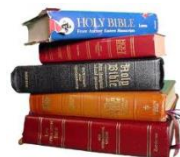
And then we sang, and sang, and sang. A brief intermission ensured that our Choir Director Paolo was able to rest his ivory-tickling fingers and everyone enjoyed a light refreshment. And then we sang, and sang, and sang some more. A total of 55 hymns were enthusiastically sung and the evening closed with the singing of The Lord's Prayer. A total of \$808.38 was raised. Thank you to all who contributed.

We are truly blessed at Asbury and West for our rich history and ministry of music, for the dedication of our faithful Choir and Paolo. May we continue to have music in our lives, be touched by our favorite hymns and be able to make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

*Jocelyn & Sylvia Shewalter
Hymn Sing Event Organizers*

P.S. Musical Smile - B♭, a G♭ and an E♭ walked into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry, we can't serve minors."

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY



Sunday School

What a wonderful celebration we had for our closing on June 11 when we joined together for worship, music and crafts followed by a hot dog and ice cream lunch. Teachers were recognized for their dedication. Children showed off their work. And we all enjoyed an amazing "Sunday School Time". The "We are the Church" banner will be ready for dedication in September. Thank you to everyone for your support and participation! We hope you had fun. See pictures on pages 12 and 13.

The Kids For Christ: Summer Edition program will start on July 2 and run to August 27.

Volunteers are needed to help teach. Please sign the roster on the narthex table or speak to Cheryl Holliday. All materials provided.

Sunday School will resume on September 10.

The Rev. Douglas McKenzie Memorial Walk will be held on September 17.

The staff and children wish you and yours a happy and safe summer.

*Cheryl Holliday,
Sunday School Coordinator*



On Monday, May 29 we enjoyed an evening planting coleus plants for our homes. Thank you to Kim Davidson for organizing this unique program.



FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

We hope during the summer months you and yours enjoy everything on the list below.

Jocelyn & Sylvia



Chocolates are still in the building! If you would like to buy chocolate covered almonds or chocolate meltaways for \$2.00 each, please see Cheryl Holliday.

Joybreak wishes you and your family a happy and safe summer.

*Cheryl Holliday,
Chair*



Word Search

E M H B O A U Y M B X W A B L C T
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G T E L C N U A A W M C P Q X N A
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GAMES PLUS MORE

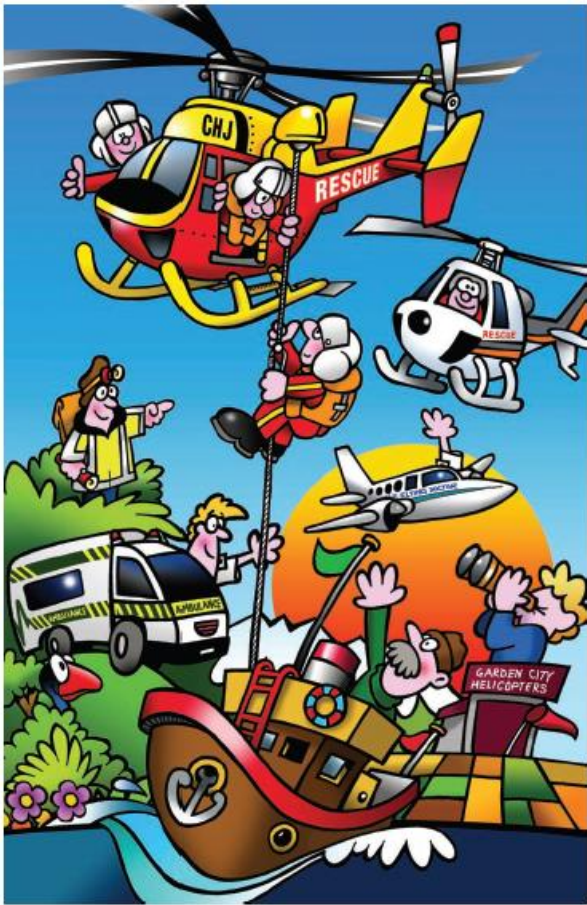
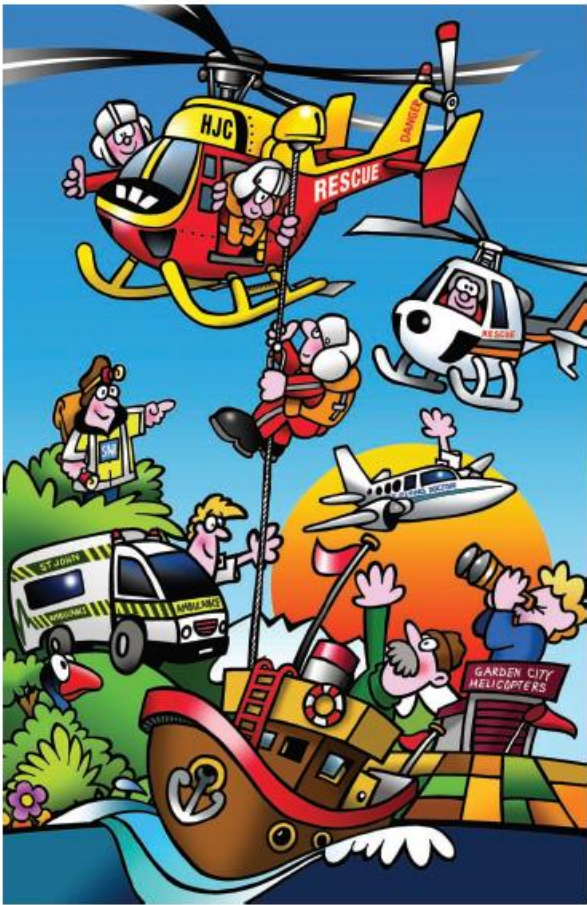


