

# FLOCK TALK

Asbury and West United Church

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

October 9, 2011

**"The Friendly Church"**

Edition 128



*Let us be truly thankful*

## THE PASTOR'S PEN

For the past few weeks, I have watched as a few of the leaves have begun turning from green to red and orange. Part of me loves this season with its bright crisp days of fall, the brilliant colours, and the richness of the harvest season. Part of me enjoys days when I don't have to worry about getting too hot. It is truly a time when creation comes to life and we can see the miracle of the created world. Now according to the weather forecasters, fall does not officially begin until this Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup>. But for me fall really begins as the leaves begin changing colours.

But another part of me dreads this change of season. Fall means putting away the shorts and sandals, and wearing jackets and socks. Fall means that the nights come ever sooner and the days get increasingly shorter. Fall means that the less structured times of the summer season are gone and the seemingly endless cycle of meetings begins once more. Fall means that winter with its snow and ice and grey days is not that far away.

So I guess Fall means a few things to me. I love seeing creation in all of its glory for these few weeks in early fall. Truly it is a miracle as the world becomes a wash in colour and the bounty of the harvest is received. Truly it is a time of year when you can visibly see the wonders of creation. But Fall is also a transition time. We move from the growing season, to harvest, to dormant times in a matter of a few weeks. Our world goes from splendour to a world of waiting in a few weeks. Fall then means change.

Change is never easy. We get used to doing things the same old way. We get used to the old routines. We don't like to be disrupted in our normal course of events. Change means learning new ways of doing things. Change means adopting new routines. Change causes angst and worry.

We here at Asbury and West are in the midst of change. Our neighbourhood is changing as newcomers move into our neighbourhood. We have moved out of our building as our long promised renovation moves from the planning stage to the execution stage. We are no longer tenants but landlords. You are getting used to working with a new partner, Northminster United Church. You are getting used to a new minister, namely me, and you will soon have to get used to a new office administrator. In some ways this time of change seems like the dormant world of winter- waiting for new life to begin.

However, maybe this is a time of miracles for our church. We have the chance to show our true colours to the world- to discern how best to minister to our community and to reach out to the community beyond. We are about to harvest the seeds of some dreams planted long ago as work on our building begins. I am so happy to have the journey with you as together, we plot the future ministries of your congregation.

Blessings,



*Rev. Darren Liepold*



## In Memory

The year was 1947. The new United Church of Canada was 22 years old now. Two Toronto churches, after much consideration, decided to amalgamate---Asbury United and West United. (These may well have been among the first churches anywhere to do so.) So far six ministers have used their talents to minister to the needs of this combined congregation; Douglas George McKenzie was the fourth such person. Doug was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba and attended college in Montreal. His early education was obtained in the west. He later attended McGill University, United Theological College and Sir George Williams University in Montreal.

About 33 years ago Rev. John Moffat had just retired and although invited to extend his ministry here, he declined and so the search for someone new began. Three people were appointed by the Official Board of this Church to find a committee who would be the Search Committee for a new minister. If you wonder why there had to be a search committee to search for a search committee, you've never tried to find a minister for a church. Clare Leroy was one of those first three. The three selected ten members of Asbury and West for this very important role. Many dear friends who are no longer with us were on that committee---Frank Jaleel, Bill McCartney, Jean Paul, Ruth Taylor, and Norman Winter. Still with us are David Hamilton, Ken Kruger, Jocelyn Shewalter Patterson (secretary of the committee), Irene Tuck, and myself. It was this group that extended the invitation on behalf of everyone here to Doug McKenzie to leave his post in Quebec and become our minister at 3180 Bathurst Street in Toronto. Doug and Heather and their two sons Scott and Peter came to us the first Sunday in October of 1978. It was a communion service---most fitting symbolically for the launching of a new ministry. We soon became aware of certain special characteristics of the ministry that Doug brought to us. At that time his interest in children showed every Sunday morning as he successfully got them to converse with him rather than just listen during the "children's time" in the morning service. (Many adults became "children" for this event). Doug was an excellent listener; this of course is a must for those who counsel, as does any minister. He was a very professional listener as he talked with people anywhere, whether as a counsellor or just in conversation. How this was appreciated by those of us who are older! So often it is helpful just to know that there is someone "there" who will take time to listen. No one is more aware of this than myself as I worked with him for twenty-two years as Clerk of Session. He was at home with all ages, all backgrounds, all situations. If ever word got out about the questions you may have discussed with him in confidence, you can be sure that it was not he who revealed any secrets.

