

FLOCK TALK

Asbury and West United Church

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

October 11, 2015

"The Friendly Church"

Edition 143

The LORD God is a
sun and shield:
the LORD will give
grace and Glory:
... no good thing
will He withhold
from them that walk uprightly.

Psalm 84:11



THE PASTOR'S PEN

THE OFFICE MAY BE EMPTY BUT....

We have been blessed throughout the summer months with lay speakers or Ministers. The first Sunday of each month was Music Sunday as well as other special services and speakers.

Rev. Kerry Hagerman (July 12 and Oct 4)
Jonathan Francis (July 19)
Cheryl Holliday (Fanny Crosby, July 26)
Melvyn Beckles (Aug 2 - Music Sunday)
Andrew Blake (Aug 9 and 16)
Ann Piper (Aug 23)

Beki Duncan (Aug 30)
Jocelyn Shewalter (Sept 6 – Music Sunday)
Rev. Irene Ty (Sept 13 and 20)
Rev. Norm Greene (Sept 27)
Rev. Linda Levin (Oct 11)

On behalf of the Worship, Sacraments and Music Ministry, we'd like to thank Paolo and the members of our Choir who provided musical leadership and inspiration every Sunday during the summer months. We also would like to thank the Volunteers who helped lighten the load during our worship services over these last few months. Whether it was greeting people as they came into the House of God; welcoming our guest speakers, sharing the announcements, lighting of the Christ Candle, reading scripture, leading us in worship, taking up the offering or running the technology, we recognize you and your contributions to Asbury and West.

Alvaro, Ariadne, Clayton, Cheryl, David, Dorothy, Glenda, Janiss, Jocelyn, Jonathan, Kay, Ken, Lisa, Lola, Lou, Lucille, Lyndia, Lynsia, Margaret, Melvyn, Melissa, Michael, Nidia, Pauline, Phoebe, Sandra, Sheila, Veronica, Yvonne
Thank you for volunteering your time and talents!!

WHAT'S NEXT?

The following people have agreed to serve on the search committee for the part-time supply minister; Lisa Crawford, Kamano Gashoka, Jonathan Francis and Alan McKenzie. The following people have agreed to serve on a search committee for the full-time permanent minister; Phoebe Cleverley, Alan McKenzie, Melissa Nielsen, Lola Pinnock, Ariadne Reid-Campbell and Lou Rhoden.

Gail Hamblin has been appointed by the Toronto Conference Settlement and Pastoral Relations Committee to be the liaison for the two committees.

Be sure to keep these people in your prayers.

Dear Heavenly Father - We thank you for the commitment of the members of our search committees; Alan, Ariadne, Jonathan, Kamano, Lisa, Lola, Lou, Melissa and Phoebe. We are truly grateful for their dedication and passion for our church and for the vision they have for our future. We ask that you give them strength and courage and joy as they carry out their work on our behalf. Help us to be patient and understanding with the process of calling a new minister. Guide us to continually give support and encouragement to our search committees and to express our appreciation for their special service. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MINISTRY GROUPS and COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair: Vacancy

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Chair: Cheryl Holliday

Council Rep: Kim Davidson

FINANCE

Chair: Alan McKenzie

HOSPITALITY

Chair: Lou Rhoden

HUMAN RESOURCES

Chair: Sheila Mascoll

MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE

Chair: Ianthe Spencer

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Chair: Vacancy

PROPERTY

Chair: Pauline McKenzie

STEWARDSHIP

Chair: Phoebe Cleverley

WORSHIP, SACRAMENT AND MUSIC

Chair: Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Chair: Cheryl Holliday

MEMORIAL Committee
Cheryl Holliday, David Tuck

RENOVATION Committee

Chair: Alan McKenzie

PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVE

Sheila Mascoll

Council Chair:

Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson

LOONIE BIN = COPPER KETTLE

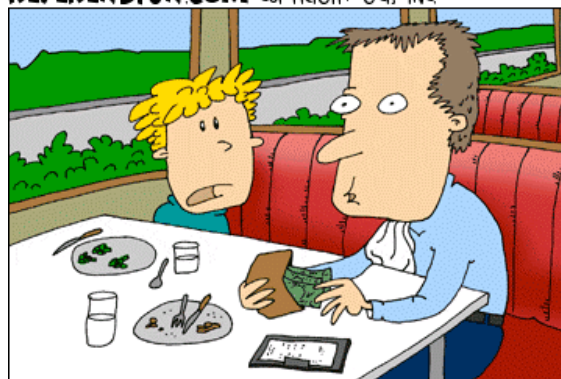


You can lighten your load by emptying your loose change (and folding money) into the copper kettle every Sunday. By doing so, you will lighten the financial burden for your church.

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



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Thanks to Shirley Ostrander

01-15-2004

HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?

What are YOU Thankful For?





An Open Letter to the Congregation of Asbury and West

Although we have recently transferred our membership to Islington United Church in our new community, we will always remember and appreciate the many years of your friendship and support. When we moved into the area in 1981, we were welcomed very warmly at Asbury and West. In 1983, Nick was christened there, and our three boys attended Sunday School for many years. Lynn's mother, Lillian, had always dreamt of visiting Israel and was thrilled to have had that opportunity when Doug and Heather McKenzie and a group from the church made a pilgrimage there.

Later, Doug presided over the memorial services for Lynn's parents, Lillian (1992) and Lynn (1994) and the UCW hosted the receptions afterwards. We were overwhelmed with the love and support of both Joybreak and the congregation as a whole in 1998 after our serious house fire. Three years ago, your prayers were a comfort during the illness and death of my youngest brother, Peter. You helped our family get through these difficult times and we will always remember and appreciate that.

Over the past thirty-four years, Asbury and West has been an important part of our lives. Thank you for your many years of friendship and love.

Irene and Lynn Fair

AUTUMN PRAYER

God of all seasons, we thank you for Autumn.

We thank you

for the touch of coolness in the air that gives us a new burst of energy,
for the coloring of trees that shows the creativity of the Divine Artist,
for the falling leaves that reveal the strength of the branches,
for the hues of fields that bring peace to our souls,
for the smiles on pumpkins that bring joy to children,
for the fall harvest which brings us gratitude for the bounty of our land,
for this change of seasons that reveals the circle of life.

God of all seasons, as you transform the earth, transform us by your Spirit.

Amen

Psalm 107:1
"Oh, give
thanks
to the
Lord
He is
good;
For His
lovingkindness
is everlasting."

GAMES PLUS MORE



N S T U F F I N G I R L U N Y
 F G K D A E R B V G C A D Q E
 A B E A N S I L S O R Q G S K
 O G K E I P E L P P A P A E R
 N R O C M L W U Q D N G O O U
 U E J L X E S M S Y B Z O T T
 Z P U M P K I N P I E V N A Z
 H B O J I L C F A G R Y F T V
 N E M Y K U S L L O R Q K O X
 K S A B Y Q T Z H W Y P S P K
 T G H S A U Q S O R S J L T A
 G M A S H E D P O T A T O E S
 Z D L U C W F Z L M U K S E K
 C A K C G T H T T I C R N W B
 G J X S G R A V Y I E Q I S T

Word Search

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Apply Pie | Milk |
| Beans | Pumpkin Pie |
| Bread | Rolls |
| Corn | Squash |
| Cranberrys | Stuffing |
| Gravy | Sweet Potatoes |
| Ham | Turkey |
| Mashed Potatoes | |

Hahahaha!!!!

What do you get if you divide
the circumference of a
pumpkin by its diameter?
(Pumpkin pi)

What smells the best at a
Thanksgiving dinner?
(Your nose!)

Why did the police
arrest the turkey?
(They suspected it of fowl play!)

What's the most musical
part of a turkey?
(The drumstick!)

