

FLOCK TALK

Asbury and West United Church, 3180 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M6A 2A9
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October 10, 2010

Edition 124

Let us be truly thankful



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Jeremiah 18: 1-8

You knew for along time that change was coming and here is the proof!

There is nothing like a visual aid to help us understand something. Can anything be more proof of a change from Doug to me? Doug, tall, gray haired, distinguished looking, impressive voice and then there is me, small, almost invisible, quiet voice, dark hair. But then that's the way God makes us. None of us the same. All different, all with unique gifts, all of us called to use what we have.

Over the coming year, I am going to talk a lot about transitions and change. Many of you will get tired of the message. Some of you may want to run away, screaming, "No more". Others of you may be skeptical that real change is possible. Some of you may welcome it and work for it. And others may say, "it's too much for me. I have to leave." All of those feelings are understandable. But I can assure you of one thing; change is here.

Everyone handles change in a different way, your own way. The other day while I was shopping, I was aware of myself resisting some of the new ways business is done. Why can't we just use cash, the way we used to? All these cards are getting me down. We often don't like change because it is a disruption from our usual pattern of doing things. And the strange thing is, we may be ambivalent about the old way. There is comfort in the familiar, even as we may be bored by it. Inevitably, in church life, when the minister changes, other things change. And many of you have never known another minister here at Asbury and West so there will be some adjustment. The sermons will be different. Office hours, visiting, committee agendas, study groups will be different. In many ways, the old patterns that you knew and came to expect will be gone. New ones will come into being, and while those new ones get put into place, it may feel like chaos to some.

The reading today from Jeremiah helps us to grapple with and understand something about this dramatic change. Most important, however, is the reading reminds us that God is the one who matters here, not us. God is the potter who designs and shapes us and makes us what God intends for us to be. We are here for God's

purpose. Therefore, openness is required of us, to discern and hear God's call and intention. That works for us as individuals and as a faith community.

So, in terms of this community, the time of interim ministry is a time of breaking down some of the old patterns to allow God to work through us to re-design God's future. We are the clay in God's hands. This passage from Jeremiah may be viewed as a "discernment" passage. Is God calling us to do something new and if so, what is it? Is God intentionally re-shaping this community of worshipping people for new purpose?

When in your own life has God re-shaped you? What is your personal story? When have you come to the end of your rope and said to yourself, "something has to change here." God has re-shaped me a number of times over my life and I expect that will continue to happen until the end of my earthly life. When we are re-shaped by God, we are converted. You know, that old fashioned notion of conversion, which is starting anew, or turning from the old. It is also called repentance. Repentance simply means changing something about ourselves. We may say, I'm not going to do that anymore. It is changing our old pattern of life to something new. It doesn't necessarily mean that the old pattern was bad, it simply doesn't suit us any more. It doesn't fit with what we need to do now. We can all identify with that in our personal lives as well as our life together.

A well known writer on change and transition, William Bridges, says in his books; to achieve continuity, we have to be willing to change. In fact, the only way to protect what already exists is to continually adjust. You have already identified that for yourselves in this congregation. In order for you to continue to have a viable mission in the world, things must change for you. We know in our personal lives that is also the case.

Our relationships re-adjust in subtle ways over time. We don't relate to our spouse the same after being married 30 or more years as we did in the first three months of marriage. Our children grow up and

THE PASTOR'S PEN (continued)

change and move away. Family life adjusts to these changes as new partners and grandchildren come. Others of our beloved family members die and leave big holes in our lives. We may lose a job and have to re-educate ourselves for different employment. Our dreams, aspirations, expectations, all change. And when we try to hang on to something and not allow for healthy change, the result is a kind of death. I think that is what God is saying to the people of Israel through the prophet Jeremiah in this reading.

We need always to look beyond our immediate need for comfort and the familiar to allow God's greater purpose to begin to take shape. The status quo is self-destructive, especially in communities of faith. The status quo does not allow for new life to be included.

Jesus is constantly reminding his followers that in order to have new life, everlasting life, we must die to the old. Jesus is not speaking of external changes here such as moving from one house to another or into an apartment. He is talking about internal changes, attitudinal changes, turning from the past to building a new future.

The transition time we are entering into together has three phases; letting go, being in the neutral zone, which may feel very unsettled and not at all neutral, and then the new beginning. When that happens, my work will end.

All congregations have some things in common and this one is no exception. All want to be communities of love and care. This is definitely one of those communities. And we all want to maintain ourselves. I'm very proud of you for having made the decision to continue as a congregation which has an important mission in the world outside of this particular building. When the building can no longer support the mission effectively, it is time for a change. You are well along that road to change.

God is part of that change, re-shaping us as we need to be re-shaped so that community life will thrive.