He had a concern for and interest in those of other faiths and backgrounds. He developed a close connection with the Hebrew community in Toronto, representing Christianity on more than one inter-faith panel. He was active for a time in the Christian-Jewish Dialogue. Because of his inter-faith interest, a minister from the Phillipine Islands, Eddie Panganeban, ministered here at Asbury and West with his family. Doug's main interest of course was the body of people that made up this congregation, but he took a real interest in the people of the surrounding community as well. Not the least of these was the Phillipino community within the total congregation here.

We have always welcomed his sense of humour. The costumes he sometimes wore on Amateur Night when it was part of life here have been a far cry from the usual clerical robe (a Hawaiian grass skirt comes to mind from one time, a kilt from another). Many are the happy times he has presided over

## *In Memory*

during his ministry---the weddings, the baptisms---in which he has participated most meaningfully. Many are the sad times too, related to the funerals and memorial services over the years. Especially would this part of his ministry be difficult when close friendships would have developed with the people who had passed away.

Doug was never one to tell you all that much about his work, he just proceeded quietly with what had to be done and did it. He had a keen interest in each and everyone at Asbury and West. But especially in these last few years have the demands on the time of the minister been increasing, demands unrelated directly to worship. Although only for a few years, it was of much assistance to have Valerie Noakes helping as an assistant minister.

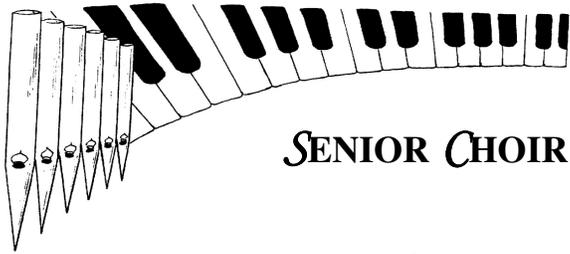
The discussions about the Saranac School, the deliberations concerning the Ina Grafton Gage dialogue, the time required to be chair of Presbytery a while back (he had done that in Quebec also) and in the immediate past and the present, a dealing with the challenges of something called the Heritage Act of Ontario as planning took place concerning the future of the 3180 Bathurst building---these are only some examples of work beyond preparing worship that Doug had to look after.

He has seen many changes during the last 32 years. Over half of the present congregation and adherents have come since Doug arrived. We have welcomed people from other nations as the bulletin board outside the minister's office in the main corridor indicated. Largely because of the leadership of the minister of this congregation we have welcomed people from beyond Toronto and have gained much from the enrichment they have brought with them. There have been over sixty different elders in these years, at least nine church secretaries, four music directors, many stewards, several Sunday School superintendents, many people looking after the plant.

And so we are especially grateful to Douglas George McKenzie for his ministry here. Various people will thank him for various things. We thank him for his leadership in creating the framework in which these many aspects of this church and its outreach will be recalled and praised in the future. There has been comfort extended in the name of Christ to many a lonely family and individual, there has followed the very special gratitude of these people. For many it has just been reassuring to know that there is someone "here" who "cares", who will listen, who will help. A Memorial Service for Doug was held on September 27 which gave some idea of the number of friends he and Heather had as a crowd gathered well ahead of the announced time. For this observer, the service was very meaningful. The 23rd psalm and the writings of Paul about love reminded us that they were the foundation of much of his own worship material during his ministry. The hymns reflected Doug's life theologically. "Here I am, Lord, is it I Lord?---. I will go, Lord, if you lead me," declared the first one. All through his ministry he would have thought "Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart", as in the second one. And thirdly he indeed did go out to tell "his story boldly---". Many were the times when he made "the tunes for those who sing no longer---". And he always helped us include "all in circles of our love".