If fruit comes from a fruit tree,
where does turkey come from?
(A poul-tree)

What happened when the
turkey got into a fight?
(He got the stuffing knocked
out of him!)

Thanksgiving Secret Message Puzzle

Fill in the blanks with the letter that matches each
picture from the box at the bottom of the page.



Rev. Darren's Liepold's Farewell

~ Sunday, June 28, 2015 ~

Please Note: In preparation for Rev. Darren's last Sunday I asked all Ministries, committees, organizations and those working closely with Darren to provide best wishes to be shared at the service. It was my pleasure to be the voice of the various groups and Council as well as the voice of the congregation of Asbury and West. Following are the words that I spoke during the service.

Blessings,
Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson, Council, Chair

This morning I am a messenger. I represent many members of the congregation. It is my pleasure to bring their messages of best wishes to Rev. Darren throughout this service.

I believe that today is a little like John 3: verse 11 – 'Doth a fountain send forth from the same place sweet water and bitter?' It is always hard to say good-bye to special people in our lives.

Now if the bitter becomes all too much Sheila Mascoll has assured me that she is in charge of the Kleenex...you need only wave your hand and she will attend to you.

But I hope instead that we will focus on the sweet. The sweet times, the sweet memories, the sweet blessings we have been given. And, as is the tradition at Asbury and West, I know we will fully enjoy the sweet morsels of food that have been generously donated for our luncheon and the meaningful fellowship with each other.

And so Rev. Darren, I start with my messages.....

Best Wishes

Finance Ministry

Best wishes Darren from Finance.

Alan McKenzie, Chair



Membership and Pastoral Care Ministry

Our sincere thanks Rev. Daren for your patience and support. We wish you God's continued blessings and Travelling mercies.

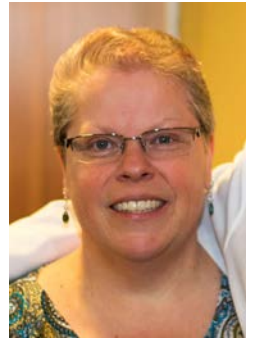
Ianthe Spencer, Chair

Communications Ministry

Darren, having your presence at our meetings was just one of the ways you showed your vast commitment to our church. After the ministry group stopped meeting, you continued on your own to do much of the communication work for the congregation. Darren, you have been our support and our champion for the last four years.

We will miss your greatly.

Lisa Crawford, Past Chair



Christian Education Ministry

Darren, you have brought so much into the lives of our young people. On Sunday mornings you connected the children with the adult church through stories, personal touches and interactions. You have even gone beyond expectations in your support of the Sunday School by bringing a little "jolly" into their lives at Christmas.

Even though starting a youth group was less than successful your generous support of youth retreats helped to reaffirm the need for a camping and conference fund.

A confirmation class resulted in three young people joining the church..

Adults will remember your Bible and book studies, as well as all the interesting and thought-provoking movies you have shown, complete with snacks.

We will miss you, but send you off with our best wishes as you enter into this new adventure in God's world.

Cheryl Holliday, Chair



Presbytery Representative

Thank you Darren for your able and competent representation of Asbury and West at Presbytery.

We truly appreciate all that you did to help us through and to help Presbytery understand our needs.

I know from discussions at Presbytery and the good things you have said about Asbury and West that we will be seen in a different light from now on.

Sheila Mascoll



DARREN'S FINAL SERMON

The churches in Macedonia had gone through a very difficult time. They had faced a great deal of persecution. They had been invited to be followers of The Way but then they were told that they had to change their way of life. There were some who had said that newcomers to the church had to adopt the ways of the Torah. Some people had insisted that newcomers to the church had to be circumcised and had to adopt Jewish Kosher laws. Yet they understood that all they had to do was to believe in Jesus. So in the synagogues the people of the Way faced a great deal of conflict.

