The Church of St Andrew and St Paul

3415 Redpath Street, Montreal, Quebec H3G 2G2
T: 514-842-3431 F: 842-3433

Inside•Out

Spring 2024

Worship

SUNDAY, MAY 5
Black Watch Regimental Service
Dr. Richard Bernier

SUNDAY, MAY 12
7th Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day
The Rev. Susan Brasier

SUNDAY, MAY 19
Day of Pentecost
The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

SUNDAY, MAY 26
Trinity Sunday / 1st Sunday after Pentecost
The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

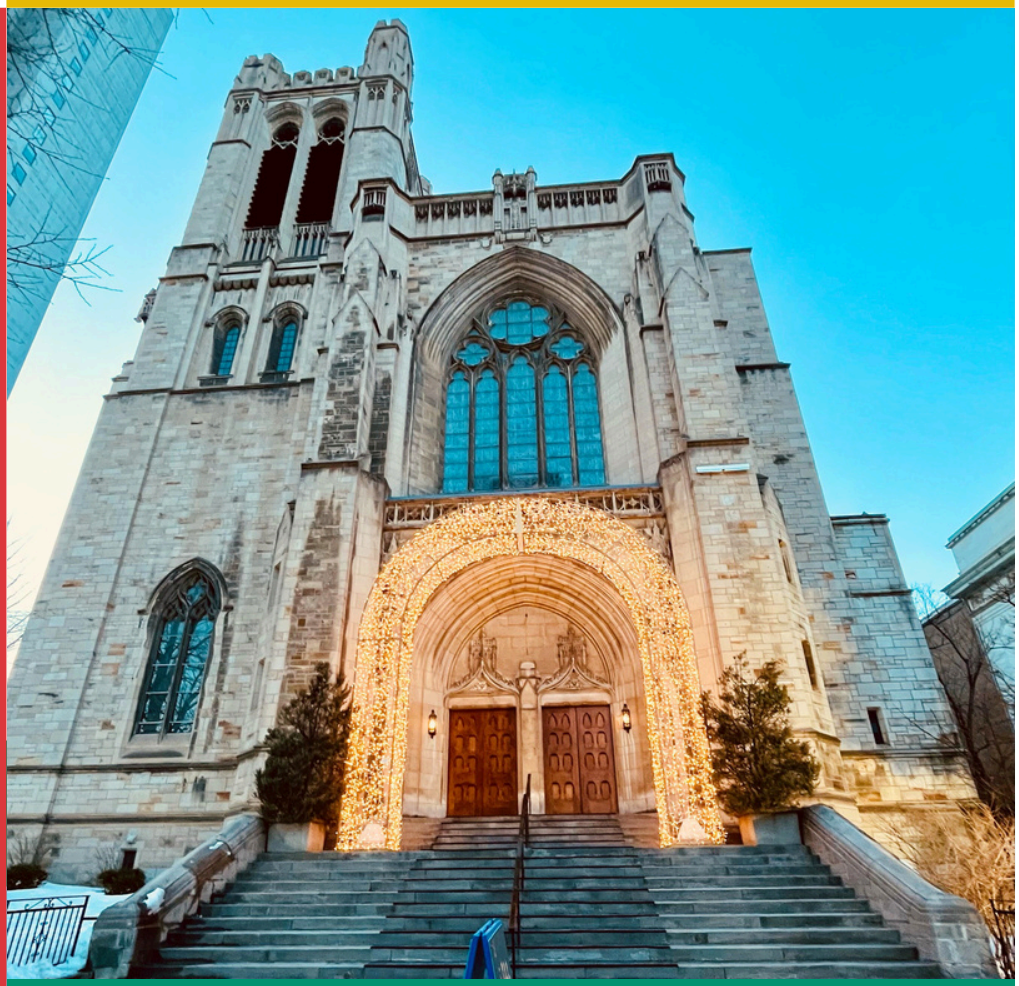
SUNDAY, JUNE 2
2nd Sunday after Pentecost
The Rev. Susan Brasier

SUNDAY, JUNE 9
3rd Sunday after Pentecost
The Rev. Susan Brasier

SUNDAY, JUNE 16
4th Sunday after Pentecost / Father's Day
The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt

SUNDAY, JUNE 23
5th Sunday after Pentecost
The Rev. Susan Brasier

SUNDAY, JUNE 30
6th Sunday after Pentecost
The Rev. Susan Brasier



Welcome to Our Church!