You are not the only part of the United Church which is undergoing huge shifts in understanding and practice of ministry. From General Council, to conference presbytery, to congregation, we are all looking at ourselves for more effective ways of being the community of Christ in the world. Everything is in transition. Personally, this makes me very excited. It proves that this is the "kairos" time, God's time. I think the Spirit of God has been, is and will be working with us, hand in hand, to do the work we have been given.

To quote from preacher, Sally Brown, "God is determined out of love for the world, to shape communities whose distinctive ways of worship life bear witness to the redemptive purposes of God. When they do not, communities will be in danger of breaking down."

Working with clay is messy. Sometimes it demands that we make a number of starts until we get it right. We may have some fractures because working with God is not only messy it is risky. It demands that we get out of ourselves. That is part of the task of interim ministry.

I do pray and will pray that we can all be open to God's guidance to each of us as we commit to working together to fulfill God's mission for this congregation. Amen



Rev. Dr. Carol Gierak



This is a reprint of Carol's first sermon at Asbury and West United Church, September 5, 2010. A new beginning for our journey together.



SENIOR CHOIR

The Choir started a week earlier in September to welcome our new minister the Rev, Doctor Carol Gierak. We are hard at practice to lead the singing for your Sunday morning worship.

Choir practice is on Thursday from 7:30pm to 9pm. And we would like to extend a warm welcome to all of you, to join us in the Choir.

I would like to thank all the former members of the choir who turned out on Saturday, June 19th and on Sunday June 20th for the reception honouring the last Sunday of Rev Doug McKenzie tenure at Asbury and West.

The William R. Shewalter Memorial Organ Fund has reached \$34,312.58. Donations towards this fund are always welcome.

*Lou Rhoden
Choir President*



THE M&S FUND

The Fred Victor Centre newest housing complex is located at Dawes Road.

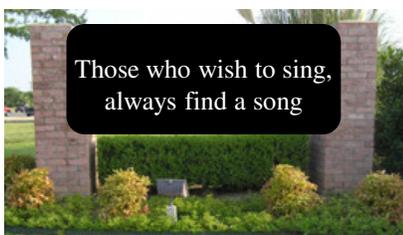
It is hard to believe that just a few years ago this site was a community eyesore. In May of 2007, 32 homeless families and women fleeing from violence were reunited with their children in the safety of Dawes Road's spacious apartments. It was also the season the 14 formerly homeless men and women made the momentous leap from Fred Victor's heavily supported housing downtown, to independent living at Dawes Road.

The current residents were living in crowded shelters or in supportive housing downtown, waiting - sometimes for years - for an opportunity like this, to live independently and make a fresh start on their lives.

Your M & S gifts will help many people. Please give according to your means.

Bob Stark (Honorary Chair)

*M&S Committee: Connie Shewalter, Isabel Robertson,
Glenda McBroom, and Judy Gillingham*



OUR NEW MINISTER AND HER FAMILY

It is a delight for Keith and me to be with you at Asbury and West during this momentous transition time in the life of the congregation. When I first heard about the changes you were looking forward to, my heart said this is a place for me. I love change of the kind you are going to experience and are now getting ready for. And to make it even better, you are a lovely group of people to work with and to be with in ministry. I look forward to getting to know each of you.

It's always hard for me to decide what to share about our personal life. What are the sorts of things congregations want to know about the minister. I expect, you all knew Doug and Heather very well and so have not had the experience of getting to know "new" people like us in a while.

Keith and I live in a small village called Rosemont on Hwy 89 between Alliston and Shelburne. We moved to our house 11 years ago. Keith has been renovating and building just about all the time we've been here. It is an old house, built in 1860 and needed major renovations. However, it is turning out just the way we wanted and we are beginning to enjoy the fruits of the labour.

I very much enjoy gardening and this property we have allows me to do that. We have flower beds, and a vegetable garden. Since I love to cook and to have people over for dinner, I get to try new recipes with the vegetables from the garden. I probably wouldn't be so experimental if they weren't so handy in the back yard!

