
THE COURIER

Issue 8

April 2008

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, NORWAY

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RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

It looks like Spring has finally taken hold. The snow, which covered our bushes all Winter, has begun to recede with remarkable rapidity. Having toughed out one of the more difficult winters we've had recently has earned us some bragging rights. It certainly seemed odd to be celebrating Easter with lots of snow still on the ground.

However, just because Easter is over doesn't mean church has stopped. We have a full schedule of services and activities planned for the coming weeks, many of which are mentioned in this *Courier*.

God has not somehow faded into the background, only to be brought forward next Fall. In fact, as you greet the returning sunshine, and delight in the buds and shoots that are reappearing after their winter's hibernation, let's keep in mind the bumper sticker I saw one time. It read, "Thank God for Green - He invented it."

Today, there is more to that word "green" than we might have once realised. It has become firmly attached to the environmental movement that encourages us to become more aware of the impact human activity has on the environment. The environmentalists' message echoes that of the Bible which calls us to be good stewards of God's Creation.

So, as we welcome Spring let's thank God for Green - not only in word but in deed.

Yours in Christ,

Brian

Remember our student intern from last summer, Christine Watt? Well, the Toronto Diocese plans to ordain her to the Diaconate on May 4, 2008 at 4:30 at St. James Cathedral and she would like to invite you to come and be a part of this important event, to the Glory of God.

The Anglican Journal

All members of the Anglican Church of Canada are entitled to receive a copy of this informative magazine. If you would like to receive a paper copy please write a note to the church secretary or visit anglicanjournal.com The publication is also available on the website.

Deadline for the Next Courier is Sunday, April 27.

**Please send submissions to
admin@stjohnsnorway.org or place them
in the mail rack outside the office.**

Inside This Issue

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- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1 | RECTOR'S LETTER – CHRISTINE WATT – THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL |
| 2 | WARDEN'S REPORT – CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER WORKSHOP |
| 3 | FROM THE CHURCH CALENDAR – BIBLE LORE – MONTHLY CHUCKLE |
| 4 | A WARNING FROM PWRDF – NORWAY GROUP NEWS – ADVERTISEMENTS |
| 5 | UPCOMING EVENTS – BAPTISMS |
| 6 | IN MEMORIAM – MOORELANDS CAMP – CALENDAR |
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WARDENS' REPORT

Our special Easter Services at St. John the Baptist, Norway were well attended and financially supported. Thanks to all those who returned the "My Easter Gift" envelopes with generous donations. Hopefully this will offset most of the end of February deficit and that your generous support continues.

On the Church maintenance front, a positive development, a caring parishioner donated the full cost of our new automatic door opener. However, we have a problem of continuing water damage to our pipe organ. Repairs were made and we were awaiting an estimate for the installation of a light roof over the organ pipes affected. The water damage has become more extensive and the solution is a light roof over the entire organ or all the pipes. We have authorised the installation of the light roof and the necessary repairs to the organ based on an estimate of \$3,000 to \$4,500.

We would like to present the benefits of donating Appreciated Securities to your Church or favourite charities. This is timely information as BCE Inc., one of the most widely held common stocks, is slowly nearing completion of a privatisation offer of \$42.75 per share. The 2006 Federal Budget eliminated the capital gains tax on donations of publicly traded securities to public charitable organisations such as St. John the Baptist, Norway. As well, donors would still receive a donation receipt for the full market value of the donated security.

A few examples may clarify the financial benefits and some options that could be used for your own needs. Suppose you own shares of BCE Inc. with a market value of \$100,000 and an adjusted cost base of \$50,000, thus a capital gain of \$50,000. A marginal tax rate of 46% is assumed.

- If you simply sell or tender on an offer, a \$50,000 capital gain is triggered, costing \$11,500 in income tax, leaving you with \$88,500 after taxes.
- If you contributed your shares to your Church, there would be no capital gains tax but you would receive a donation receipt for \$100,000 that would produce a tax credit of \$46,000 or net tax savings of \$46,000.

THE COURIER

- If you donate \$20,000 worth of your shares to your Church and sell the balance, \$80,000, the capital gains tax on the shares sold would be \$9,200. The donation receipt from your Church for \$20,000 would produce a tax credit of \$9,200 offsetting the tax on the shares sold. You would be left with \$80,000 to reinvest after a \$20,000 donation to your Church.