What's inside Inside•Out

2 Greetings from the Minister
3 A few words from Rev. Brasier
5 Ash Wednesday
6 Young Adult Ministry
9 Music Dept. Updates
12 Fall Fair 2023
16 April Lunch & Learn
17 Mission & Outreach – Twinning
20 The Book of Remembrance
21 Knitters for Neechewagon
22 Lunar New Year Party
24 Archives: Stones that Speak P.2
26 The Quiet Garden
28 Church School & Youth Group
32 The Guild

© 2024 Send articles, photos and letters to: info@standrewstpaul.com

Editors: Yilin Chen & Josh Walonoski

Layout: Miranda Huybers

Greetings from the Minister

Eastertide Greetings



Photo: Tam Photography

One of the most iconic stories of Eastertide is that of "Doubting Thomas." In John's Gospel, early on Easter morning, Mary Magdalene went to the disciples in a state of distress, telling them that Jesus' body had gone missing. It was not in the tomb. Peter and an unnamed disciple had gone off to investigate and saw for themselves that this was true. Later Mary Magdalene would come back, this time breathless with excitement, telling the disciples that she had seen Jesus alive.

As evening sets in, Jesus appears, standing among the disciples in the house they are hiding in and, instead of chastising them for abandoning him to die on the cross says, "Peace be with you." He then shows them the marks of the nails in his hands and the hole in his side. What they see must be terrifying, especially for Peter who had denied Jesus three times. But as Jesus had foretold, their pain and sorrow now turn to joy. Their teacher, who was crucified, is alive and is standing in front of them!

But for some unknown reason Thomas is not there with everyone else on this first Easter Sunday evening. We can only speculate but perhaps, in the depths of grief, shame and disappointment, he just could not face being in company. He might have been lost in his own despair. It is of no surprise then that he is sceptical of the others' encounter with Jesus when they tell him that they have seen Jesus alive. Thomas knew that his teacher had been crucified. He knew that his friend's body had been placed in a tomb. He knew that Jesus had died. So, we can sympathize with him when he tells them emphatically: "Unless I see the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later Jesus appears again to the disciples only this time Thomas is present. Jesus speaks directly to him: "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." We do not know whether Thomas touches Jesus' wounds or not. But we do know that this encounter with Jesus compels Thomas to publicly declare one of the strongest confessions of faith that anyone has ever declared: "My Lord and my God!'"

Absent from that room on Easter night, Thomas represents everyone who, down through the centuries, has not seen or met the risen Christ and yet believes in him. As Russell Barr writes: "[F]ar from being based on the evidence of sight and touch, Christian faith is based on trust and our confidence in the trustworthiness of God. Jesus told the disciples that he would go to Jerusalem and having suffered much at the hands of the chief priests, he would be put to death. He also told them that on the third day he would be raised to life. They did not understand, but neither did they forget. And when it happened exactly as Jesus said it would, it moved them beyond understanding to faith."

Like Thomas and indeed all the other disciples, we do not always understand the things of faith. We may think we know only to be surprised. But all God has ever asked of us is to accept that we need to trust God: to trust in God's goodness and in God's love and to trust God to keep God's promises to us. In doing this – in trusting God – we are assured of Christ's blessing, the blessing he promised to all who have not seen him but who still believe in him.

Peter W. Marty writes about a photography exhibition of Warsaw Ghetto pictures from World War II: "One of the more compelling photos" he claims "shows the words scratched on a ghetto wall by a young Jewish person: 'I believe in the sun, even if it does not shine. I believe in love, even if I do not feel it. I believe in God, even if I do not see [God].' Whatever else that persecuted individual may have thought or experienced," Marty concludes "one thing is forever certain. He or she knew blessing!"

"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." May it be so for all of us.

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed! Amen.

Your minister and friend,
Glenn

From the Church Registrar

In Memoriam

Robin Swallow
March 30, 2022

Dr. Dorothy Thomas-Edding
October 10, 2023

Mary Williams
January 20, 2023

Ruthmary Lonsdale
November 21, 2023

John Patrick (Jack) Martin
October 10, 2023

Weddings

John Cumming and Michelle Marie Lee Samson
October 28, 2023

Baptisms

Ana Hope Garcia Cregan
December 17, 2023

News...

Rev. Ian Fraser, who has been associated with our congregation over a number of years, is going to be granted an honorary Doctor of Divinity at the Annual Convocation of the Presbyterian College, Montreal which will be held on Thursday, June 6th at 7:00 p.m. in our church.

Congratulations to Prof. Gerbern Oegema, a member of our congregation. He has been elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Academy of Art and Humanities.

A Few Words from Rev. Brasier

Associate Minister of Community Connections and Care



Photo: Tam Photography

Throughout my lifetime, I have heard people talk about the solar eclipse and I have seen photos of the sun's corona glittering around the black of the moon. In 2017, the path of totality passed just south of where I was living and some of my friends drove several hours to witness the event. My astrophysicist son, Bryan, took a day out of his graduate studies to travel over five hours to observe the celestial occurrence. All returned attempting to describe the indescribable.