Thank you so very much for everything, Doug. You will indeed be remembered---and missed very much.

*John Sullivan  
Previous Clerk of Session*



## SENIOR CHOIR



Members of the Asbury and West Choir have teamed up with the Northminster Choir. We were given a warm welcome by John Leek, organist and choir master and were to feel welcome by the members of his choir. We are fitting in nicely and have buckled down to work for the coming season. The Wm. R. Shewalter Memorial Organ fund is at \$34,312.58.

*Mel Beckles*  
Choir President



## SCRIPTURE READING WORKSHOP

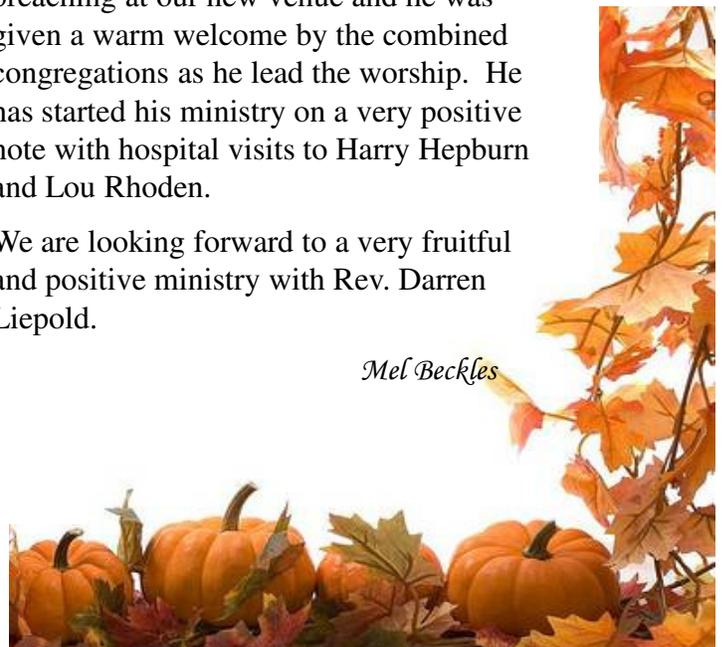
Our church is made up of many different ministries. Each one of us has gifts that we offer the church. One of these gifts is reading scripture. When scriptures are read well, they bring the gospel to life. But have you ever thought I couldn't do that. On Monday October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the sanctuary we will be having a scripture reader's workshop where you will learn the tips and skills to make you a more effective reader of scripture. Topics to be covered include dealing with nerves, pronouncing those difficult words, use of the microphone and more. Please join us.

## JOINT NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

It was my privilege as Chair of the Committee to welcome the Rev. Darren Liepold to his first service as our new intentional interim minister on September 4<sup>th</sup> at Northminster. It was his first time preaching at our new venue and he was given a warm welcome by the combined congregations as he lead the worship. He has started his ministry on a very positive note with hospital visits to Harry Hepburn and Lou Rhoden.

We are looking forward to a very fruitful and positive ministry with Rev. Darren Liepold.

*Mel Beckles*





The Young at Heart Seniors met at Northminster for the first time on September 28<sup>th</sup> with a welcome for our new minister Rev. Darren Liepold.

Our schedule for the fall, September to December is as follows:

- Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> Picnic at Earl Bales Park
- Oct 13<sup>th</sup> Lunch and a movie
- Oct 27<sup>th</sup> Visit to Del Manor's Senior Home
- Nov 10<sup>th</sup> Pot Luck and a movie
- Nov 26<sup>th</sup> Visit to City Playhouse Theatre
- Dec 8<sup>th</sup> Bus trip to Rockwood Farmers Light Parade

It is our hope that the members of the Northminster congregation will join us for any or all of our activities.