The people of The Way also faced persecution outside of the synagogue. The Romans did not like the new faith. In Roman mythology the emperor was a god. He was to be obeyed and worshipped. But followers of the Way believed that Jesus is the son of the only God. Political leaders were just human beings. They had no divine power. The one God, according to the early church, was the only one who deserved to be worshipped. Jesus was the prince of peace and the King of Kings. And so the early church faced persecution from the Romans as well.

So the early church faced many difficulties. Inside the synagogue, people disagreed with their lifestyle. Outside the church, the Romans found them to be problematic. Were they loyal citizens or did they worship this other King? For many groups, facing tough times from both within and without, they would have shriveled up and died. “We can’t continue because of this antagonism towards us.” Many groups, facing such difficulty would have faded away, or conformed to the wishes to others.

Many groups would have died, but not the church in Macedonia or the Christian church in general. They were not frail flowers that would have died quickly in the sun. Rather they were mighty oaks with deep roots that would stand forever. They continued to live, where others would have perished.

And why did they live? Was it luck? No. Was it because they were specially blessed? No they were blessed just as any other faith group is blessed. Did they have some very good leaders? Maybe but none were noted. Were they more faithful than others? Again no where is it noted that they had any more faith than anyone else. So in the midst of significant persecution and without any special blessings, why did the church in Macedonia continue to thrive?

Paul says that they thrived because one they were resilient. They faced difficulties. But rather than let them get them down, rather than getting depressed about why bad things continue to happen to us, the faithful in Macedonia just decided that they weren’t giving up. They knew that God was with them. They also knew that God had blessed them with everything they needed to survive and to thrive. With God’s presence and God’s gifts, they felt that nothing could get them down.

Secondly Paul noted how the people worked together. Macedonia had always been at the bridge between Europe and Asia. The people learned to accept each other’s differences. People were invited to share with others with their own unique gifts and talents. Because of their diversity, the people in Macedonia were very strong. And also the church in Macedonia prided itself in radical hospitality. Everyone was welcome to take part no matter who they were and no matter where they came from.

Most importantly, Paul noted that the Macedonians carried out their ministry at all times. Despite their hard times, struggles with enemies from within and without, despite the fact that they weren’t particularly gifted or blessed, despite the fact that they were not all the same, the people continued to do the work of the church. They remained faithful no matter what. They believed in good times and in bad. And because of that their church thrives.

I think I have seen a lot of the good traits of the Macedonian church alive and well here at Asbury and West during my time here with you. First of all, I think like the church in Macedonia, it would have been easy for you to wither and die. You have gone through so many struggles during the past four years, any which of these struggles would have killed other churches- and yet you are still here. Before I arrived here, you had been through so much. Eleven years ago, you made the brave decision to renovate your building. You had to sit through meeting after meeting with planners and city officials and the heritage department. And in June of 2011, you decided to pack up your church and move in with friends at Northminster. All this would have been too much for many congregations. They would have given up. But you remained faithful.

If the building was not enough, your difficulties did not end there. Doug who had been your shepherd for 32 years decided to retire. Then Carol who followed Doug died after 5 short months with you. With the help of Bob Raymont, your congregation continued on until I arrived in September 2011. So in a little over a year, you had gone through four ministers. This would have been very difficult for many churches. But you remained faithful.

Darren's Final Sermon (continued)

And then there was our time of moving in with Northminster. They were very gracious. But it is never easy moving in with the relatives. They have their ways of doing things and you have yours. This means compromise and that is never easy. But you remained faithful.

And then came the delays. We waited a year after our big move for the shovels to go into the ground. And our 45 week long project took much longer than expected. There were concerns about money, finding the right tenants, getting the needed approvals, the elevator strike, everything seemed to be working against us. We might have wondered if we would ever get home. Would we be like the Hebrews and wonder through the wilderness for forty years? Many, in the midst of such difficulties, would have given up. There are too many troubles here. I am going to find a church where things are less difficult. Many would have thrown in the towel, but you didn't. You remained faithful.