So, when the opportunity again presented itself on Monday, April 8th, I wanted to fully embrace the experience. Ten of us from the church traveled to Martha Dirks and her husband Michael Stein's cottage near Abercorn, QC. Despite all the descriptions and photos, nothing actually prepared me for the moment of totality. Involuntarily, I yelped in a mixture of awe and delight mesmerized by the sudden shift in reality.

This experience has left me wondering about the resurrection accounts found in the Gospels. These first disciples encountered an event that simply defied anything they (or anyone) had experienced before. All of their senses were engaged: they saw Jesus, touched him, spoke with him, ate with him. He breathed on them. And, yet, we read that their joy was infused with doubt and even fear.

What I learned standing in that field near Abercorn, QC, is that there are some things that we simply will never be able to grasp fully without the experience. But in this life, often the best we will ever be able to do is to accept the truths of the witnesses who came before us. The witnesses who observed day and night merge – who observed that death, even the most violent of deaths, is not final.

But for as amazing as the solar eclipse was, it was the small ordinary things that most marked this day for me. Generosity overflowed from every person who traveled together from our church to embrace this celestial experience as we were welcomed by Martha and Michael. We shared food and photos, hugs and laughter, awe and bewilderment. We stood in a sacred space supported by each other on this journey of faith. With these fellow pilgrims, we compared notes, checking and reassuring each other that this experience was real and not simply some optical illusion or a trick of the mind.

This, for me, is what it is to be part of the family of the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul. So often, I am gob-smacked as the Holy Spirit moves in and among us. Whether in the quiet of a Taizé service, the joyful clatter of preparing a meal for the Native Friendship Center, the grandeur of brass, timpani, and voices joined in the joy of Easter Sunday, or one of many meals we share in Kildonan Hall. This is a space to celebrate God's abundance as reflected by each person's hospitality and generosity of spirit. I thank each and every one of you for being a reflection of and a witness to the Almighty in my life.

A Few Words from Rev. Brasier

Associate Minister of Community Connections and Care









Ash Wednesday 2024

Associate Minister of Community Connections and Care





The Lenten season at The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul began, as it has for the past three years, with Ash Wednesday services. This year, we held a very traditional service at noon patterned after our Lenten Chapel Services. That evening, we opted to provide a Jazz Ash Wednesday Service.

The idea of embracing sacred Jazz music for the evening Ash Wednesday service grew out of one of Young Adult Ministry events. Open to the congregation, on December 8th, YAM invited Edward and April Ellington, along with a number of students from the McGill Schulich School of Music, for a "YAM Jam." They were joined by Jazz great, Charles Ellison. Throughout the evening, a reoccurring theme emerged from these professional Jazz musicians: that God's Grace is reflected in Jazz music. With this, we started to contemplate how we might harness the gifts of these wonderful musicians God had brought to our church in a way that would honour and praise our Lord.

The idea of Jazz music and Ash Wednesday might seem a little odd at first. After all, Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, and Lent traditionally is a time associated with fasting, praying, and alms-giving. For many Christians lent is a tangible opportunity to come face-to-face with our shortcomings and return to God's mercy in Christ.

But for those of us from a Reformation Theology, the purpose of Lent is not to suffer. Rather it is a time of renewal. This year, we invited our congregation to be about the building up of God's holy kingdom throughout the season of Lent. Instead of focusing on self-improvement, we asked our congregation to focus on community improvement with the goal of developing who we are together. With this objective, Jazz became the perfect musical motif. Jazz does something that many styles of composition do not do: Jazz teaches us how to be in community together. We live in a world that does not operate with a Jazz motif. We are operating in a motif where a composer has already structured everything that will happen. But we have to have a Jazz moment every once in a while, where the Spirit can show up and teach us how to celebrate each other's gifts and support each other's melodies. When you get tired or you lose your way, someone else is there to pick up the tune. Together we create something amazing when we let the spirit lead. When we look to what will benefit us as a community rather than what is in it for ourselves alone.



Much to our surprise, our evening Ash Wednesday service (which had very little promotion and was up against the hottest "date night" of the year, Valentine's Day) was remarkably well attended with approximately 60 people, mainly from the neighbourhood, joining us. Our Jazz musicians that evening included April and Edward Ellington, Tolu Olutayo, and Owen Tragash.

Rev. Susan Brasier,
Associate Minister of Community Connections and Care

Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

Associate Minister of Community Connections and Care

In the fall of 2022, as the world started to fully emerge from our COVID lockdowns and isolation, The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul began the task of reviving its Young Adult Ministry. Unlike other small groups at the church, our young adult ministry is frequently in a state of flux because of the transient nature of university students. Drawing as we do from two university communities, the young adults who come to identify A&P as their spiritual home often move after graduation. This offers a certain vibrancy but also requires on-going renewal.