*Melvyn and Shirley Beckles  
Committee Contacts*



### **FROM THE EDITORS' DESK**

We share in the shock and sadness felt by the sudden passing of Rev. Doug McKenzie. He was truly a special person in the life of our church and family and our lives were intertwined at times of great joy and great sorrow. Our memories of Doug will forever include knowing the study door was always open, the confidence would never be broken, the truth would always be told, the choir was appreciated and Flock Talk was important. We are richer having received Doug's generous gifts of grace and guidance, passion and patience, comfort and compassion, faith and friendship, strength and support, time and tenderness. We are indeed blessed to have known him.

*Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson  
Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen*



### **THE TURKEY SHOT OUT OF THE OVEN**

The turkey shot out of the oven  
and rocketed into the air,  
it knocked every plate off the table  
and partly demolished a chair.

It ricocheted into a corner  
and burst with a deafening boom  
then splattered all over the kitchen,  
completely obscuring the room.

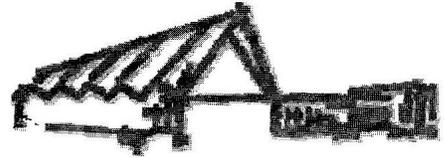
It stuck to the walls and the windows,  
it totally coated the floor,  
there was turkey attached to the ceiling,  
where there'd never been turkey before.

It blanketed every appliance,  
it smeared every saucer and bowl,  
there wasn't a way I could stop it,  
that turkey was out of control.

I scraped and scrubbed with displeasure  
and thought with chagrin as I mopped,  
that I'd never again stuff a turkey  
with popcorn that hadn't been popped.

by: Jack Prelutsky

## FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT NORTHMINSTER



On behalf of the congregation of Northminster, we extend our sincere sympathy to the family of Rev. Doug McKenzie who died recently. To the congregation of Asbury and West, during this sad time we offer a shoulder to lean on and open arms to comfort you. You have lost yet another dear friend and we hold you close in our hearts and prayers.

It seems that both our congregations are issuing newsletters on the same day! Northminster will be sure to make lots of extra copies so that any of you from Asbury and West may feel free to pick up a copy of our newsletter which we call "Seeds". I understand that Asbury and West always produces extra copies of Flock Talk so we at Northminster look forward to perusing it. This is just another way that both our congregations are demonstrating our unique qualities as well as our shared ministry.



*Barb Anderson & Jenni Barbet  
Co-editors of Seeds*



**Founded 1985**

We are getting off to a slow start this year. Because of the passing of Rev. Doug McKenzie we decided to cancel our September meeting and instead many of us visited the funeral home to show

our support and love for Heather, our Life Member. Our hearts and prayers go out to her at this time.

Our next meeting will be on October 24 in the parlour at 7:30. We are glad to welcome any new members from both churches. Thank you for the many donations of toiletries on Thanksgiving Sunday, which will be delivered to the North York Women's Shelter.

Be sure to mark this date on your calendar – Saturday November 26 – the annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner.

*Cheryl Holliday, Contact*



## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

On September 18, 2011 the Women's Ministries had our first meeting after church. As we are so few, we have decided to have our meetings after our UCW meeting. We will continue as usual.

Our members are: Lucille Hunte (Chair), Yvonne Wilson (Secretary), Ianthe Spencer (Council Representative), Dorothy Ostrom, Cheryl Holiday, Kay Roffey-Dampier and Marina Makin. Thanks Dorothy for taking the minutes.

*Lucille Hunte  
Chair*

## OUR CHURCH COUNCIL – WHERE DO YOU FIT IN ?



As previously outlined by Pauline McKenzie, we reorganized the way in which we are working in our congregation. The Church Council structure, which took effect in July, is comprised of Ministry Groups responsible for all activities formally overseen by the boards of Session and Stewards. Listed below is snapshot of the roles and responsibilities of each Ministry Group and the names of the members. Many Ministry Groups met throughout the summer and early fall and have provided articles in this issue of Flock Talk.

The old expression 'many hands make light work' applies to our new Council. Perhaps you can fill a vacancy in a Ministry Group or give of some time and simply lend assistance. Be a member and attend meetings or be a helper and assist whenever you can. In other words, no matter how big or small the contribution, you are needed. You will make a difference. The Lord loves a cheerful giver...please consider giving of your time and talents.