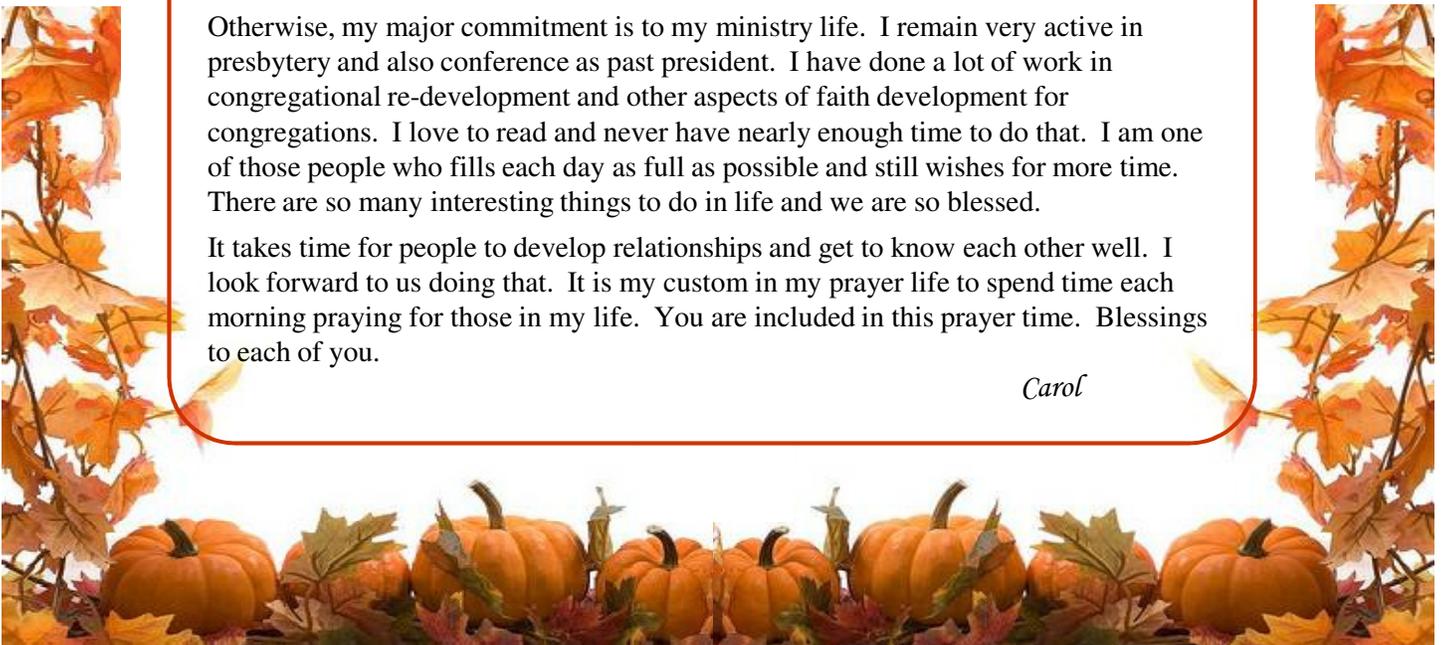
We have two adult children; daughter Arwyn who lives in Vancouver and son, Jason, who lives in Barrie. Jason is married to Linda and they have two gorgeous children, Kristen and Tyler. Mimi (that's me) and Grampa Keith try to see the children once a week so we can keep up with growth spurts and new words. We enjoy them very much.

Otherwise, my major commitment is to my ministry life. I remain very active in presbytery and also conference as past president. I have done a lot of work in congregational re-development and other aspects of faith development for congregations. I love to read and never have nearly enough time to do that. I am one of those people who fills each day as full as possible and still wishes for more time. There are so many interesting things to do in life and we are so blessed.

It takes time for people to develop relationships and get to know each other well. I look forward to us doing that. It is my custom in my prayer life to spend time each morning praying for those in my life. You are included in this prayer time. Blessings to each of you.



Carol



LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE (LRPC)



What a struggle but thanks to you and the Bathurst and Lawrence community we are winning!

The City's Planning Department refused to let us replace all our current church buildings and allow us to build a new church home on the north east corner of the site. That plan would have left plenty of room for Options for Homes to build an attractive condominium apartment building designed to be affordable for people with modest incomes.

We found it ironic when the City's Planning Department told us that they didn't like the design of the condominium building. The City's Heritage Services Department insisted that we retain the newest part of the existing church buildings; the part with the Sanctuary, parlour and Chapel. That building is right in the middle of the two-acre site and made the design of the condominium apartment very difficult. The inconsiderate Planning Department then refused to support our zoning application. Our Congregation and our neighbours in the Bathurst and Lawrence area found this to be outrageous and came to our support.

Howard Moscoe, Karen Stintz and other North York Councillors, convinced North York Community Council to set aside the zoning application Refusal Report issued by the Planning Department and allow the construction of the Options for Homes Condominium to go ahead. Conditional approval was also received from Toronto City Council during their last meeting before the election. We still need to receive approval from the Ontario Municipal Board before final zoning approval is granted but we are confident that we will have all necessary approvals before Christmas. Our architect believes that renovations can begin July 1, 2011.

Heritage designation of the 1958 church building has increased the cost of construction by more than \$1.5 million. It has made the planning process more difficult. We will be required to maintain the '58 building to standards imposed upon us by the City. This will divert our offering and donations intended for our social and religious programs into preserving a building that we no longer need or want. The City says we must do this because the City values heritage buildings. We simply do not believe that this is true because they offer no financial assistance or compensation to our Congregation. Your City Councillors will be asking for your vote in a few days. Before you give them your vote, ask them why the City of Toronto offers no compensation to religious groups when their church property has heritage designation imposed upon them.