After almost three years of social distancing, rebuilding this ministry proved to be a challenge. But A&P was not without resources. Sharon Dworzak's formidable work with this ministry before the pandemic shutdown proved to be a good foundation.

With a bit of experimentation, the Young Adults have developed a regular rhythm. Loosely structured, each month throughout the school year, this group undertakes five activities. First, they engage in a weekly Bible Study every Sunday afternoon. You will see them in the Iona Room or Rev. Susan's office discussing everything from "liberation theology" to "Jesus' socio-economic class." Sometimes, they use the time to just debate where to find the best bagels in Montreal.

Second, they venture into the city to explore Montreal. Hiking along the river, ice skating in Jean Drapeau Park, or visiting the Science Museum, they enjoy each other's company and the bounty of Montreal.







Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

Associate Minister of Community Connections and Care

Third, our young adults participate in a mission project. Sometimes, these are projects they develop and undertake themselves (such as when they created a week's worth of lunches for the Native Friendship Center – thank you for everyone who help them with this undertaking) or they support another project in the church such as the Youth Group's Coldest Night Walk. Sometimes these mission projects are as simple as helping the children with the Christmas Pageant.



Fourth, they gather at Susan's apartment to relax, to be loved, and to enjoy a home cooked meal. Signature to each of these meals are the loaves of Susan's homemade bread.

Finally, our Young Adults create a community meal for the congregation which they call "Culinary Crossroads." These meals started as a way for the students to share their cultures with each other. But it wasn't long before they opened their events to everyone in the congregation. These meals have had a variety of themes, everything from Louisiana Mardi Gras to Irish stews and Indian curries. It was out the Culinary Crossroads that "The Lunar New Year Celebration" and the "YAM Jam" developed.



In many ways, the Young Adult Ministry has become an incubator for projects and programs at A&P. For example, last January, several of the graduate students wanted to improve their French, but the demands of their course work make it impossible to participate in established French programs. With the generous help of several of our Francophone members, they stated a French Table. Every other Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. (just before Scottish Country Dancing), they gather in the Iona Room for a simple meal and a conversation in French. This project, which started with a small handful of people looking for linguistic help, has grown into a regular event hosting around 15 to 20 people each session – many of whom are new to the life of A&P.





Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

Associate Minister of Community Connections and Care







From March 3 through 6, our Young Adults headed north to Chalets Lanaudière near Rawdon for a four-day winter retreat. They had no internet or cell service at the chalet which proved to be wonderful for everyone. Each day had a theme: Sunday-peacemaking; Monday-awe; Tuesday-gratitude; Wednesday-forgiveness. They started each morning with a small worship service centered on the theme of the day. In the evenings, they reflected back on the theme. Rev. Susan brought several worship books. It wasn't long before the students were reading liturgies aloud to one another! Of course, they walked in the woods, climbed mountains, and played games.

These new-comers to the A&P community are becoming increasingly intertwined with the life of the church. For example, after the Easter service, a number of our young adults helped with communion clean-up and then sat down to a lunch in Kildonan Hall. Terry Dimter worked with the group to prepare this meal. Glenn, Margarita, and Susan served as hosts donating their Easter afternoon to be with these people who are so very far from home (a bit homesick) and helped them to feel that they have family here in Montreal. It was all the best of A&P's hallmark hospitality on full display. "I was hungry and you gave me food. I was a stranger and you invited me in."

Rev. Susan Brasier,
Associate Minister of Community Connections and Care





Music Department Updates

Jonas Apeland, Director of Music and Organist



Director of Music: Jonas Apeland



Musician & Conductor: Léa Moisan-Perrier



Organ Scholar: Áron Sipos



Choir Manager: Stephanie Manias

As we approach the end of the 2023-24 season for the A&P choir, we are looking back at a fantastic year filled with beautiful music and concerts. Here are a few highlights of the year:

Wine and Cheese Recital

On October 12th, 2023, the music department held a Wine and Cheese fundraiser recital in Kildonan Hall, featuring our talented choir singers performing solo pieces as well as a few choral gems with the whole choir. This evening was a fantastic start to the year, and it allowed the congregation to get to know our choristers in a different setting. Stay updated to catch the date for our next fundraiser recital in the fall of 2024!





Maison du Parc Benefit Concert

The Maison du Parc Benefit Concert of November 25th continued the fantastic collaboration between the A&P music department and the Orchestre Symphonique Montréal. The A&P choir performed Vierne's Messe Solennelle, for choir and two organs, conducted by Léa Moisan-Perrier, with Jonas Apeland on the great organ in the front and OSM organist, Jean-Willy Kunz, on the gallery organ in the back. The second part of the concert was the Requiem by Gabriel Fauré, conducted by Rafael Payare, with the A&P choir and Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal players' association.