Whenever something is new, it takes a little getting used to. I would respectfully ask that you exercise patience and understanding as everyone works hard to move forward in our roles on Council. We appreciate your support and prayers.

*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

#### FAITH FORMATION

- 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

## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

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

### 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  
 Judy Gillingham  
 Lou Rhoden  
 Yvonne Wright

### Hospitality

**Chair:** Lou Rhoden  
 Veronica Ennis      Joyce Rhoden  
 Yvonne Lampkin      Myra Seyfried  
 Carole Rhambarat      Harel Smith  
 Janiss Johnson

### Human Resources

Hilary Badley  
 Sheila Mascoll  
*Needs minimum one more person*

### Membership and Pastoral Care

**Chair:** Mel Beckles  
 Shirley Beckles  
 Phoebe Cleverley  
 Janiss Johnson  
 Yvonne Lampkin  
 Lysia Panthaki  
 Ianthe Spencer

### Mission and Outreach:

\*\*\*Vacancy\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*Vacancy\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*Vacancy\*\*\*

### Presbytery Representatives

\*\*\*Vacancy\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*Vacancy\*\*\*

### Worship, Sacraments & Music

**Chair:** Pauline McKenzie  
**Secretary:** Hilary Badley  
 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

### Implementation Committee

*(will exist until end of renewal project)*  
**Chair:** Alan McKenzie  
 Lou Rhoden (co-chair)  
 Yvonne Wright (co-chair)  
 Joyce Bullock  
 Judy Gillingham  
 Cheryl Holliday  
 Sheila Mascoll  
 Pauline McKenzie  
 Dorothy Ostrom  
 Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen  
 Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson





## GET TO KNOW DARREN LIEPOLD

*(Taken from June 2011 Sunday Calendar)*



Dear Friends,

My name is Darren Liepold and I am very excited to have the great privilege of joining with you as your Intentional Interim Minister for the next three years. I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce myself to you even though I won't be starting until September.

I was born in Saskatchewan and grew up in Moose Jaw. I graduated high school there and then went to the University of Regina where I received my BA in Religious Studies. Then I went to the Vancouver School of Theology where I received my MDiv in 1990. I served congregations in BC and in Toronto and also have worked at the Conference and General Council levels of our church.

I am trained operatic tenor. I enjoy traveling the theatre, reading, music and am developing an interest in photography. I enjoy a good joke, am a morning person, still cheer for the Saskatchewan Roughriders, collect flamingos, love dogs and I am personable.

In terms of ministry, I am approachable, calm, caring, concerned, and dedicated. I think for too long our church as dwelled on the negatives (older, smaller, reduced finances). Yes we must honestly face these realities but we must also understand that we have much to be proud about the much that we can offer out world. Our world is truly seeking goodness and I believe we, as the church, are called to share the news of God's love with the world. Together we can and we are making a difference. I have worked extensively with congregations going through times of change. I have worked with congregations to express grief, to deal with loss, and to take healthful steps into the future.

My partner is in ministry in Northern Waters presbytery. Our family is rounded out by our 21 year old son. I look forward to joining the Asbury and West family.

*Darren*





## LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE (LRPC)

It is actually happening! After years of meetings with City Planning and a lengthy Ontario Municipal Board appeal, we will receive zoning approval for our project. There are still a few site plan issues that need to be tidied up and we need to sign the Heritage Easement Agreement and the Section 37 Agreement with the city. We expect that the pre-approval conditions for zoning and the contract work will be final in a few weeks. Our tenants have found places to relocate and all of the Congregation’s belongings have been disposed of or sent into storage. The old church building is empty and waiting for renovations to start.

We anticipate that the construction hoarding will go up around the property early in October. The first stage of the process is to remove any hazardous materials in the building and then start demolition of the 1899 and 1952 building wings. The 1958 portion of the building is subject to heritage designation and cannot be demolished. That portion of the old buildings will be renovated. Our Architects will be issuing a tender for a general contractor within a week or two and we will be applying for our building permits. Renovations could start late in November or early December and we hope that renovations to the church building will be completed by November 2012. Our goal is to celebrate Christmas in our newly renovated church building.