By the time renovations are completed, we will have an attractive and functional church building. It will be smaller but it will be designed to take advantage of every square foot of space. The attractive new entrance to the building will be on the north-east corner making it highly visible from the street. We will have an elevator, a wheel chair lift and a ramp that will make the building far more accessible. All the stained glass windows will be retained. The exterior of the building will be attractively landscaped. We will need your help during the coming months. Please keep us in your prayers and do everything you can to assist us. Your Long Range Planning Committee needs and appreciates your help.



*Alan McKenzie, Chair
Long Range Planning Committee*



Founded 1985

Last June, we said goodbye to one of our founding members, group secretary and friend, Heather McKenzie. We were sorry to see her go, so much so that we presented her with a Life Membership, the first ever for our group. The life membership plaque is hanging on the wall in the parlour, and as time goes on more names will be added. At our closing BBQ, Heather was again presented with parting gifts - three buildings to add to their Christmas village (Asbury and West church, the Annandale Curling Club, and the manse), a canvas bag imprinted with the Joybreak logo, and a framed picture of the group.

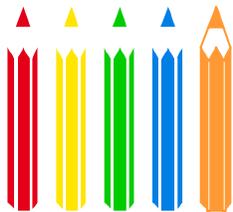
October marks our 25th Anniversary. Hard to believe, but yes, we have survived as a very active group in the life of Asbury and West. Thank you for joining in our celebration! And thank you for your wonderful support over these past 25 years.

Upcoming date to remember – Saturday, November 27th – the Annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner and Christmas gift collection for the North York Women’s Shelter. Please mark your calendar and watch future bulletins for details.



Present and past Joybreak members posed with Heather McKenzie as she was presented with her Life Membership, June 20, 2010.

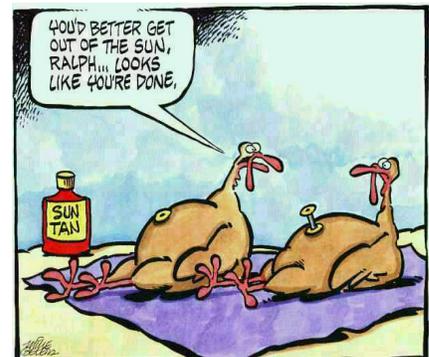
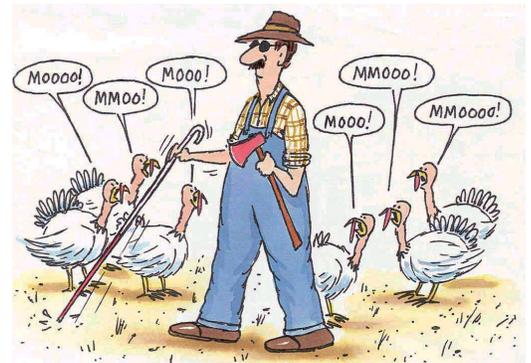
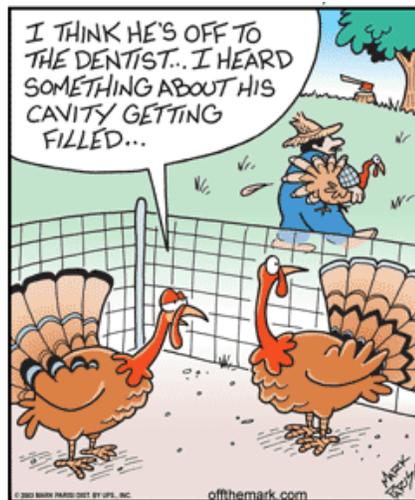
Cheryl Holliday, Contact



KIDS' KORNER



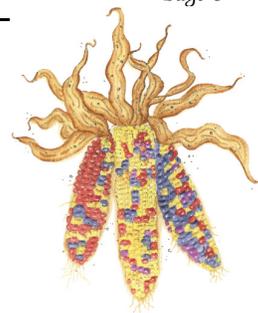
"Yes, we do serve children, but not as meals."





FOOD BANK

"I was hungry, and you gave me food."



The food bank is open every Wednesday morning. Do you have some time to spare on that day, and could you spare one morning a month to help? Please call the church at 416-783-6503 and leave a message. Someone will call you really soon.

Our Food Bank is helping a wide range of people, from families with babies, to singles, to seniors. The last two years have seen an increase in need, as more people are without jobs. We need more groceries, and so food will be welcomed every Sunday, or any time that you come to the church! Canned food is needed: soups, beans, salmon, sardines, corned beef, vegetables and pasta sauce. Peanut butter, Kraft Dinner, Minute Rice, tea bags, pasta and dry cereal are also welcome.

We keep a fund to buy groceries when supplies run short. In fact, the Food Bank is averaging \$600 a month in grocery bills. The bank balance at present is about \$1100. You can see that we need some more cash!

Here is a little more information about giving cash to the Food Bank: put your donation in a "Special Offering" envelope and put your name and address on it, then place it on the offering plate. If you use church giving envelopes, just your number will do. You will receive a tax receipt at the end of the year. There is actually a hidden advantage to giving cash. Our treasurer must send in a report to Revenue Canada on our congregation's charitable spending every year in order to maintain our status as a charitable organization. We are allowed to count only cash for this purpose. So, if you don't have time to shop, or can't carry heavy bags, then cash is fine.