And then came the unpacking. Our new church was smaller. And as we unpacked, we discovered things that had gone missing, things which probably should have been discarded suddenly turned up. And as we unpacked, there were the decisions of where everything should go. There were disagreements, tense words spoken, and some heated discussions held as we unpacked. But in spite of all this, you remained faithful.

Then there were the growing pains in the church. Things were not quite the same as the old church. We wondered how the new things would work. Would the people come? But in spite of all this, you remained faithful.

Your resilience and your support have amazed me. I can honestly say it has been a great privilege to walk with you and be your guide during this time of change. I will remember the good times and the bad, but mostly your support and your love.

And what would be my advice to you in the years ahead. As Paul suggested to the church in Macedonia, it is to be the church that you have shown yourself to be. I have witnessed as we have laughed, learned, worshipped, argued, cried, and prayed together that you are a church who welcomes everyone. Everyone is invited to come and be who they are here. Your success as a church will depend on that hospitality. So as you have welcomed me, you should welcome others.

I have seen how you are a people of faith. You do believe in a God who is alive and active here. God has seen you through many trials in the past. Because of your faith you have survived. You should know that as long as you believe God is with you, your faith will see you through many things.

And I have seen how you are a community that values each other. Yes you have disagreements. There are times when we don't always get along. But in general, you are a community that loves and supports one another. You care for each other. In order to survive, you must continue to do that.

I don't think the road is easy for any church. Like the church in Macedonia, we face problems. There is no magic potion or lucky charm that will make these problems go away. But if you remain the faithful, loving, caring, tenacious, I know you will rise above all of this.



May God bless you in the
work of this congregation.
Amen.

Rev. Darren Liepold



From the Organ

It has been an honour and privilege to work with such a dedicated and talented man. I wish that you sing to other congregations in Australia and other parts of the world. May they be blessed with your voice as we were. *God Bless.*

Paolo Busato, Director of Music



Hospitality Ministry

Darren you came to us when we needed you. You have made your mark and after four years you are moving on.

We do thank God for you and we are also very thankful to you for the contributions you have made. You have been a capable leader, a good listener, your advice to us has been sound and very beneficial yet not in anyway domineering.

The Hospitality Ministry members do thank you for your commitment and contribution. We wish you good health and God's guidance in your life in the many years to come.

Lou Rhoden, Chair



Human Resources Ministry

Darren, Human Resources will be missing your strong shoulders. Thank you for allowing me to lean on you during some of the very frustrating times. We will certainly miss you but we believe that God sent you to help us. And now, God is sending you to help others.

May God continue to bless you.

Sheila Mascoll, Chair



Blessings
COUNT THEM ONE BY ONE



The Women's Ministry

Darren, except for being a guest speaker at times, the UCW and Joybreak groups did not have as much ministerial interaction with you as perhaps other areas of the church. But you have to admit - we did keep you fed!

Often the UCW welcomed you to share birthday cakes and pot luck lunches. Joybreak thanks you for being their best chocolate buyer.

Still, we always knew that you were supportive of our work in the church and interested in how we were getting along.

So we want to thank you for your presence, your prayers, and your encouragement. We wish you well in your new life and church in Australia. God bless you.

Oh, and here's a box of chocolates on the house!

Cheryl Holliday, Chair

Trustees

Darren, you came to us with a unique ability combined with a pleasant demeanor of leadership which made a difference to our congregation's life during a challenging period. We are grateful for your invaluable contribution to our group over the years.

You were like a soft bandage and a soothing ointment that helped to heal the cuts and bruises of our church. In one of your sermons you stressed, 'may we find our Shepherd for our needs as we move forward'. So on behalf of the Trustees, we wish you many productive years of service as you journey shepherding your new flock. You will not be forgotten and we hope that you, in turn, will never forget us. God's guidance be with you.