The Diocese of Toronto provides the necessary forms to make a donation of securities and will look after the sale and return the funds to our parish.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Cameron and Suzanne Coxon

Congregational Prayer Workshop by Jane Roberts

On Saturday, March 19, 9 of us spent the day at the Convent of the Sisters of St. John the Divine. This is the new convent situated next door to St. John's Rehab Hospital on Cummer Avenue. Sister Elizabeth led the workshop. Our group spent most of the time in several of the Guest House's beautifully simple, elegant, and light filled rooms that were very conducive to contemplation and prayer.

The morning and afternoon sessions consisted of instruction and ideas about prayer from Sister Elizabeth, followed by a period of free reflection. During reflection time we roamed the guesthouse, library, hallways, and lounge. In between we participated with the sisters and the other guests in their noon-day Eucharist and noon-day meal. The novel experience for many of us was the quiet communal dining with no talking. The only speaking is the Versicles and Responses that begin and end the meal. I enjoyed this new way of taking a meal with a group – alone, but not alone. However, some of our group did miss the social aspect of mealtime.

Another highlight for me was finger labyrinths. These are tabletop labyrinths that you can trace with your finger in prayerful meditation. It is a worthy substitute for the outdoor labyrinth that was still under snow.

While you could perhaps say you can get the same instructions elsewhere, the whole experiential package of the convent was unique.

FROM THE CHURCH CALENDAR

April 11

GEORGE AUGUSTUS SELWYN Missionary Bishop in New Zealand

George Augustus Selwyn, who became the first Anglican Bishop of New Zealand in 1841, had the credentials, talent, and influence to have lived a comfortable and successful life in England. Instead, he chose to go halfway around the world and live for nearly two decades under the most trying circumstances, laying the foundations of a new branch of the church. As bishop he travelled through the islands of Melanesia and New Zealand, using unsophisticated and sometimes hazardous modes of transport in an often-hostile environment. Bishop Selwyn was a tireless evangelist, pastor, teacher, organiser, and administrator. Perhaps most important of all, he earned the respect and love of the native Maoris to whom he first brought the gospel. During a cruel and tragic war between English colonists and the Maoris, he was able to bring the ministrations of Christ to both sides. Finally, he played a reconciling role in the establishment of peace. In 1868 he was elected Bishop of Lichfield, England, an office he held for the last ten years of his life. He was a capable scholar and a man of many interests, exercising influence in both church and state.

Bible Lore

In the last two months we have looked at the two Synoptic Gospels and the Gospel According to John. This month, let's look at the writings of St. Paul. (Sometimes New Testament scholars call this "The Pauline Corpus" that is, "Paul's Body of Work.") Except for Luke whose books (The Gospel According to Luke and The Acts of the Apostles) represent almost a third of the New Testament, Paul was the second most prolific contributor to the New Testament. There we find 13 letters that are attributed to him with varying degrees of confidence. There is little or no doubt that Paul himself wrote seven of them: Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Philippians, 1 Thessalonians, and Philemon. (We'll look at the other six next month.) These letters, which are believed to be

THE COURIER

the oldest writings in the New Testament, would have been circulated widely within the early Christian community, particularly among the churches Paul founded. It is likely that he used an amanuensis or scribe, occasionally adding a few words in his own handwriting (see Galatians 6.11). The Pauline writings give us the earliest systematic account of Christian doctrine, and furnish valuable information on the life of the infant Church.

MONTHLY HUCKLE

More children's letters to God:

Dear God,
I think about you sometimes even when I'm not praying.
Elliott

U U U

Dear God,
I am American. What are you?
Robert

U U U

Dear God,
I think the stapler is one of your greatest inventions.
Ruth M.

U U U

Dear God,
I would like to live 900 years like the guy in the Bible.
Love,
Chris

U U U

Dear God,
If you give me a genie lamp like Aladdin I will give you anything you want except my money or my chess set.
Raphael

Highway sign near San Antonio:
"Thirty days hath September, April, June, and November, and anyone exceeding the speed limit."

If you must exercise, why not exercise kindness?

A Warning from PWRDF: the Primate's World Relief & Development Fund

It has been brought to our attention that a telemarketing company is misleading people by soliciting donations on behalf of the "Primate's Fund." Please be aware that this is a scam.

The Primate's World Relief & Development Fund (PWRDF) does not solicit donations via telephone or use a telemarketing company to do so. The PWRDF donor list is held in strict confidence and access is restricted to appropriate staff only.

Should you receive such a phone call and the number shows up on your call display, please record the number and let PWRDF know and it will be reported to the appropriate authorities. Please call 1 (866) 308-7973 to speak with Barbara Wilkins, Donor Relations staff, during business hours or to leave your message.

