

Inside Out

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Winter 2017

Winter Worship

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

First Sunday of Advent Sacrament of Holy Communion, 11:00 a.m. Scripture: Isaiah 2: 1–5; Matthew 24: 36–44 Sermon: Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Advent Chapel Service 1, 12:30 p.m. The Rev. Dr. Kay Diviney

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

Second Sunday of Advent Scripture: Isaiah 1: 1–10; Matthew 3: 1–12 Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

Children's Christmas Pageant, 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Advent Chapel Service 2, 12:30 p.m. Mrs. Clara Maranzano

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Third Sunday of Advent White Gift Sunday Scripture: Isaiah 35: 1–10; Matthew 11: 2–11 Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Kay Diviney

The CBC Sing-In, 3:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Advent Chapel Service 3, 12:30 p.m. The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Family Sunday Scripture: Isaiah 7: 10–16; Matthew 1: 18–25 Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

"Carols by Candlelight"
Candlelit evening service, 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

"The Longest Night" Meditative Advent Service, 6:00 p.m. Chancel

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

Advent Chapel Service 4 — with Holy Communion, 12:30 p.m.
The Rev. Dr. Dale Woods

(continued on next page)



A special moment during the Induction Service for Glenn Chestnutt as Lead Minister at The Church of St Andrew and St Paul; Dr Armour, Dr. Chestnutt and the Moderator of the Presbytery of Montreal, Anita Mack.

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Deadline for next edition: February 20, 2017

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

Family Christmas Eve Service, 4:00

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 11:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

A Service of Lessons and Carols Meditation: The Rev. Dr. Kay Diviney

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

First Sunday after Christmas/New Year's Day Scripture: Isaiah 63: 7–9; Matthew 2:

Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Kay Diviney

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

Baptism of the Lord Scripture: Isaiah 42: 1–9; Acts 10:

Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

Celebration Sunday

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1: 1–9; John 1:

Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

Third Sunday after the Epiphany Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18; Matthew 4: 12-23 Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Scripture: Micah 6: 1–8; Matthew 5:

Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Presentation of the Lord

Scripture: Malachi 3: 1-4; Luke2: 22-40 Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany Heritage Sunday

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9;

Matthew 5: 21-37

Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Kay Diviney

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany Matthew 5: 38-48 Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Scripture: Exodus 24:12-18; Matthew

Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

Greetings from the Minister

New beginnings



Dear Friends,

t is wonderful to have this opportunity, as your new minister, to write for this edition of *InsideOut*. At the time of writing this letter I am nearly one month 'in' after my induction. It was a wonderful occasion, witnessed not only by those of us who were able to be present but also by friends and family from many places around the globe.

In truth though, I have been in Canada since the end of August. The Presbytery of Montreal requires incoming ministers to participate in a number of weeks of French immersion. In my case the immersion programme was held in Quebec City. I experienced four weeks of French language tuition as well as an immersion into Quebecois culture with my host family. In particular, I recall my first memorable and pleasurable experiences of escargot in garlic and butter as well as boeuf tartar - just two culinary delights this province has to offer! While I was experiencing Quebec City, back here there were members of the congregation thoughtfully welcoming and providing for my family. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the welcome you extended, and continue to extend, to us in these initial few months. Your generosity has been very much appreciated.

As a church, we now find ourselves at a busy time as fall creeps into winter. The hard work and organization of the Fall Fair has passed; we have solemnly remembered the dead from war and the end of this liturgical year is marked with Christ the King Sunday. As one year passes so another begins with Advent. And what a wonderful way to begin with the many and varied activities and worship events that The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul can accommodate.

In the midst of all of this it is important to pause and reflect:

With certainty, winter is coming, but along with it the newness of life in Christ. New beginnings await all of us especially this year at The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul and we have much to look forward to! But may we also be mindful in turning to the Christ Child, the Word of God made flesh for our salvation, and may we gain strength and encouragement from Christ as we continue to travel God's Way together into a new Christian year.

Let us take heart and rejoice!

Your minister and friend, Glenn



Cutting the cake at the Induction Celebration.