Words

- Daddy
- Uncle
- Strong
- Golf
- Provide
- Father
- Teach
- Brave
- Football
- Parent
- Grandpa
- Respect
- Necktie
- Protect
- Love



Can you spot the 17 differences



WE ARE THE CHURCH

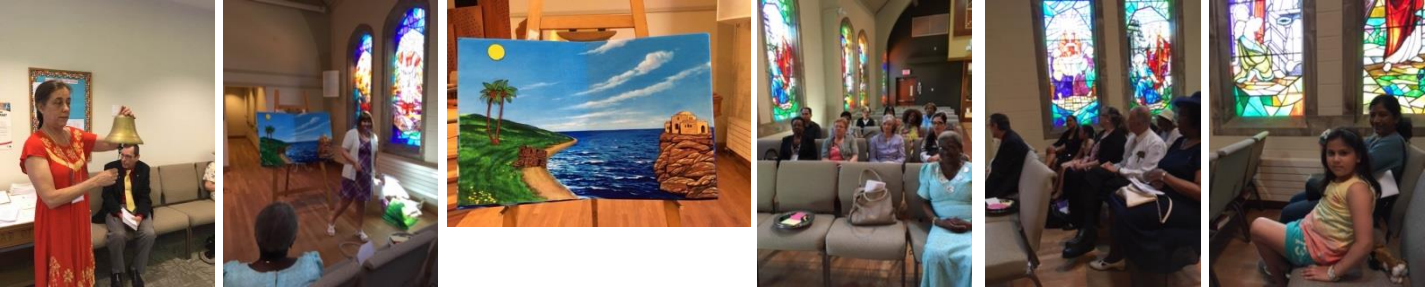
Celebration Sunday (June 11)

What a morning it was! The church was bustling with activity on Sunday June 11 as we celebrated the Sunday School at an intergenerational service. Teachers and helpers were thanked for their dedication. Groups participated in Sunday School classroom activities - Bible Story, singing and crafts. The theme "We are the Church", was reflected through the banner begun by the children. Everyone made their own felt square during craft time. These will be added and the banner will be ready for dedication in September. The Celebration ended with a hot dog and ice cream lunch. Thank you to everyone for being part of this exciting morning!

Lisa thanks teachers and helpers for their dedication.



Heather rings the peace bell to signal time to move. A Bible Story with Kim.