We still have some challenges ahead of us. Renovation costs have escalated far beyond the limits of our budget and we must take measures to bring them back in line. Part of the renovation plan is a modern daycare space that will operate out of the basement of the renovated building.

The rental income from the daycare will be an important part of the Congregation’s future income but the renovation costs for the daycare are double what we expected them to be. We will be meeting with Children’s Services and our advisors to determine what can be done to reduce the renovation costs for the daycare. We are also negotiating a Shared Services Agreement with Dell Park’s condominium board. Asbury and West will share the costs of the parking area, waste removal and other services.

We have been blessed by the generosity of the folk at Northminster United Church, who have made us feel very welcome. We are enjoying our joint worship services and getting to know our new friends. The past year has been a difficult one for our Congregation, and the warmth that we have met at Northminster has been a great comfort.

Special thanks go to Cheryl Holliday and the Inventory, Move and Clean-up Committee, and everyone who helped to empty the church building at 3180 Bathurst Street. It was an enormous undertaking, deciding what to keep and finding homes for all the things that we could no longer use.

We were all saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Rev. Douglas McKenzie who was our minister when this project started in 2003. Our sincere condolences go to Heather, Scott and Peter and all of Doug’s family and friends. We will complete the work Doug started and we will remember all of those who will not be able to be with us when we move back into our newly renovated church home

*Alan McKenzie*  
*Chair*





*Don't forget a Moment of Silence  
on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11am*



## *IN FLANDERS FIELDS*

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch, be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

*By: Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae*

## WORSHIP, SACRAMENTS AND MUSIC MINISTRY GROUP



Our group is responsible for helping to provide meaningful worship for our congregation. We meet regularly with Northminster to plan joint worship, and we must also look to shaping our own worship services when we return home. There are many tasks to do so that worship is uplifting for us all, but they are small tasks and easy to learn.

Here is some good news: you can assist the Worship Group without actually becoming a full-time member! There is a lot of satisfaction in feeling that you are helping the congregation in worship. Can you volunteer to help occasionally? Here is a list of some of the jobs:

- Ushering – 2 persons per week; full instructions available
- Greeting – 2 persons per week
- Seasonal decorations for the sanctuary – 1 or 2 persons to help several times a year
- Sound system: training available – we will need expertise when we return home
- Reading scripture: once every 5 or 6 weeks
- Serving Communion
- Assisting with Baptism

You will find a sign-up list near the name tag board in the hall.

*Pauline McKenzie*  
Chair



### TAKE TIME TO SMELL THE FLOWERS

A small group of ladies from Northminster faithfully look after the flowers every Sunday. They are looking for additional help from our congregation.

Do you like flowers? Do you enjoy their beauty and fragrance? Do you think you could help? Don't be shy, speak to Ann Dilbey or Mona Gibson.

# FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY GROUP



After months of preparation, the Church School is now joined with the Northminster Church School during this transition period. We began the 2011-2012 season on September 4 with a "Getting to Know You" theme. Now that the season is in full swing, we have started our lessons on the Story of Moses and looking forward to the other activities planned. We will continue to support Noemy, our foster child, and Operation Christmas Child.

There is a wonderful youth class at NUC, so we need to continue to encourage our young people to participate in these joint activities.

Our staff:

Kim Davidson, Trissa Masih and Dorina Datt who teach the younger class (SK-Gr 3)  
Lydia Cariaga and Jean Birch (NUC) who teach the older class (Gr 4-6)  
Susan McMillan (NUC) is the leader of the Youth Class (Grade 7+)  
Alan McKenzie coordinates the nursery with the help of Lovelle Vasquez (NUC), Trissa Masih and Dorina Datt.

For adults, Darren is leading a Bible Study comparing the four gospels, starting Monday, November 7 until December 5 at 7:30 in the church parlour

*Cheryl Holliday  
Superintendent*



## Kids

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A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible; Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the verse. Little Rickey was excited about the task -- but, he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Rickey was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."