From the Church Registrar

Baptisms

September 25, 2016
Robin Frances Scott Peters

October 23, 2016 Ian Chen Walonoski

October 23, 2016 Nicolas Du Pont Chen

Marriages

September 10, 2016
Hovig Maghakian and Amanda Perrella

October 8, 2016
Eric Walker and Catherine Hart

Memorials & Funerals

September 9, 2016

Moira Hayes

September 28, 2016 William Calder

October 14, 2016

Dorothy Stairs

October 22, 2016

Archibald Rolland



A special Black Watch Guard of Honour for Hovig Maghakian and Amanda Perrella on Sepember 10!

Seniors' Support Program

Help and advice are there

or several members of the congregation, this program of the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Homes Foundation has proved most valuable. It has been mentioned here before, and is certainly something that we should be knowledgeable about. Its aim is to provide guidance and support for Presbyterian seniors in and around Montreal.

The program care providers will:

- Contact government services and private partners to connect you with the best help available.
- Help you to organize and coordinate the health and social services that you need.

- Support your family and those close to you to enhance your care.
- Clarify and explain the care plan to you and redirect your care options as needed.
- Identify appropriate seniors" facilities, should your health require more care athan possible in your home setting.
- Facilitate when possible the resolution of a health care problem.
- Limited funds may be available in an urgent situation. The person to contact for advice and help is Ann Maher, and her phone number is 514.623.5127.

Fall Fair 2016

Inder the careful and fun leader-ship of Heather Luckow and Katie Kinnear, this year's Fair was full of good spirit and enthusiasm...Stalls were assembled, all the items collected over the last year were assigned their place on a table, and the show was on! The good humour and fun that everyone had this year, with the Youth Group and many of the young folk helping, gave an extra zip to the day. Results are not yet in, but the general feeling was that everyone had a great time, and that is the main important result! And we had plum puddings!







Top: And still they come! Above left: We offer the world!

Above right: Heather and Katie - great leaders!

Bottom left: All generations working together

Bottom right: Treasures always has a busy corner







Bravo everyone!

Above: Everyone having fun! Below left: Jewellery action Below right: Lots of young helpers this year





PWS&D

A very special project

With support from the Rev. Jeff Veenstra Memorial Fund of The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, PWS&D will embark on a new project in Malawi in Jeff's name. Through the Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health project, which will be implemented in two separate regions of Malawi, existing antenatal and labor wards will be renovated and extended. health professionals will be trained, and "safe motherhood" committees will be established in villages. By investing in both infrastructure and people, this wonderful new project will have a lasting impact in the lives of communities. In addition, The Government of Canada will match every dollar donated to this project four to one.

Donations may be made using the white envelopes located in the pews. Please mark them "PWS&D-Rev. Jeff Veenstra Memorial Fund."



Moment for Mission

Opportunities for Outreach



Sponsorship update

he Federal Government publishes notices on their website of the current expected delays for the arrival of resettled families. From Lebanon that time period is about 8 months between acceptance of the application and the families being called for interviews. Action Réfugiés Montréal informs us that private sponsors in Quebec such as The Church of St Andrew and St Paul are notified 2-4 weeks before their families are interviewed. If all goes well with the interviews, there is a further delay of some 4-6 months as transportation is arranged.

Our applications to sponsor the seven members of two Syrian families of Hanan and Fadia Zidan were accepted by the Federal Government on June 1, 2016. According to these guidelines, we can expect our families to arrive 12 to 14 months following the applications being accepted by the Federal government—around midsummer 2017. But, we are also told, there are always surprises! The Sponsorship Core Committee will provide updates as we learn more.

Our families continue to live in very difficult circumstances outside of Beirut and we pray for their safety and stamina. We are working with Action Réfugiés Montréal to ensure that our families have phone and email access, and they have the phone number of an acquaintance in Beirut should they need assistance. The kind organizers of this year's Fall Fair allowed us to make a selection of kitchen items, and half a dozen boxes full have been set aside at the church until needed by our families. Salam, the sister living in Laval, has asked us to please pray for the

Zidan families.

Urban Charities

As government involvements dwindle, local charities find that there is growing need for assistance from the private sector. The Mission and Outreach Committee financially supports thirteen urban charities in their work in the community. Please join us as we celebrate this dedicated work at our annual Celebration Sunday, which takes place following worship on Sunday, January 15th, 2017.