Singing with Paolo



Crafts for the banner with Lydia and Melvyn.



Dedicating our offering.





TORONTO CONFERENCE, MAY 25-27

I was pleased and honoured again this year to represent Asbury and West at Toronto Conference in the category of Young Adults. As the location changes every three years, this year's conference was again held in Midland, approx. 140 km north of Toronto. The theme this year was "Here I Am".

During the course of the weekend we prayed for people throughout the world who are struggling with wars, gender crisis, and fitting into society. Throughout the conference we discussed many important issues but the key topic was should Toronto Conference become an "Affirming" Conference. We voted whether or not we should become an "Affirming" conference, and although the outcome was in favour, I was very surprised by the numbers. Only 87% of the people in the room wanted to become an Affirming conference. I thought as a people of God the percentage would have been much higher. It was surprising that in this day and age that people of the United Church still struggle with this issue. I learned that although our church is a very welcoming one, we are not an "Affirming" church. If someone from the LGBT community was to walk down the street and see the affirming logo they will automatically feel more welcome – without that logo present, some may feel reluctant to come through our doors.

We had numerous speakers and musical performers. We had drummers who performed for us during the meeting. There were also other musicians, guitars and maracas, which enhanced our music during the singing of hymns. As you can see by the photos, we all had a lot of fun with the photo booth too.

When the youth had breaks we would take a short walk down to Little Lake Park which is on the edge of Little Lake. It was there where we were able to bond and get to know each other on a more personal level.

I'd like to "Thank" Council for granting me the opportunity to participate in the conference. This experience allowed me to meet people from other churches, hear about their experiences, and learn more about the United Church. It was a wonderful experience!

Melissa Nielsen



Affirming Logo

Calendar of Events



June

- June 18 - Father's Day - **TODAY**
- June 19 - Pizza & Planning Party, 6:00 pm. Help plan the future of Asbury and West – ALL are welcome!
- June 20 - UCW Pot Luck, June 20 at noon
- June 21 - National Aboriginal Day
- June 22 - Young at Heart Picnic, 11:00 am, Earl Bales Park
- June 25 - Gospel Music Sunday, 10:30am
- The OECS (Organization of Eastern Caribbean States) will be joining us for worship

July

- July 1 - Canada Day - Canada's 150th Anniversary
- July 2 - Canada Day Celebration service
- Kids for Christ–Summer Edition, every Sunday until Aug 27
- July 30 - Communion

August

- August 7 - Civic Holiday

September

- September 4 - Labour Day
- September 10 - Sunday School resumes
- September 24 - Deadline for Thanksgiving issue of Flock Talk – articles due

October

- October 8 - Thanksgiving Sunday
- October 8 - Flock Talk available
- October 9 - Thanksgiving Day
- October 31 - Halloween...Mwahahaha!!!!!!

And for your Summer Relaxation... Rev. Carol will be holding Yoga Classes in the Upper Room of the church

Beginner Yoga

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm - July 4, 11, 18 & 25
(Bring a yoga mat, rug, towel or something to put on the floor)

Chair Yoga

Wednesday mornings at
11:00 am - July 5, 12, 19, & 26

For both Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings wear comfortable clothing. There is a sign-up sheet on the narthex table.



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: Lola Pinnock

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

Asbury and West United Church

Contact us at ...

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

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

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Paolo Busato busatopaolo@gmail.com

Music Director

Cate Billinger secretary@asburyandwest.org

Office Administrator

Alvaro Perez custodian@asburyandwest.org

Church Custodian

Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson (416-239-5821)

Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen (905-770-7457)

Flock Talk Editors

jocelynandharvey@gmail.com / rsm56@sympatico.ca

NEXT DEADLINE - Sunday, Sept. 24, 2017

Next Edition – THANKSGIVING Sunday, Oct. 8

Material accepted ANYTIME (the earlier the better). Please place all materials in the "Flock Talk" folder on the counter in the workroom.

Articles are subject to editing for length and 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
Myra Badley
Fredrica Cameron

Bea Cares
Mildred Franklin
Evelyn Lyon

Helen Smith
Fred Sunahara

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