Yvonne Wright, Chair



O give
thanks
 unto the LORD, for he is good;
for his mercy endures forever.
 Psalm 107:1 (KJV)

View Thorough the Office Window

Darren this is the second church where I have worked with you. You are a good teacher - especially when explaining how you want things done. You were so timely with your bulletin information...it was truly a blessing to have this information 'ahead of time'. This process allowed for time off at Christmas and Easter.

In all the years I have known you, I have never heard you in a bad mood or at odds with anyone. I hope that your next Administrative Assistant appreciates you and your many talents.

Darren you will be missed so much, but I have offered to come work with you in Sydney. For some reason you keep saying no!

Darren I do wish you all the best in Sydney and I hope that this move and job are all that you have wished for.

Blessings in Australia.

Cate Billinger, Office Administrator



Stewardship Ministry

Away to Australia --- off to Oz --- with our blessings and our prayers. Like Canadians, Aussies are descended from adventurers - people who were ready to travel across the sea, to explore new territories and found another society.

This is the story of many members of our congregation who left behind their land of birth to seek a new home. People of faith, courage and commitment. This is the continuing story of the faith and commitment of our congregation as Stewardship becomes a focal point in the work of our church. We are grateful for your faithful leadership and personal encouragement.

So good bye to Lake Ontario sands and British Columbia beaches and G'day to the Great Barrier Reef on the other shore of the Pacific Ocean. We'll miss your stories, your sermons - brief and cogent - your songs, your smile.

Au revoir and best wishes.

Phoebe Cleverley, Chair

Worship, Sacrament and Music Ministry

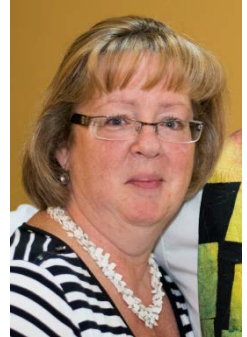
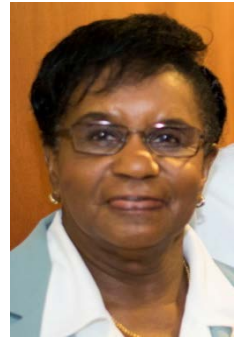
We thank you for all the time you have devoted alongside the Worship, Sacrament and Music Ministry; planning, guiding, inspiring and encouraging us. You have led us in worship through good times and in the days when we struggled to understand who we are and what our purpose is to be.

You have shared scripture and lessons in your worship services, we've even needed a passport; bible studies with intimate groups; visions in Flock Talk articles and your views and passions in your musings.

You baptized the new born, welcomed the new comer, blessed the marriages, prayed over our loved ones who have passed, shared in Holy Communion and in your gift of song. For all this and more, we say thank you!

We wish you God's blessing and may He keep you in the palm of His hand.

Lynsia Panthaki & Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen, Co-chairs



Darren singing
"You Raise Me Up"



Beautiful music
played by Jariah



The Choir is in fine voice!



COUNCIL - CONGREGATION

I speak on behalf of Council and the congregation.

Rev. Darren came to us in September 2011. Many of you were not worshipping with us at that time and I think it is important to know the circumstances of our congregation when we first met Rev. Darren.

We were adjusting to the retirement of Rev. Douglas McKenzie who had served as our Minister for 32 years from 1978-2010, the death of our recently appointed Intentional Interim Minister Rev. Dr. Carol Gierak and the ongoing major renovation project that necessitated our worshipping with our neighbouring church, Northminster United. September also brought the sudden death of Rev. Doug.

Darren, we learned very quickly that you were indeed qualified to be our Intentional Interim Minister to help us with the enormous challenges gripping our congregation. Supporting the magnitude of our complex renovation project was in itself a daunting task. We immediately benefited from your vast experience and knowledge, steadfast patience and positive attitude, and your focused attention and calming approach. And, we were pleasantly surprised to learn of your musical gift, sense of humour, and love of chocolate. I once asked Darren 'What chocolate do you like? Milk, dark or white? His answer - Yes.