Photos: Tam Photography

Music Department Updates

Carols by Candlelight

On December 15 and 16 we had our two Carols by Candlelight services. We had a full church on both evenings, and close to 1000 visitors for the Saturday service. The programme consisted of absolutely stunning music for a-cappella choir, and also music for choir, organ, brass and percussion. We of course also sang some of our most beloved Christmas hymns, with some incredible arrangements.





February Vigil

This year's Vigil was given to raise awareness of mental health issues. The Choir of St. Andrew & St. Paul, conducted by Léa Moisan-Perrier, performed works by Poulenc and a world premiere commissioned to the composer Cui Wei in collaboration with Kirsty Campbell, in collaboration and support of the Douglas Foundation. It was a very moving evening with beautiful music and touching prayers from our ministers Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt and Rev. Susan Brasier.



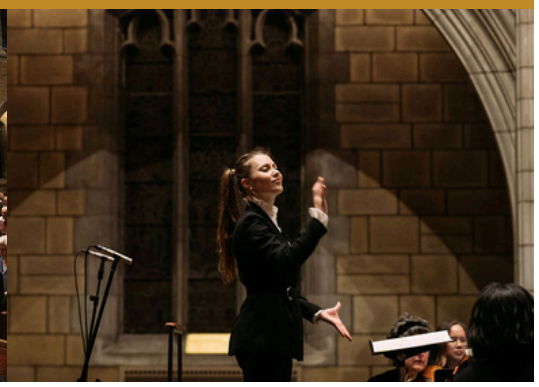


Good Friday Choral Service

For Good Friday this year, we performed The Messiah by G.F. Handel. Léa Moisan-Perrier did an absolutely incredible job putting this huge work together and led our choir and the orchestra masterfully. The soloists were all excellent singers from our own choir, and the orchestra was Ensemble Caprice, who played beautifully. We also welcomed a full church of people for this service and with a standing ovation afterwards.







Photos: Tam Photography

ORGAN INTERMEZZI CONCERT SERIES

While the choir season is over for now, there is another fantastic thing to look forward to this summer, and that is our annual Organ Intermezzi series! Like every summer, we will be hosting some fantastic musicians every Thursday in July and August at 12:30 p.m. The artists are all lined up, and it is a pleasure to share them with you.

July 4th: Rachel Schultz

Rachel is a doctoral candidate at McGill studying with Professor Isabelle Demers. She will perform a programme with a nod to the American Independence Day.

July 11th: Amund Dahlen & Kristine Klubben. Organ and trumpet

Amund Dahlen was actually the very first organ teacher of A&P's Director of Music and Organist, Jonas Apeland. Jonas started taking lessons with Amund in his hometown of Bergen when Jonas was just 5 years old. Amund is organist at the Catholic Church of St. Paul in Bergen, and will be performing a concert at A&P with Kristine Klubben, a trumpet player (who also happens to be Jonas' first English teacher in school!)

July 18th: Isabelle Demers & Jason Roberts. Duo organ

Isabelle Demers is one of the world's leading concert organists, and is also the newly appointed organ Professor at Schulich School of Music, following the legacies of Hans-Ola Ericsson and John Grew. We are thrilled to have Professor Demers play a recital at our church, alongside Jason Roberts, winner of the 2008 American Guild of Organists National Competition in Organ Improvisation and the 2007 Albert Schweitzer Organ Competition.

July 25th: Adrian Foster & Kimberley Lynch. Organ and soprano

Adrian Foster is a Montreal based organist, composer, and sound experimentalist. Foster is associated with McGill where he taught organ alongside Jonathan Oldengarm. He also happens to be married to Kimberley Lynch, who is a soprano in our own choir! We are very happy that Adrian and Kimberley will be giving a concert together.

August 1st: Jonas Apeland & Andrew Sords. Organ and violin

American violinist Andrew Sords will be doing a joint concert with Director of Music and organist Jonas Apeland for the first Intermezzi concert in August.

August 8th: Manuel Piazza

Manuel Piazza is Assistant Director of Music and organist at St. Thomas Anglican Church in Toronto. He studied at Yale and has worked in Truro Cathedral in the UK.

August 15th: Mária Budácová

Mária is the organist of Mission St. Irénée de Lyon in Montreal. She is well known and loved by all at A&P already, having played our organ on many occasions in the past. We are very happy to invite Mária to play again!

August 22nd: Maria Gajraj

Maria Gajraj is a doctoral student at McGill University with Professor Isabelle Demers. Maria is passionate about studying and programming works by historically underrepresented composers, such as composers of colour and women composers.

August 29th: Aron Sipos

The last concert of the series will be performed by A&P's own organ scholar Aron Sipos!

We are so happy to have had Aron with us this year, and we can't wait to hear him play the final concert of this year's Intermezzi series.