There is always a need for helping hands at many of the charities. The Mission and Outreach Committee welcomes your involvement to help improve the lives of so many in our city.

PWS&D

Each year at this time the church prepares for a busy Christmas and, as we celebrate our peaceful and plentiful lives, we remember the needs of others, whether in regions torn by war, famine or natural disaster. Presbyterian World Service and Development works in all these fields, fulfilling its mandate, "Inspired by God's promise of abundant life, Presbyterian World Service & Development envisions a sustainable, compassionate and just world."

Please join us for the many Christmas events at The Church of St Andrew and St Paul and give generously. All donations received at the Children's Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 4th at 4:30 pm, and at the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Saturday, December 24th at 11:00 pm, will be sent to PWS&D for their ongoing work in the world.

Contact

Whether for a single event or for an ongoing cause, Mission and Outreach always welcomes volunteers. Please contact Brian Merrett, chair, The Mission and Outreach Committee (outreach@standrewstpaul.com), and let us know how you would like to help in the community. Many hands make for light work and the need is immense.

A Joyous Evening

Turkey dinner at the Native Friendship Centre

the regular weekly Open House at the Montreal Native Friendship Centre. Maybe not so regular, because the Twinning sub-committee of Mission & Outreach was delighted to serve dinner, an encore performance of the February evening that Rev. Jack Archibald described as the highlight of his time with us.

It began with Monday shopping, carefully selecting three turkeys to offer as Thanksgiving drew near. Tuesday and Wednesday in the kitchen under the leadership of Maurene White, salad was prepped, sweet potatoes diced and roasted, and rice dressing prepared. Wednesday, sharing the kitchen with reception caterers and Fall Fair preparations, the turkeys went in the ovens.

The Friendship Centre's van arrived at 4:00 p.m. Turkeys and trimmings aboard, we headed off to the Centre at St-Laurent and Ontario. We carved turkeys and assembled the salad as a ceremony was held to bless the drum and Eric Coté and friends you'll remember from past Healing & Reconciliation Sundays performed native songs. With a blessing of the food, we began serving to seventy-plus very appreciative diners who finished the turkey and dressing and left a very few bits of sweet potato. The NFC staff presented us with a beautiful card and, in return, we expressed our gratitude for the opportunity of meeting old friends (including throat singer Nina Segalowitz) and making new ones. Everyone agreed that we'll do it again and you can join the fun. Just talk to any member of the Twinning sub-committee.



Maurene White, Wylma Cobb and Ghassan el Koreh and friends



A view of the Native Friendship Centre during the blessing of the drum (in the circle of observers at the right side in the photo)

Leading with Care

It is the policy of the Presbyterian Church in Canada that all persons, in particular all children, youth and vulnerable adults, who participate in the denomination's programs and ministries and/or use the denomination's facilities will be cared for with Christian compassion and will be safe.

The Church of St Andrew and St Paul subscribes to this policy and maintains it throughout the various programs and ministries of the congregation. Leading with Care has been instituted and will continue to be monitored through a series of church committees, and the Leading with Care Committee which has duties of oversight.

A&P Winter Music List



November 27

Hymns: 116 (Veni Emmanuel) arr. Leddington-Wright; Metrical Psalm 39 (St. Michael); 114 (Hyfrydol); 228 (Helmsley)

Prelude: Partita über *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (Distler)

Setting: Mass in D, op. 45 (Leighton) Anthem: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland a8 (Praetorius)

Motets: Rejoice in the Lord (Redford); Non ex virili semine (Stolzer)

Postlude: Partita über *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (Distler)

December 1: Advent Chapel Service

Prelude: Prelude in C, from *WTC I* (Bach) Opening Hymn: 116 (Veni Emmanuel), vv. 1, 2, 4

Closing Hymn: 114 (Hyfrydol) Postlude: Fugue in C, from WTC I (Bach)

December 2: Maison du Parc Benefit Concert at 7:30 p.m

Brahms' Requiem

December 4

Hymns: 115 (Winchester New); Metrical Psalm 39 (St. Michael); 460 (Abends); 465 (Cwm Rhondda)

Prelude: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659 & 660 (Bach)

Introit: Alleluia (Runestad)