*Submitted by
Pauline McKenzie*



CONGRATULATIONS ...

To Derek Holliday and Anastasia (Stacey) Budden who were married on July 18, 2010. Derek is the son of Cheryl Holliday, and the grandson of Irene Tuck. The ceremony and reception were held at Casa Loma – a magical beginning to this next phase of their life together. Rev Jamie Holtom of North Bramalea United Church presided. They plan to honeymoon in Hawaii. Derek and Stacey live in Keswick, Ont.



From left to right – Donna Wilson (sister of the groom), Alexandra Wilson (niece of the groom), Stephanie Couperthwaite (daughter of the groom), Rosalia Di Maria (friend of the bride), Stacey Holliday, Derek Holliday, Daryl Holliday (twin brother of the groom), Mike Bertolini (friend of the groom), Tim Wilson (brother-in-law of the groom).

FROM THE EDITORS' DESK



We love a quote by Danielle Hollister that reads "You never get a second chance to make a good first impression." Rev Carol certainly made a great impression during her first service on Sunday September 5th. If you were in attendance you heard first hand her powerful and meaningful sermon filled with clarifying details about change, information on interim ministry, and inspiration on finding the right purpose for our congregation. If you were unable to attend, be sure to read every word of her sermon which appears in "The Pastor's Pen" in this issue. Why not keep it handy to refresh your memory, stay focused on our goals for the future and gain inspiration whenever needed

A seed was planted during the reading from Jeremiah 18 and Rev. Carol's painting of a vivid picture about our connection to God. The sermon provoked considerable thought about clay. This symbolic gift of clay is a result of that sermon.

- ❖ We have chosen clay that is non-hardening to remind us that we must be flexible in our dealings with each other and malleable in God's hands. Don't be shy to roll it up in a ball, create a small sculpture or treat it as a "worry bead".
- ❖ Many different colours of clay have been given to signify how blessed we are to have a variety of people around us. Be sure to inquire about the colour others received.
- ❖ A small card is enclosed depicting God's hands and the passage from Jeremiah for your ready reference to look up in your bible. Take time to reread the passage for further insight.
- ❖ Lastly, everything comes in a small bag that may be easily carried in your purse or pocket or briefcase. Where else might you keep it handy?

We hope that you will keep it with you as a reminder that we are indeed the clay in God's hands.

Jocelyn & Sylvia

NOVEMBER 11th

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



SEASONS OF THE YEAR



We are so used to the changing seasons of the year in the climate of Canada. For the most part, we are delighted that we have four seasons to enjoy since each is unique. The church is much the same way. It, too, has seasons of its life but we aren't always aware of what they are. So, here is a little insight for you. Some of you may know this already and it may be new news for others of you.

In the 1980's, The Ecumenical Lectionary was adopted by the Churches that belong to the World Council of Churches. The lectionary divides the Bible into roughly three sections and they are named Years A, B, C. By following the lectionary, it is hoped that congregations have the chance to read and hear parts of the Bible that may be overlooked otherwise.

In addition to encouraging reading of the Bible, the lectionary emphasizes the seasons of the church year. The seasons begin in Advent just before Christmas and they include Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost. The seasons celebrate different parts of the life of Jesus and the church year. For example Advent looks forward to both the birth of Jesus and also to the second coming of Christ. It is an ancient tradition that has been renewed.

Each season is marked by its own symbolic colour. The season of Advent or preparation is purple or royal blue. It marks the royal child we are waiting for. Christmas, the season of joy at the birth, is white and it lasts twelve days, hence the twelve days of Christmas!

January 6 marks the beginning of Epiphany which means unveiling or revelation. This season lasts for five weeks and its colour is white or gold. Lent follows beginning on Ash Wednesday and its colour is purple for penitence. In the early church this was the time for preparation for those who were to be baptized. Lent is forty days long and all that time used to be a time of fasting which is why we talk about "giving something up for Lent": our form of fasting.

Just before Easter, we note Good Friday when the sanctuary is either bare or draped in black. Easter Sunday, a day of joy and resurrection is white. The season of Easter lasts fifty days and is the prelude to Pentecost, the day the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in Jerusalem and made them into a community. Pentecost is red to mark the flames that alighted upon them.

Red also appears on Palm/Passion Sunday to note the royalty of Jesus coming into the city on the donkey.

Most recently, we have re-appropriated the Season of Creation beginning in September. As we have become more sensitized to the care of creation, we have paid more attention to this. Creation is green.

Seeing the colours in the sanctuary marking the times of the year enhances our experience of worship and helps to underline the meaning of the church year. Enjoy the colours God gives us!

Carol Gierak



The Young at Heart Seniors met on the 9th of September to plan the September / December schedule.