Darren, individuals and groups experienced your unwavering support and steadfast encouragement as you worked with ease among all ages in our congregation. You have provided leadership and motivation to work on the goals and key issues for the renewal and growth of our church. We have seen your ability to find the balance between guiding us with a gentle hand and handing out a bit of tough love when needed. You have been like the wise gardener planting seeds along the way. You were also insightful to ensure balance was found between your work and your rest. On a personal note Darren, I have valued your guidance with my position as Council Chair; I add the roles of teacher and adviser to the list.

We are truly thankful for your Intentional Interim Ministry with us and thank you for all you have given us these last four years. The members of Asbury and West United Church have been blessed to have had you for this short time. You are held in high regard. You are loved and respected. You will be missed but will be forever in our hearts and a part of the rich history of our church. I believe you have been a gift from God.

Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson, Council Chair



PRESENTATION OF GIFTS FROM THE CONGREGATION

As you leave us today and start a new chapter in your life, we certainly send with you many intangible things - our very best wishes and congratulations on your new position, our hopes that you will be successful in all you do, our prayers that you will continue to be the minister that God wants you to be. Our wish to keep up and keep in touch with you. Our secret desires to come and visit!!! But we also want to provide you with a few tangible tokens. On behalf of the congregation of Asbury and West I am privileged to present you with several gifts that we hope will always remind you of your Asbury and West family.

It was about a year ago during a conversation I had with Rev Darren that he expressed it was about time he got a new clerical robe. Well what better time to don a new outfit than when you have somewhere special to go. This new clerical robe has been custom made for Rev Darren in a fabric that will be light weight and comfortable in the warmer climate.

The old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words is the theme of this next gift. A photo album that will prompt those down memory lane moments. Be sure to have your picture taken with Rev Darren upstairs during the luncheon so it may be included in the album.

Lastly, we know that the trip to the other side of the world is very long and being in a new country can be a bit scary at first. So we have arranged for a special escort to accompany you. He has dual citizenship so there will not be a problem with customs and immigrations. He is all packed and ready to go. His name is Kory. Kory Koala. He travels very light.....just his Canadian maple leaf tee shirt and his back pack. Now his back pack is very special once you arrive down under. It contains \$875 in Australian currency. An additional \$135 CDN was later given.



Darren models his new robe from the congregation



Kory Koala will travel with Darren to Australia



Kory safely carries the cash in his back pack



A tearful Darren expresses thanks

CLOSING PRAYER

Written by a member of our congregation who wished to remain anonymous. Read by Glenda McBroom.



God our Creator, thank you for lovingly and graciously blessing us with Darren's ministry and our life together in this congregation and community.

We ask for your guidance and direction for us as a Church as Darren is leaving us to follow another call in his life.

Today, therefore, it is a time to mark the ending of his ministry here at Asbury and West United Church; a time to look back, and a time to look forward; a time for joy, and a time for sadness.

Together, we have studied your Word. Together, we have broken bread and given thanks. It is a time to give thanks and praise to Almighty God for what Darren has given us in our life together.

In thanksgiving, we praise you for rising up faithful servants among us for the ministry of your Church. Your love for us is deeper than the ocean and bigger than the biggest need in our heart.

We pray that you continue to lead Darren as he has served you within our congregation. Enable him to serve his new congregation with an atmosphere of respect and co-operation, in a safe and happy environment.

May Darren continue to exemplify, in word and deed, your love. Grant that we, with him, may carry on serving you on earth. Through your spirit continue to bless Darren as he faces your world, which is so much in need of your love. In your name we ask. Amen



Want to reach Darren...

Rev. Darren Liepold
Neutral Bay Uniting Church
49A Yeo Street
Neutral Bay, NSW 2089
Australia
darrenliepold@gmail.com



After the service there was much mingling, greeting of friends, expressing best wishes and hugging before everyone headed upstairs for the reception.