Anthem: Nesciens mater (Mouton)

Postlude: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661 (Bach)

December 8: Advent Chapel Service

Prelude: Prelude in G, from WTC I (Bach) Opening Hymn: 115 (Winchester New), vv. 1, 2, 4, 5

Closing Hymn: 398 (Olivet)
Postlude: Fugue in G, from WTC I (Bach)

December 11

Hymns: 110 (Richmond); 128 (Humility); Metrical Psalm 27 (Dix); 113 (St. Theodulph)

Prelude: Cantilena, from *Sonata no. 11* (Rheinberger)

Introit: Venite, gaudete! (Peacock)

Anthem: In the Bleak Midwinter (Mealor) Postlude: Pièce d'orgue, BWV 572 (Bach) CBC Christmas Sing-In at 3:00 p.m.:

December 15: Advent Chapel Service

Prelude: Prelude in E, from WTC II (Bach) Opening Hymn: 110 (Richmond) Closing Hymn: 219 (Irish), vv. 1, 3, 4, 5 Postlude: Fugue in E, from WTC II (Bach)

December 18

Hymns:112 (Watergate); Metrical Psalm 10 (St. George's, Edinburgh); 224 (Newington); 234 (King's Weston)

Prelude: Prelude in E minor, BWV 548/1 (Bach)

Introit: My Lord has come (Todd) Anthem: What Child is this (Halley) Postlude: Fugue in E minor, BWV 548/2 (Bach)

December 18: Carols by Candlelight

A Service of Lessons and Carols sung by the Choir

Prelude: Canonic Variations on Vom Himmel hoch, BWV 769 (Bach)

Postlude: Choral-Improvisation on In dulci jubilo, op. 75 no. 2 (Karg-Elert)

December 22: Advent Chapel Service

Prelude: Prelude in F, from WTC I (Bach) Opening Hymn: 112 (Watergate) Closing Hymn: 231 (Maryton), vv. 1, 2, 4, 5 Postlude: Fugue in F, from WTC I (Bach)

Christmas Eve Family Service

with a quartet from the Choir

Prelude: Excerpts from *1ère Suitte de Noëls* (Balbastre)

Postlude: Excerpts from 1ère Suitte de Noëls (Balbastre)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

A service of readings, choral and congregational carols

Prelude: Scène pastorale (Lefébure-Wély) Postlude: Variations sur "Puer natus", from Symphonie gothique, op. 70 (Widor)

December 25, Christmas Day

with a quartet from the Choir Prelude: Pastorale, op. 19 (Franck) Postlude: Noël Parisien, op. 26 no. 4 (Quef)

January 1, 2017

with a soloist from the Choir

Hymns: Opening Hymn 146 (Stuttgart); Metrical Psalm 38 (Howard); Insert PCUSA 292 (Forest Green); Closing Hymn 154 (Dunfermline)

Prelude: Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her (Pachelbel)

Introit: The Three Kings (Cornelius)
Offertory Solo: Gesù Bambino (Yon)
Postlude: Alleluia, from Five Liturgical
Inventions (Togni)

January 8

Hymns: 92 (Solemnis haec Festivitatis); Metrical Psalm 48 (Mit Freuden zart); Insert: Personent Hodie; 148 (Moredun) Prelude: Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam, BWV 683 & 684 Introit: The Birds (Shephard) Anthem: Joys seven (Cleobury) Postlude: Fugue in F major, BWV 540/2 (Bach)

January 15

Hymns: 230 (Laudes Domini); Metrical Psalm 5 (Alcester); 150 (Stella Orientis); 362 (Slane)

Prelude: Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern, BuxWV 225 (Buxtehude)

Introit: Prayer of St. Francis (Cabena)
Anthem: Behold, a Star from Jacob Shi

Anthem: Behold, a Star from Jacob Shining, from *Christus* (Mendelssohn)

Postlude: Präludium in D major, BuxWV 140 (Buxtehude)

January 22

Hymns: 83 (Lobe den Herren); Metrical Psalm 53 (Rochester); 374 (St. Oswald); 489 (Bethany)

Prelude: Christe, qui lux est et dies (Sweelinck)

Introit: I Love the Lord (Harvey)

Anthem: Seek Him That Maketh The Seven Stars (Dove)

Postlude: Highland Cathedral (Roever/ Korb)

Choristers' Concert in Kildonan Hall at 12:30 p.m.