On September 23rd we visited Bob Stark's orchard at Moffat, where we picked apples and pears and had a pleasant visit with Rob and Jane.

The following is the schedule of events for the up-coming months:

October 14th – High Park Picnic

October 28th – Del Manor Seniors Residence (Wynford Drive)

November 11th – Pot Luck Luncheon, Movie or Entertainment

November 25th - TBA

December 1st – Bus Trip to Kitchener

December 9th – Christmas Pot Luck

The Young at heart welcome all to their various activities, and would especially like to invite any men who would be interested in taking part.

Melvyn and Shirley Beckles, Committee Contacts



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



The 2010-2011 season started on September 12 with our "Audelina Walk". The next Sunday we made her Christmas cards. The children also made welcome cards for Carol and presented them to her after the service. We will again be packing boxes for Operation Christmas Child (if you would like to pack a box, please contact me) and making cards for the Canadian Troops overseas. In our classes we are learning about God's bounty and blessings. Please have a look at our paper chain of blessings which is pinned to the bulletin board in the narthex.

Featured in this issue are three more Church School members.

Tristan Alvarez was 11 years old last April. He was born in Davao, Mindanao, Philippines and presently resides in Toronto. He has one sister. Tristan is in grade 6 and his favourite subject is math. He plays basketball, soccer and football. Tristan would like to be a pilot or an engineer



Khrislea Marquez was 9 years old last May. Her younger sister, Kyla, is also in the Church School. Khrislea was born in Toronto and is in grade 4. Her favourite subjects are math and art. She plays piano and likes tennis and soccer. Khrislea's ambition is to be either a dentist or a teacher.

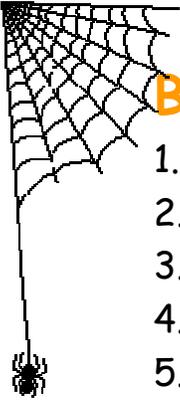
Lydia Cariaga (teacher) is of Spanish-Philpino heritage, born in Badoc, Ilocos Norte, Philippines. Presently she resides in Mississauga with her husband, Eduard, to whom she has been married for 25 years. They have two children, Filson and Zsa-Zsa. Lydia has 5 sisters, one of whom attends this church (Hermie), and 2 step-brothers. She attended the University of Baguio and St. Francis school, where she took a secretarial course. Lydia loves to sing, cook, and watch TV in her spare time. When asked why she became a Church School teacher Lydia answered, "I love children."



We would also like to thank the volunteers who taught in our Kids for Christ:Summer Edition (KFC:SE) program during the summer months.

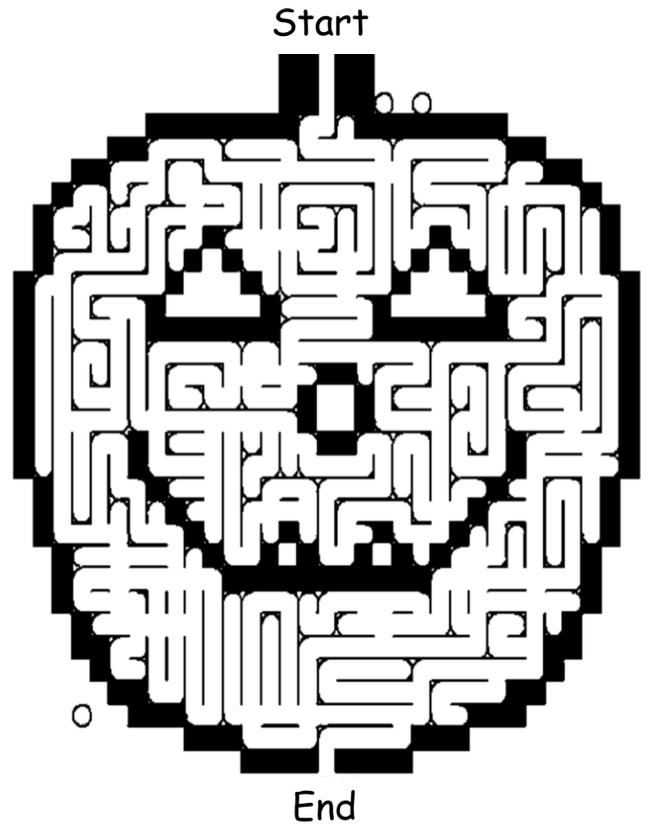
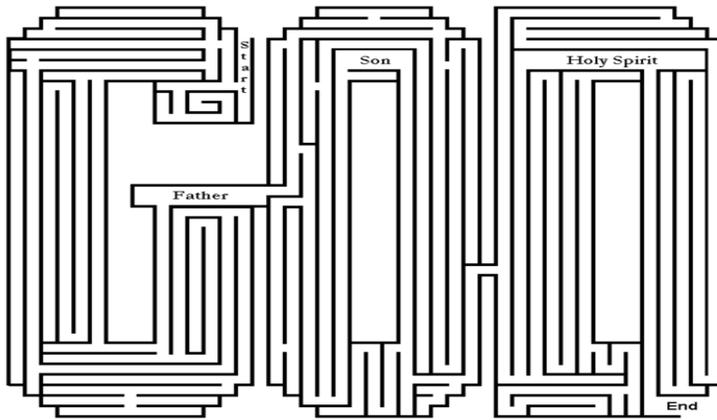
Cheryl Holliday
Superintendent