Jonas Apeland,
Director of Music and Organist

Fall Fair

Updates from 2023

The 89th Annual Fall Fair of The Guild of The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul was held on Saturday, November 4th, 2023. The Fall Fair started in 1935 to help the Montreal community during the Great Depression. This annual tradition continues to help our community and we are proud to have raised over $18,000 in 2023. Bravo!



The proceeds from the Fall Fair were allocated to thirteen organizations supporting diverse needs within the Montreal community. The breadth of social services that are supported is quite extraordinary.

Furthermore, we are also pleased to have donated many unsold items to Renaissance, a Quebec non-profit organization that promotes the social and occupational integration of people facing barriers to labour market entry, while encouraging everyone to take concrete action for the environment.

Renaissance serves the community through three missions: social, environmental, and economic. Working at, donating to, and shopping at Renaissance helps change the lives of thousands of people each year and protects the environment by diverting millions of kilograms of clothing and household items from landfills.





As always, this annual event is made possible by the many volunteers who help plan and execute this wonderful event. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!

Furthermore, we wish to thank all the wonderful donors of gently used goods and our team of skilled bakers who once again whipped up some delicious plum puddings and various delectable treats.

The Fall Fair's lunch was catered by our very own Ruling Elder Michael Cristofaro. Chef Michael and his team of volunteer choristers continued the tradition of serving a warm meal in the Iona room.

Finally, we wish to thank Diane Ellison for two years of wonderful leadership as Co-Convenor. Diane had the added challenge of leading the Fair after the pandemic shutdown. With her leadership, the Fairs have been a great success and we are well prepared for future events. We look forward to seeing her back as part of the Treasures team.

Heading into 2024, the Fall Fair will be once again co-convened by Eric Bolduc. Joining him as Co-Convenor is Audrey Anderson who has been actively volunteering with the Church in several capacities including having been a member of the Fall Fair's Trifles table.

Once again, we would like to encourage our fellow members and friends of the church to participate in this year's Fair. The tasks are endless, your talents are essential, and the reward is inexplicable - you must experience it!

The success of this project rests on the participation of all members of our church family.

The Organizations supported through the Fall Fair

Area	Name of Organization	What they do
Children	Generations Foundation	Provides food for children in poverty
Children	Montreal Children's Library	Empowering kids through learning & creativity
Homelessness	Chambreclerc	Housing for the homeless, people with addiction & mental health issues
Homelessness	The Open Door	Drop-in centre for homeless & low-income people
Immigrants	Maison Flora Tristan	Help, shelter for immigrant women & children
Mental Health	L'Abri en Ville	Housing and support for those with mental health issues
Palliative Care	St. Raphael Palliative Care Home and Day Centre	Operates a free palliative care home and day centre
Seniors	Prospect-Belvedere Services	Serves low-income seniors and men and women with mental and physical disabilities
Seniors	St. Andrew's Homes Foundation	Senior Support Programme & Residential Centre
Women	Auberge Madeleine	Shelter for homeless women
Women	Auberge Transition	Shelter for women & children suffering from abuse
Women	Elizabeth House	Support, housing, and education for young mothers
Women	Alima/Montreal Diet Dispensary	Nutrition and support for pregnant women & babies

Fall Fair

Updates from 2023

Why do we do the Fall Fair?

- Creates a sense of community for all at A&P
- Raises much-needed funds to help countless groups in the Montreal area
- Encourages us all to give a second life to some items in our homes
- Offers an occasion to work together with joy and laughter
- Continues a tradition that has been in place for over 85 years

How you can help:

- Donate gently loved items
- Volunteer to help prepare the week before the Fall Fair Saturday
- Volunteer to work at the Fall Fair on Saturday, November 2nd, 2024
- Spread the word amongst your friends and family to come and shop

What you can expect:

- Complete the training session for everyone involved (Saturday morning before the Fair)
- Much laughter and camaraderie amongst us working at the Fall Fair
- Meet new colleagues
- Share your talents
- Find some treasures that you may want to purchase for yourself or others
- Support from all the convenors to help guide you in your work that day

If you would like to become involved, please contact the Fall Fair Convenors: Eric Bolduc or Audrey Anderson at the following email: AandPFallFair@gmail.com. To donate to the Fall Fair, please drop off gently-used items at the main church office during operating hours. Should you need assistance, please contact the Church to arrange a pick-up.

Thank you for supporting the Church through the Fall Fair. We look forward to another successful Fair!

Eric Bolduc,
Fall Fair, Co-Convenor





Fall Fair

Updates from 2023









Communitas

Small Group Fellowship

Dr. Tara Wilke led a session on Social Emotional Learning at the first get together of a new small group ministry at A&P called Communitas. The group met at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 21st in the Session Room. There were 22 people in attendance. Tara's presentation was very well received. She had much to share in her genuine, sincere, humble, caring fashion and she gave those gathered an opportunity to interact with others in an exercise that revealed that we have much in common with folk who are part of our church community.