January 29

Hymns: 102 (Wareham); Metrical Psalm 13 (Martyrdom); Insert: Repton; 233 (Hyfrydol) Prelude: Andante, from *Sonata no.* 7 (Rheinberger)

Introit: Blessed are the men who fear Him, from Elijah (Mendelssohn)

Anthem: Meditabor (Rheinberger)
Postlude: Preludio, from Sonata no. 7

(Rheinberger)

February 5

Hymns: 525 (Marion); Metrical Psalm 18 (Martyrdom); 413 (Franconia); 304 (Westminster Abbey)

Prelude: Andante cantilène, op. 15 no. 2 (Guilmant)

Introit: Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates, from *Messiah* (Handel)

Anthem: Nunc dimittis *Collegium Regale* (Howells)

Postlude: Marche sur un thème de Haendel, op.15 no. 1 (Guilmant)

February 12

Hymns: 250 (Praise, my Soul); Metrical Psalm 8 (St. Andrew); Insert: Angel voices, ever singing (Angel Voices); 238 (Laudate Dominum)

Prelude: Dies Sind die heilgen zehn Gebot, BWV 678 & 679

Introit: Seek the Lord (Wachner) Anthem: Os justi (Bruckner)

Postlude: Finale, from Symphonie VI (Vierne)

February 19

Hymns: 277 (Nicaea); Metrical Psalm 1 (Tallis' Ordinal); 405 (Warrington); 467 (Abbot's Leigh)

Prelude: Cantabile (Franck) Introit: Teach me, O Lord (Byrd)

Anthem: Elijah Rock (Spiritual, arr. Hogan)

Postlude: Pièce héroïque (Franck)
Choristers' Concert in Kildonan Hall at
12:30 p.m.

February 26

Choral Celebration Sunday

Hymns: 70 (St. Denio); Metrical Psalm 29 (Dunfermline); Insert: How can I sing that majesty (Coe Fen); 306 (Thornbury)

Prelude: Chorale Preludes (Willan)

Introit: O Nata Lux (Tallis)

Anthem: Apostrophe to the Heavenly Host (Willan)

Postlude: Joie et Clarté des corps glorieux (Messiaen)

Choir Recording

A 'must' for Christmas gifts!

fter nearly 30 years, a new choir recording! A New Heaven is now available.

After many years of requests, waiting, and planning, the Choir has made a new recording! Entitled A New Heaven, the CD features much-loved anthems, hymns and organ music that are heard regularly in worship here at St. Andrew and St. Paul.

It has already been played to acclaim on CBC Radio's Choral Concert, ICI Musique and social media. The official launch took place in Kildonan Hall following the November 20 Choral Celebration Sunday service, with emcee Scott Feltham, Chair of Worship and Music, and a few words from Conductor Jean-Sébastien Vallée and Organist and Director of Music Jonathan Oldengarm. Some of the highlights include Parry's epic setting of "I was glad", Bruckner's intricate "Os justi", Fleming's plaintive "Give me Jesus", and the title track, Bainton's otherworldly "And I saw a new heaven".

Keep an eye out for the discs in the narthex following services and concerts this season, or email or call the Music Office at music@standrewstpaul.com or 514.842.3431 to reserve your copy.

Special thanks to all of the generous donors who helped finance the project; to the Choir who prepared, rehearsed and sang magnificently; to Scott Feltham, Chair of Worship and Music, to Conductor Jean-Sébastien Vallée and to Producer Robert Rowat, without whose extraordinary efforts this huge endeavour would not have come to fruition.

And don't miss your chance to pick up an ideal, one-of-a-kind Christmas stocking-stuffer for your music-loving friends and family!

Jonathan Oldengarm



Music at A&P

Worship and Culture



Trecently read a fascinating article in the English newspaper The Guardian, in which the author examined a remarkable phenomenon: while smaller parish churches are declining and closing at an alarming rate, over the past decade or so, English cathedrals have seen attendance surge. The author attributes the renaissance

of the cathedrals to their diversification as cultural centres, and a down-playing of their roles as specifically Christian houses of worship in the traditional sense.