GAMES PLUS MORE

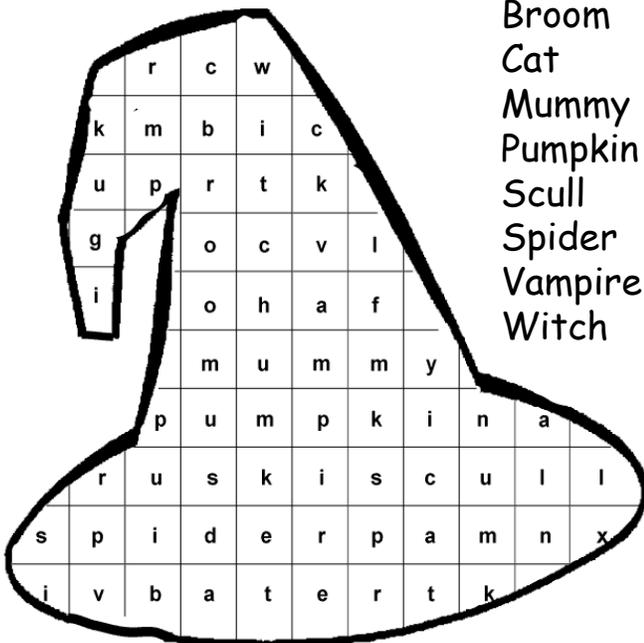


BIBLE QUIZ

1. What was the first thing that God Created?
2. What was the boat Noah built called?
3. What was the symbol of God's promise to Noah?
4. Who received the 10 commandments from God?
5. This young boy defeated a giant.
6. This prophet was swallowed by a fish.
7. What did Jesus' father do for a job?
8. How many disciples or apostles did Jesus have?



WORD SEARCH



- Bat
- Broom
- Cat
- Mummy
- Pumpkin
- Scul
- Spider
- Vampire
- Witch

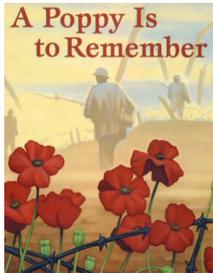


- Bible Quiz Answers:
1. Light
 2. An Ark
 3. Rainbow
 4. Moses
 5. David
 6. Jonah
 7. Carpenter
 8. Twelve



OCTOBER

- October 17th - Baptism Sunday
- October 14th - High Park Picnic
- October 24th - Transition Committee meeting (after church)
- October 28th - Del Manor Seniors Residence (Wynford Drive)



NOVEMBER

- November 11th - Senior's Pot Luck Luncheon, Movie/ Entertainment
- November 25th - Senior's event – TBA
- November 27th - Christmas Pot Luck Dinner, musical presentation and play



DECEMBER

- December 1st - Senior's Bus Trip to Kitchener
- December 5th - 1st Sunday in Advent
- December 9th - Senior's Christmas Pot Luck
- December 24th - Christmas Eve communion
- December 25th - Christmas Sunday



REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

- Bible Study* - Sundays at 9:00am (starting October 17th)
- Wednesdays at 6:30pm (starting October 27th)
- Carelink* - 4th Tuesday, in the Parlour at 11:00am
- Church & Sunday School* - Every Sunday at 10:30am
- Choir* - Every Thursday, in the Parlour at 7:30pm
- Craft Group* - Every Wednesday, in the Parlour at 10:00am
- Food Bank* - 2nd Sunday of each month – please be generous!
- Joybreak* - 4th Monday, in the Parlour at 7:30pm
- Outreach* - 3rd Wednesday in the Parlour at 7:30pm (as required)
- Seniors Club* - Every 2nd and 4th Thursday (**except in July and Aug**) in the Parlour at 11:00am
- Session* - 3rd Sunday of the month, in the Gym at 12:15 after church
- Stewards* - 3rd Monday at 7:30pm
- UCW* - 3rd Tuesday at 12:00 noon



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 Rev. Gierak.