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A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?" "No," replied David. "How could he, with just two worms?"

## COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY GROUP



We are well and truly underway! Our group met regularly during the summer and are looking forward to the Autumn season.

We held our first "Progress Report" on Sunday, September 18, 2011, with great success! Thanks to all who stayed after service to support the effort. We will be continuing these reports with, hopefully, input from the other Ministry Groups.

We will have new name tags for our congregation very soon, so for those of you who are currently "unknown", have faith, your ID is on the way!

Please continue to read the bulletin boards and the website blog. Thank you Ken and Lynn for maintaining it so well for us. If you have and questions etc., please contact me in person or by email at: [communications@asburyandwest.org](mailto:communications@asburyandwest.org)

*Lisa Crawford*  
Chair

## MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY GROUP



Our Goal is to continue working with all members and adherents of Asbury and West United Church.

We will inform the Minister regarding the needs of members visitation. To insure that the official Roll of Church members and Adherents alike.

We are calling members and adherents to make sure that Addresses and Phone numbers are correct, and inquire of their needs.

With Care Link we phone and/or visit Shut Ins. We meet once a month on the fourth Tuesday. Our next meeting was to be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> but was cancelled due to the Memorial Service Of Rev. Doug McKenzie.

### Members of care

The Minister, Mel Beckles, Joyce Bullock, Louise Cobon, Lucille Hunte, Lou Rhoden, Sheila Mascoll, and Ianthe Spencer.

*Ianthe Spencer*  
Chair



## FINANCE

The new Church Council structure will lead our Congregation into the future and an effective financial management plan is an essential part of our plans. Good financial management is crucial to the success of any family.

The Finance Group needs some help. Can you help with the counting of the Sunday Offering? The simplified system now in place is easy to use and takes about ½ an hour. If we have at least four teams of 2 counters, the teams will have to count only one Sunday in four.

Can you help to prepare the 2012 budget? This task will require quite a lot of work, but it is a one month job.

Our Congregation’s financial records are currently being reviewed by a firm of Chartered Accountants. We will need to review their findings and implement changes that they recommend. This will be a vital but short-term project. Can you help?

Council and the Congregation must have accurate and reliable financial information in order to make sound financial decisions. We need help developing and maintaining those reports.

If you have business or accounting expertise, we need your help!

*Alan McKenzie  
Chair*



## FROM THE EDITORS’ DESK

We’d like to know what think of Flock Talk. Is there anything you’d like to see in your newsletter. Would you like to receive it by email? Please contact us in person or by email at:

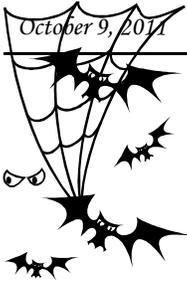
[communications@asburyandwest.org](mailto:communications@asburyandwest.org)

*Joelyn Shewalter-Patterson  
Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen*

## WHAT’S IN A NAME

The wearing of our name tags is certainly helping us put the name to the face. It has been suggested that you keep your name tag on during our time of fellowship after the service while we chat with new people over coffee and tea.

**HELLO**  
my name is



# GAMES PLUS MORE



## Halloween Fun Word Search

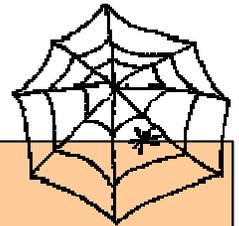
- Bat
- Black
- Broom
- Cat
- Costumes
- Ghosts
- Halloween
- Hoot
- Monster
- Moon
- Mummy
- Night
- Owl
- Pumpkin
- Scare
- Skeleton
- Spider
- Spirits
- Spooky
- Vampire
- Witch



g h o s t s b a t n t  
 b o l h s p o o k y p  
 v o b a w i t c h o u  
 a t l l b r o o m w m  
 m q a l n i g h t l p  
 p j c o s t u m e s k  
 i n k w a s c a t p i  
 r s k e l e t o n i n  
 e j e e m u m m y d f  
 i m o n s t e r q e v  
 m o o n o e s c a r e