Giving to PWRDF through your parish or directly is still the best option for those wishing to support this worthwhile ministry.

ROYAL LEPAGE Estate Realty CAROLYNN PARSONS

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St. Hilda's Retirement Residence

St. Hilda's has offered support to the senior community for over 30 years by providing not-for-profit independent or assisted-living facilities. Additional beds are now available for respite, recuperative, and short-stay care following a medical or surgical episode.

St. Hilda's is located mid-town at 2339 Dufferin Street (Eglinton Avenue West & Dufferin Street) and is interconnected with St. Hilda's Anglican Church.

For more information you are invited to contact Janet Crawford at (416) 781-6621, ext 216 or view their website at www.sthildastowers.com

THE COURIER

Norway Group News

by Bridget North

In March, the Norway Group hosted an evening presentation by a Canadian teacher, Susan Connor, who has recently returned to Canada after spending a year teaching science in a high school in Bolgatanga in Northern Ghana, West Africa. She showed us many excellent digital photos and told us about teaching and living in such different conditions. The children learn by memorising what the teacher tells them and what they read on the blackboard because they do not have any paper to take notes, so they have to retain the information in order to complete the written exams! It costs a family C\$600 to send a child to high school for three years. They are all boarders, so this includes fees, uniform, and travel to home and back four times a year. It is a great privilege for them to attend school; the child is often the only one that the family can afford to send to school. Susan told us of a local project whereby poor families are persuaded to take in an orphaned child by giving them a pair of goats so that they can start raising their own herd. The non-profit group in that area can provide a mating pair for the equivalent of C\$50! Susan plans to use her honorarium and money raised at the meeting to help to make more Ghanaian families self-sufficient.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Daffodil Tea on Saturday, April 19 at 2:00 p.m. for tea, delicate sandwiches, and squares. You will also have an opportunity to buy from a baked-goods table. There will be a white elephant table and a raffle!

Many thanks to everyone who has supported the Out of the Cold season this year. It has been a long, cold winter and your help is most appreciated.

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Sunday Flowers

If you would like flowers placed in memory of a loved-one, please forward request and payment (suggested donation of \$50) to the office one week in advance. Thank you.



You are invited to a
Daffodil Tea
Saturday, April 19 at 2:00 p.m.

Tea Room ⊃ Home-Baked Goods
White Elephant Table
Crafts ⊃ Foods ⊃ Raffle

"Weekenders" Fashion Show & Sale



Thursday, April 24
St. John the Baptist, Norway
7:00 p.m. – Refreshments
7:30 p.m. – Show and Sale

Enjoy an evening of fashion, fun, raffle prizes,
sale items, and desserts with your friends

Admission \$5.00

Raffle Prizes

28th Annual Christian Service in Memory of the Holocaust

Thursday, May 1st at 7:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church
520 Sherbourne Street
(Between Jarvis & Parliament, south of Bloor)

Theme: The Relevance of the Holocaust to Asian Christianity

Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Alan Lai, Columbia University

Music: Cantor Deborah Staiman

Kosher refreshments served following the service.

For more information call Christian-Jewish Dialogue at
(416) 598-4242

THE COURIER



Creative YouTheatre
proudly presents
OVER THE RAINBOW
an adaptation of the familiar tale of
The Wizard of Oz

Follow the Yellow Brick Road (or Woodbine Avenue) to St. John's, Norway Church for our latest performance. Join Dorothy and her companions the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman, and the Cowardly Lion on May 1, 2, and 3 on their journey to find the greatest desires while learning about friendship along the way. Start time is 7:30 p.m. and tickets may be purchased at the door for a reasonable \$6 for adults and \$5 for children and seniors.

We hope to see you there.

Evensong for Ascensiontide



Sunday, May 4th at 7:00 p.m.

An augmented choir will help us celebrate this special time when we mark the end of Jesus' earthly ministry.

A date to put in your calendar!

RUMMAGE SALE SATURDAY, MAY 10

EVERYTHING AT LOW PRICES!!

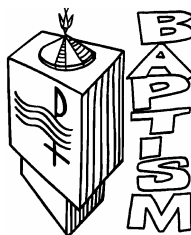


ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, NORWAY CHURCH

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Any treasures to donate?