Tara left participants more aware of the fact that we have a great deal of positive power to effect the quality of our lives by being more self-aware as we go about our daily round, interacting with others in ways that could make relationships richer and more meaningful.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty and Jim MacKinnon,
on behalf of Ministry Committee



Dr. Tara Wilke

Three church groups unite to host an April Lunch & Learn at The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul

Kildonan Hall was the scene recently of a Lunch and Learn which featured guest speaker James Hughes, President and CEO of the Old Brewery Mission, the largest organization serving the homeless in Quebec. Mr. Hughes is one of Montreal's most dynamic and involved leaders in the area of community well-being and change. The purpose of Mr. Hughes' visit was to raise awareness within our congregation to the plight of the homeless in our city.

As well as being President and CEO of the Old Brewery Mission, Mr. Hughes is also Chairman of the Board of the Provincial Roundtable (PERT) and a former member of the Board of the Queen Elizabeth Health Centre and the National Council on Welfare. He is also a proud founding President of YES (Youth Employment Services). He is the recipient of the Goldbloom Award for service to Quebec's English-speaking minority and the Queen's University John Stirling Medal for his contribution to Montreal's most vulnerable citizens. Hughes is viewed as an outstanding example of selfless community leadership.

According to Mr. Hughes, there was a major increase in homelessness between 1993 and 2004 in Quebec and there has been a 30% increase since COVID-19. On a typical night, there are 5000 homeless people on the streets of Montreal and there are 370,000 on streets across Canada. Mr. Hughes' goals are to "rehouse" those who are homeless and to find solutions for those who are at risk of homelessness.

The Old Brewery Mission, established in 1889 as a soup kitchen, now provides a sanctuary for homeless people around the clock and throughout the year. Hughes contends that, "We need to get to know people."

Hughes ended his presentation with a video which poignantly demonstrated the joy of a number of the mission's clients as they move into their own living quarters. It was a moving finale to a well thought-out and a well-delivered address.

Mr. Hughes is the author of "Early Intervention" and the editor of both "Beyond Shelters" and "Ending Homelessness in Canada: The Case for Homelessness Prevention." Mr. Hughes writes on the back cover of the latter book, a copy of which will soon be housed in the Wylma Cobb Library:

More Canadians than ever lack a home. Almost every town and city now have homeless residents. Municipalities scramble to provide shelters, and local politicians debate whether to take action to end sleeping on vacant land and in parks. "Ending Homelessness in Canada" departs from the traditional Band-Aid approach. Contributors from across Canada share their experiences tackling the cause of homelessness and the solutions and practices that can be employed to prevent it.





The event was organized by a tripartite group within the church, The Guild, The Pastoral Care Committee, and The Ministry Committee, aided by The Communications Committee, which provided publicity for the event. Michael Cristofaro provided, in his usual manner, a scrumptious lunch assisted by the wonderful ladies of The Guild and their colleagues. Charles Lavergne graciously took photos during the afternoon. Deputy Clerk, Bruce Bolton, introduced our guest speaker; he was thanked by Clerk of Session, Michael Cristofaro. We offer thanks to the Reverend Dr. Glenn Chestnutt and to the Reverend Susan Brasier and also to Sandy Steadman, Miranda Huybers, Peter Sabourin, Stratsi Dimitrov, Jason Aumond, and Iain Lamont for their invaluable assistance. It was a combined effort and speaks to the New Testament passage in 1 Thessalonians 5:11, "Encourage one another and build each other up, just as you are doing."

It was a truly wonderful afternoon at The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul.

Respectfully submitted,

The April 14th James Hughes' Lunch and Learn Planning Committee

The Adventurous Autumn of Mission & Outreach's Twinning Sub-Committee

The Twinning Committee has been busy! First, a word about our name – we are called The Twinning Committee, because we "twin" for mutual support with the Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry (SNCM), We are also involved with learning about Indigenous issues in general, and participate in volunteer activities with Indigenous organizations in the Montreal area. We are a subcommittee of the Mission and Outreach Committee of The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul.



Denise Lord (left) helping to load the van with food from our kitchen, together with staff of the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal.

In the fall of 2023, 4 members of our congregation went to Saskatoon and volunteered at the SNCM, doing some repairs and painting – much appreciated by Dylon Nippi, the Executive Director there, and his team. Just before Christmas, we sent off about 10 boxes of warm winter clothing to the SNCM. Thanks to all who donated, and a special thank you to the Knitters of Neechiwagon whose lovingly handmade hats, mitts and scarves are a Christmas highlight for the SNCM.