In my opinion this is an over-simplification. However, the author does raise a number of interesting points:

- 1 In our culture, Christianity is no longer the norm;
- 2. Our society has needs that are not being met by the various "-isms" that are on offer, e.g. individualism, secularism, consumerism, etc.
- 3. The Church (and cathedral-like churches in particular, apparently) is well-placed to reach out and embrace that society.

Point 1 hardly needs discussion; those of us who strive to live faithful lives in the world know all too well how counter-cultural our beliefs and practices are. While we are aliens in a foreign land, we have a wonderful opportunity to be salt and light to everyone we meet, to mix a few scriptural references! Point 2 is also self-evident: the increasingly frenetic pace of our society, the politics of division, the breakdown of civility in our public discourse etc. point to a profound emptiness in the lives of many around us.

Point 3 brings us to the crux of this essay: how do we at the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul bring hope and comfort to a broken world? We have many various outreach ministries, but the one I can best speak to is that of music and worship. Our church is richly blessed in many ways: generous benefactors who have left us a large endowment that allows for all sorts of extraordinary ministry; a beautiful building that is ideally located; a sophisticated and diverse urban community; a diverse, gifted, and loyal congregation; a dedicated and enthusiastic staff and clergy team; a great choir and organ; and a further list that could fill pages. Trusting that God will reward our faithful efforts, we put those gifts into His service as a gift to our neighbours, regardless of their faith or creed.

We aim for reverent, well-planned and substantial worship services that speak to the present while celebrating the treasury of sacred music handed down to us over the centuries.

At St. Andrew and St. Paul, we sing and play hymns and great sacred music of the past and present in a living, breathing, worshipping faith community. Word and music are united, in that we strive to coordinate the readings, sermon, hymns, choral and organ music into one seamless whole that speaks to the moment. In a sense, every Sunday is All Saints and Remembrance Sunday to us, as we see, hear, sing and say the truth and beauty that our

ancestors have left to us. We can truly "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness", as the hymn text says.

We seek out partnerships with community and performing arts organizations whose goals may intersect with ours, in the interest of touching a larger audience with our message of love, joy and hope.

Whether it's with l'Ensemble Caprice (Good Friday), the Montreal Symphony (Maison du Parc AIDS Hospice Benefit Concert), or the McGill Chamber Orchestra (Handel's Messiah this December 13), we've forged relationships with other orchestras that allow us to present great choral-orchestral works in the church. Good Friday evening is a worship service in which we observe the Passion of our Lord, but even in the concerts with the other two orchestras, our status as a church choir singing in its own church home lends a sacred significance to the performances that could never be reproduced at la Maison symphonique. Our partnership with the CBC in the CBC Christmas Sing-In is unique in Canada, and allows us to broadcast the joy of Christmas to well over one million Canadians and Europeans each year, not to mention the 1,500-plus Montrealers who pack into our church and Bourgie Hall every December. In early July 2017, we are delighted to host the opening worship service of a joint National Convention of the Royal Canadian College of Organists and American Guild of Organists, which will be attended by over 1,000 church musicians from across the continent.

We do all of these things not primarily in order to mount the best performance of say, Brahms' Requiem, though of course we aim for the highest possible standard in everything. Our main goal is the worship and God and the edification of His people; the great music of the past and present is the language through which we musicians express ourselves, and with which we can bless the listener.

Returning to that question of our role in a post-Christian society: music (especially instrumental music) is a somewhat less specific medium than the spoken word for communicating a message; even the Reformer John Calvin (who was deeply sceptical of music's appropriateness in worship) recognized that music touched parts of the soul that language could not reach. Through our music and with our beautiful building, we can lovingly embrace visitors who may not share our faith, and send them a message of God's unfailing love. At the same time, we can celebrate our rich Western tradition of sacred music, not only by performing the music well, but by performing it in its proper home, at the heart of a vibrant faith community. Soli Deo Gloria!

Jonathan Oldengarm

Youth Group Activities

So much going on!











ur Youth Group began the year with a lunch together and an opportunity to plan the upcoming year's programme.