Call the church office at (416) 691-4560
for pickup, or drop off during the week between
9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon



March 22, 2008

Travis Steven Watts

March 30, 2008

Elora Trinity Michelle Cummings

Ava Megan Luedecke

Jack Aaron Wright



IN MEMORIAM

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| February 25 | Gwendolyn Lillian Chisnall |
| March 3 | Vincent Barry Hughes |
| March 6 | Lilian Elizabeth Cormack James |
| March 9 | Maxwell MacGregor |
| March 20 | Caroline (Carrie) Edna Gardner |

Moorelands Camp

Since 1912 Moorelands has been working with youth and families affected by poverty in Toronto. One of the mainstays of the program is the Wilderness Camp that Moorelands has operated for over 90 years. Each summer 600 children are given an opportunity to build self-confidence and develop leadership skills. Activities such as swimming and the low-ropes course encourage teamwork and provide positive reinforcement. Sixty-eight of Moorelands families have incomes of \$20 thousand or less. Parents pay what they can but this usually covers only a fraction of the \$786 it currently costs to send a child to camp. You can help provide a brighter future for the children they serve. Your donation, directly or through the parish, would be greatly appreciated.

If you'd like to learn more about Moorelands camp or know someone who would like to attend, you are invited to speak to the rector or check out their website at www.moorelands.ca

**Want to Learn More About Prayer?
Come to a Prayer Study
A New Series**

Thursday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m.

CALENDAR *Weekly

APRIL

| | |
|----------|---|
| Monday 7 | 9:00 a.m. – Little Voices Dancing Feet* |
| | 9:30 a.m. – Ecumenical Bible Study* |
| | 5:00 p.m. – Kuma Marital Arts* |
| | 7:00 p.m. – Guides* |
| | 7:30 p.m. – East End Refugee Committee |

THE COURIER

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| Tuesday 8 | 4:00 p.m. – Little Voices Dancing Feet* |
| | 4:00 p.m. – Anglican United Refugee Alliance |
| | 6:30 p.m. – Creative YouTheatre* |
| Wednesday 9 | 9:00 a.m. – MumNet* |
| | 5:15 p.m. – Kuma Martial Arts |
| | 6:00 p.m. – Boy Choristers* |
| | 6:15 p.m. – Sparks* |
| | 6:30 p.m. – Beavers* |
| | 7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist* |
| | 7:45 p.m. – Kuma Martial Arts |
| Thursday 10 | 9:00 a.m. – MumNet* |
| | 1:00 p.m. – St. Anne's Group |
| | 7:30 p.m. – Adult Choristers* |
| | 7:30 p.m. – Norway Group |
| Friday 11 | 9:00 a.m. – MumNet* |
| | 5:30 p.m. – Youth Group |
| Sunday 13 | 8:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist* |
| | 9:00 a.m. – Girl Choristers* |
| | 10:30 a.m. – Choral Eucharist* |
| | 1:00 p.m. – Creative YouTheatre |
| | 7:30 p.m. – Venturers* |
| Tuesday 15 | 7:30 p.m. – Wardens' Meeting |
| Wednesday 16 | 5:15 p.m. – Kuma Martial Arts |
| | 7:45 p.m. – Kuma Martial Arts |
| Thursday 17 | 7:30 p.m. – Prayer Study |
| Saturday 19 | 10:00 a.m. – Daffodil Tea Setup |
| | 2:00 p.m. – Daffodil Tea |
| Sunday 20 | 1:00 p.m. – Creative YouTheatre |
| Tuesday 22 | 7:30 p.m. – Amnesty International |
| Wednesday 23 | 5:15 p.m. – Kuma Martial Arts |
| | 7:45 p.m. – Kuma Martial Arts |
| | 7:45 p.m. – Seton Area Scout Forum |
| Thursday 24 | 1:00 p.m. – St. Anne's Group |
| | 7:00 p.m. – Weekenders Fashion Show & Sale |
| Sunday 27 | COURIER DEADLINE |
| | 1:00 p.m. – Creative YouTheatre |
| Monday 28 | 6:30 p.m. – Creative YouTheatre |
| | 7:30 p.m. – Scout Group |
| Wednesday 30 | 6:30 p.m. – Creative YouTheatre |

MAY

| | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Thursday 1 | 7:30 p.m. – <u>Over the Rainbow</u> |
| Friday 2 | 7:30 p.m. – <u>Over the Rainbow</u> |
| Saturday 3 | 7:30 p.m. – <u>Over the Rainbow</u> |
| Sunday 4 | 7:00 p.m. – Asensontide Evensong |

Please inform the office of any errors or omissions.