Darren cuts the first piece



Lou says grace



Darren and Brian

You'll never go hungry at Asbury and West



Melissa, our official photographer of the day, took the pictures during the service and got everyone to smile for the keepsake shots with Darren. Her fundraising effort raised \$105 for the church.

Remembrance Day

11 NOVEMBER

In Flanders Fields

poem by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, 3 May 1915

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.

lest we forget

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct 18 - Joybreak Celebration
- Oct 25 - Catherine Smith & Henry MacLeod
- Council Meeting
- Nov 1 - Rev. Frank Gabourel
- Nov 5 - Food Bank Bin arrives (donate any time)
- Nov 8 - Remembrance Day Sunday
- Trevor Smith, Scott Mission
- Nov 15 - Leslie Venturino, North York
Harvest Food Bank
- Nov 22 - Jonathan Francis
- Nov 29 - Rev. Neil Parker
- Council Meeting
- Dec 5 - Annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner
- Dec 13 - White Gift Sunday
- Dec 20 - Church School Christmas Party
- Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Service, 7:30pm

FOOD BANK NEEDS:

1. Canned fish and meat
2. Canned veggies
3. Canned fruit
4. Canned beans
5. Fruit Juices
6. Low sugar cereals
7. Low sodium instant meals & soups
8. Jars of baby food
9. Baby formula
10. Cooking oil
11. Rice (or even quinoa!)
12. Nutritional supplements



FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

May you and your loved ones have the joy of Thanksgiving which is hope, the spirit of Thanksgiving which is peace and the heart of Thanksgiving which is love.

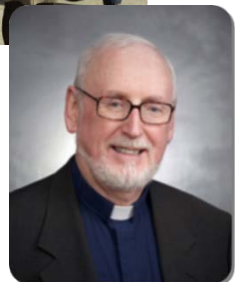
Jocelyn & Sylvia



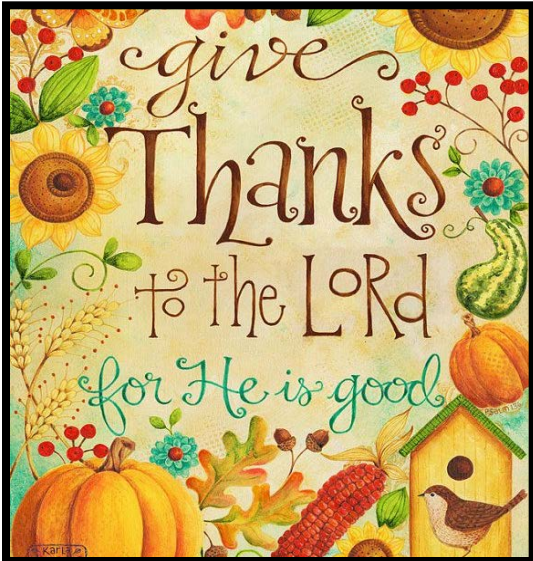
The Five Buck Bag Rummage Sale held on the weekend of October 3 & 4 brought in \$91.50. Thanks to the Stewardship Ministry for organizing this endeavour.

UPDATE...

The weather was perfect for the Rev. Douglas McKenzie Memorial Walk, held on Sunday, September 20. After enjoying a delicious lunch prepared by Jocelyn and Sylvia Shewalter, the walkers made their way to the Holocaust Memorial at Earl Bales Park, passing the old manse on the way. To date, we have raised \$2,180.00 for our church programs. A big thank you goes to the walkers, sponsors and helpers who contributed to another successful day.



Cheryl Holliday
Chair, Christian Education Ministry



Asbury and West United Church

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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

George Breen

Joyce Bullock

Fredrica Cameron

Bea Cares

Betty & Fred Enta

Mildred Franklin

Evelyn Lyon

Helen Smith

Fred Sunahara



NEXT DEADLINE – Sunday, December 6, 2015
Next Edition – Christmas, Sunday, December 20, 2015



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