## Help the Scarecrow Get Through the Pumpkin Patch



## Word Scramble

- poraucconi \_\_\_\_\_
- ukpinmp \_\_\_\_\_
- ghkanstiivng \_\_\_\_\_
- tocoerb \_\_\_\_\_
- etafs \_\_\_\_\_
- lyoihad \_\_\_\_\_
- kuyret \_\_\_\_\_
- hfaltkun \_\_\_\_\_

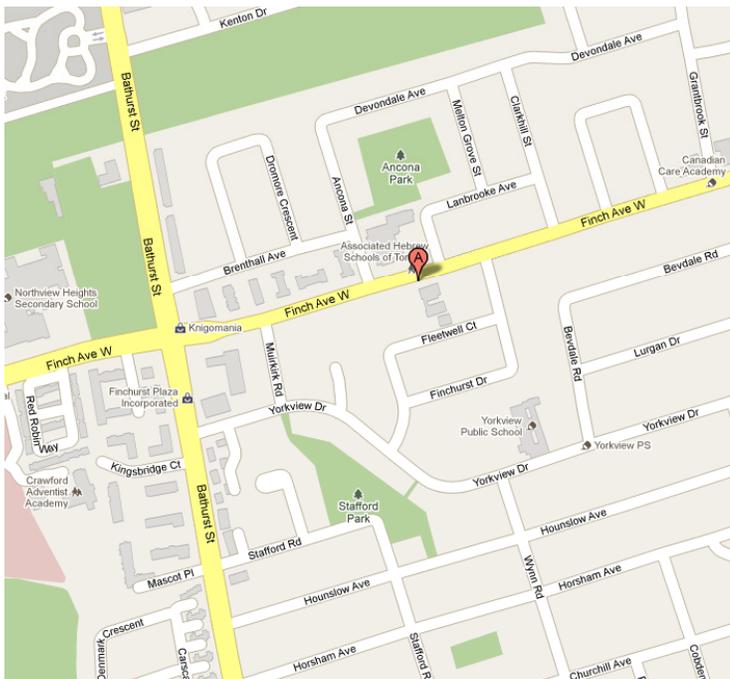


### Asbury and West has Relocated ...



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

**Rev. Irene Ty – Northminster**  
**Rev. Darren Liepold – Asbury and West**



#### 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.

#### 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 approx 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.





*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

*George Breen*

*Jacqueline Davison*

*Linda Garland*

*Ethel Quinlan*

*Fran and Jack Cairns*

*Betty Enta*

*Lilla Jaleel*

*Helen Smith*

*Bea Cares*

*Gloria Everson*

*Gerry Moore*

*Fred Sunahara*

*Eleanor Clark*

*Cliff Firmin*

*Aldythe Newton*



## 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 - Thursday 9:00 - 1:00 pm, closed Monday & Friday

Email: [secretary@asburyandwest.org](mailto:secretary@asburyandwest.org)

<http://www.asburyandwest.org/>

Rev. Darren Liepold

Intentional Interim Minister

Lynn Moe

Church Secretary

Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson (416-239-5821)

Flock Talk Editors

Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen (905-770-7457)

**Next Edition – Christmas Sunday, December 25, 2011**

**DEADLINE – Sunday, December 11, 2011**

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.





## FOR ALL THAT YOU GIVE US



Dear Lord,  
On this Thanksgiving Day,  
we are thankful  
for all that You give us,  
for all that You do for us,  
for all that You teach us.  
Thank You for guiding us  
to live our lives  
in Your will,  
in Your purpose,  
in Your plan for us.

Thank You for Your protection  
from worldly influence and danger.  
Thank You for bringing us gently  
to a deeper knowledge of You  
and what You want from us,  
with Your love, mercy,  
compassion and grace.  
And thank you, Lord,  
for the blessings  
we are experiencing right now  
at this very moment--  
the food,  
and the precious people  
who are with us  
to enjoy this meal  
and this day.  
Thank You, Lord. Amen.

*By Joanna Fuchs*