Their first event was a challenging but fun visit to AMAZE. Twenty-two of the group set off to participate in this terrific team building activity, where they were divided into groups of five or six. They were presented challenges requiring cooperation and team work in order to solve the various complicated situations. The entire group thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and have decided this is definitely an activity they would like booked again!!

They were kept very busy through October preparing for the PUMPKIN BALL and they did a great job keeping our Church School children busy and happy throughout the event. Some of the group arrived early in the afternoon to decorate and set up Kildonan Hall. They all helped with serving the dinner and many stayed on after the Ball to help with cleanup. They are truly a thoughtful and caring group of young people!

This year more of the Youth Group helped at the various tables throughout the Fall Fair, and the remainder of our Group met up in the afternoon for the traditional "FALL FAIR CLEANUP"!! I think a favorite of some is climbing through the boxes!! A dinner followed where all enjoyed time for fellowship together.

The Youth Group are now helping with preparations for the PAGEANT - many will have acting roles and reading responsibilities while others will be helping behind the scenes with lighting, backstage directing, makeup and supervising the younger children! A busy time indeed!!

One of their MISSION PROJECTS this year is the PWS&D Project supporting mothers and children, which they will share with the Church School. They will be raising funds for this project with a Bowl-A-Thon as well as a "Nickle Back" project.

Future Mission Projects will include the "Coldest Night Walk" in support of the St. James Drop in Centre, and a Coffee House in support of our Syrian Family. Please check our website as well as Sunday bulletins for information on these activities as they approach.

Another date to jot down in your calendars is the YOUTH RETREAT scheduled for January 13 -15, 2017 at the Villa St. Martin.

We are delighted to welcome two new counsellors from CEGEP & University – Jacob and Hanel who have been involved in many of our activities already!! We are so very pleased to have Maygan & Thomas continuing to devote their time to the Youth Group, as they are wonderful role models and a huge help!! These young people are already busy with heavy school schedules, but take the time to share their talents and faith with our younger members. We are truly blessed!

We welcome all young people in Grades 6 through 11, who might like to join this energetic, friendly and fun group - please contact us at 450-689-4379 or email grammy.shani@sympatico.ca

Art and Sharon Dworzak Youth Group Leaders

Church School Fun

hurch School continues to be very busy and has happily welcomed a number of new families.

We had a wonderful Pumpkin Ball hosted by the Youth Group and over 80 arrived dressed in wonderful costumes, ready to enjoy the activities prepared by our young people. After a delicious dinner the children enjoyed some games, face painting, tattoos, and a very special "Musical Chairs" – music provided by the Youth Group's own bagpiper Luca Cristofaro!!

This year our Fall Fair Chairperson, Heather Luckow, invited the Church School children to help at the various tables at the Fair, and a number of our children took up this challenge!! They did a great job and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thank you Heather for this wonderful initiative in including the children!

Wellesley McDonald did a beautiful job during the Remembrance Day Service and carried a wreath on behalf of the Church School.

Church School now begins at 10:30 am every Sunday for "Sharing Time" after which the children follow the choir and ministers into the sanctuary to join in the first part of the Service. The children, teachers and their parents appear to be very pleased with this new arrangement and particularly enjoy "Children's Chat" with the Rev. Chestnutt!

The children, teachers, and Will Duffy from the choir, are very busy with Pageant preparations. Only a few short weeks away!! Bobbie Cristofaro and Naima are busily preparing the beautiful costumes, children are practising their songs, and Michael Cristofaro is planning an "upgrade" for King Herod's throne!!

We do hope you will all attend this amazing event on Sunday, December 4th at 4:30 pm and of course, the Family Christmas Dinner following the Pageant.

The Church School's Mission Project for PWS&D is shared with the Youth Group and includes a Bowl-A-Thon and "Nickle Back" project. Any support from the congregation will be greatly appreciated.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our amazing Church School team! Each Sunday our team of teachers and volunteers come in, prepared with lessons and activities for our various classes. Their dedication and desire to share their faith is an inspiration to me, week after week. They are truly a blessing and I thank God for every one of them.

If you would like to join the Church School Team in any capacity, there is a place for you. Please call me at 514-755-0313 if you would like to help out with Church School, or any of our upcoming activities, or if you would like more information.

Sharon Dworzak Church School Coordinator