HOME MEMBERS

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>George Breen</i> | <i>Betty Enta</i> | <i>Lilla Jaleel</i> | <i>Aldythe Newton</i> |
| <i>Fran and Jack Cairns</i> | <i>Gloria Everson</i> | <i>Lilly Jarman</i> | <i>Ethel Quinlan</i> |
| <i>Eleanor Clark</i> | <i>Cliff Firmin</i> | <i>Gerry Moore</i> | <i>Bob Stark</i> |
| <i>Jacqueline Davison</i> | <i>Linda Garland</i> | <i>Audrey Mumford</i> | <i>Fred Sunahara</i> |



Asbury and West United Church

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

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|---|--------------------|
| Rev. Dr. Carol Gierak (cagkag@mycybernet.net) | Minister |
| Lynn Moe | Church Secretary |
| Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson (416-239-5821)
Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen (905-770-7457) | Flock Talk Editors |
| Thomas Schadl | Director of Music |
| Rudy Simon | Church Officer |
| Sheila Mascoll | Health Coordinator |

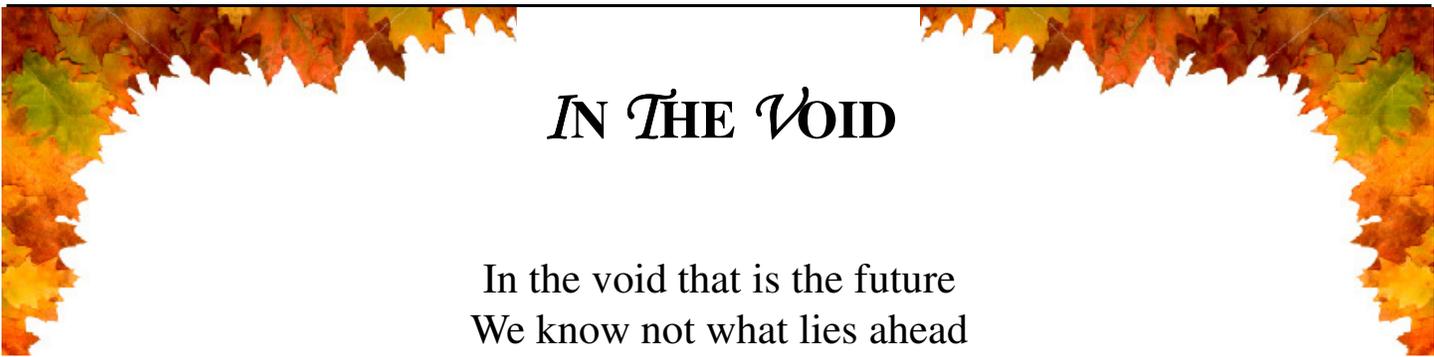
Next Edition – **Christmas Sunday, December 26, 2010**

Deadline – **December 12, 2010**



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.



IN THE VOID

In the void that is the future
We know not what lies ahead
Many will look upon the unknown with happiness
Others will look with dread.

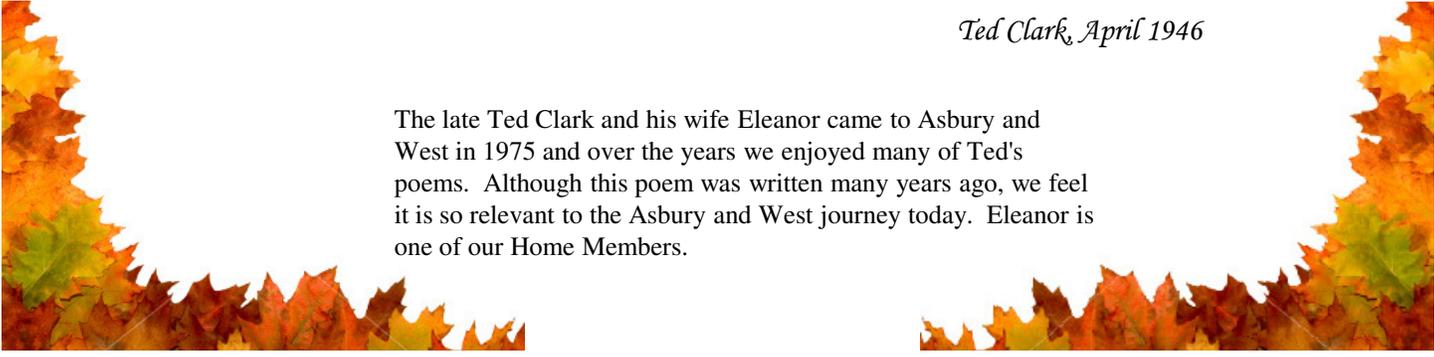
All in their own ways try to find
Some guidance o'er the roads of life
Something that will give them direction
In this world of care and strife.

A share of good fortune helps a lot
Good kind friends aid too
Enjoying good health and peace of mind
With happiness pulls you through.

The Lord in his many ways will give
Guidance to you where you go
If you pause in your daily struggle
To faithfully ask Him so.

So worry not of your future
That is still unknown to you
For by asking the guidance of the Lord
He will pull you through.

Ted Clark, April 1946



The late Ted Clark and his wife Eleanor came to Asbury and West in 1975 and over the years we enjoyed many of Ted's poems. Although this poem was written many years ago, we feel it is so relevant to the Asbury and West journey today. Eleanor is one of our Home Members.