We've also prepared and served 3 meals at the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal (NFCM) since November, 2023. These are major efforts – 10 to 20 volunteers prepare full, "from scratch" delicious meals for 100 people in the A&P kitchen, then take this food down to the Native Friendship Centre and serve it. Like everything we do, it is really a team effort – the staff at the NFCM are very helpful – including providing bison meat for us to include in cabbage rolls, making a "side" of beaver stew, as well as sending a van and sometimes the pots and pans for us to use. And we couldn't have done it without the wonderful people from the Young Adult Ministry (YAM) – thank you so much. More meals are planned, and we welcome volunteers.

Our upcoming activities include a Lunch and Learn on June 2nd (with speaker Kevin Deer on Indigenous approaches to sustainability and the environment), and our 3rd annual service of Truth and Reconciliation on Sept. 30th, 2024 (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, also known colloquially as Orange Shirt Day). We are also discussing a possible land acknowledgement statement for our church.



Maurene White (right) with other volunteers and staff at the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal, serving food.



Keith Randall and Rev. Susan Brasier painting a wall at the Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry.

Members of our committee are Rev. Susan Brasier, Wylma Cobb, Diane Ellison, Jill Foster, Gwendolyn Hallsmith, Margarita Medina-Ibáñez, Charlotte Lobaugh, Denise Lord, Judy Philpott, Joyce Pickering, Keith Randall, and Maurene White. We welcome other interested members!

Dr. Joyce Pickering,
The Twinning Committee

The Adventurous Autumn of Mission & Outreach's Twinning Sub-Committee



Friends of the SNCM Board after dinner. Top row - Rev. Stewart Folster, Margarita Medina-Ibáñez, Second row – Al Ireland, Rev. Susan Brasier, Bottom row – Keith Randall, Terry Folster, Patti Polowick, Sharon Nixon.



Celebrating a job well done - Edna Nippi, Margarita Medina-Ibáñez, Rev. Susan Brasier, Keith Randall.



Supper at the Native Friendship Centre.

The Adventurous Autumn of Mission & Outreach's Twinning Sub-Committee



The Dream Team packs up the boxes of warm clothing for Saskatoon.



Syndey McCrae and Emma Carlson serving at the NFC.



PCC Moderator Rev. Dr. Mary Fontaine and Rev. Susan Brasier.



"The trees of the field shall clap their hands."



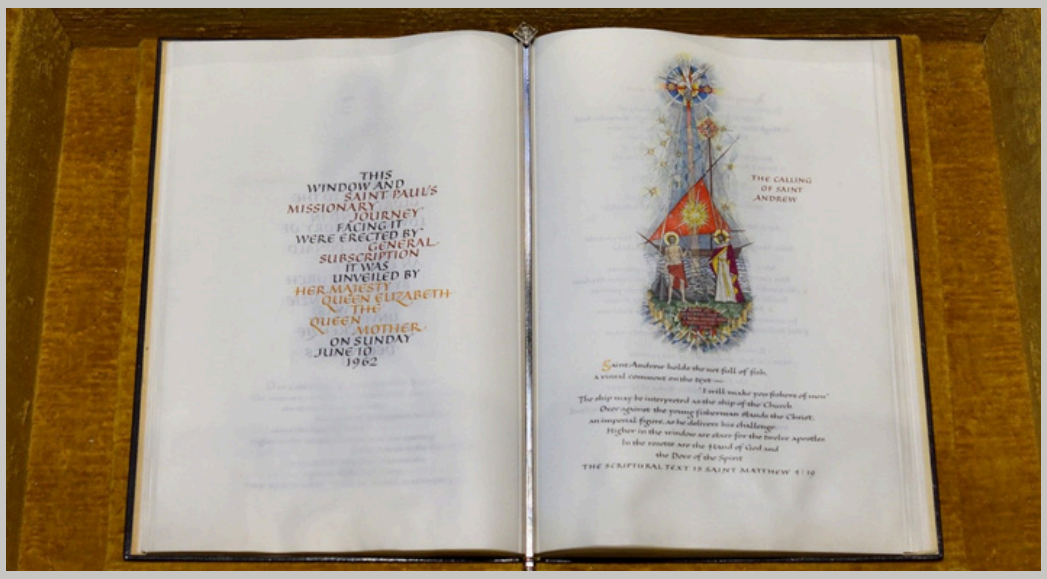
Kahnawake elder Don Barnaby.

The Book of Remembrance: Our Hidden Treasure

By Donna George

The year was 1967 and Canada celebrated its 100th birthday with unheard – of excitement and optimism. Over 50 million people visited the immensely successful Expo '67 World's Fair here in Montreal. It was a wonderful time for the city, though our Habs unexpectedly lost the Stanley Cup to the Leafs and Charles de Gaulle uttered inflammatory remarks from the balcony of our City Hall.

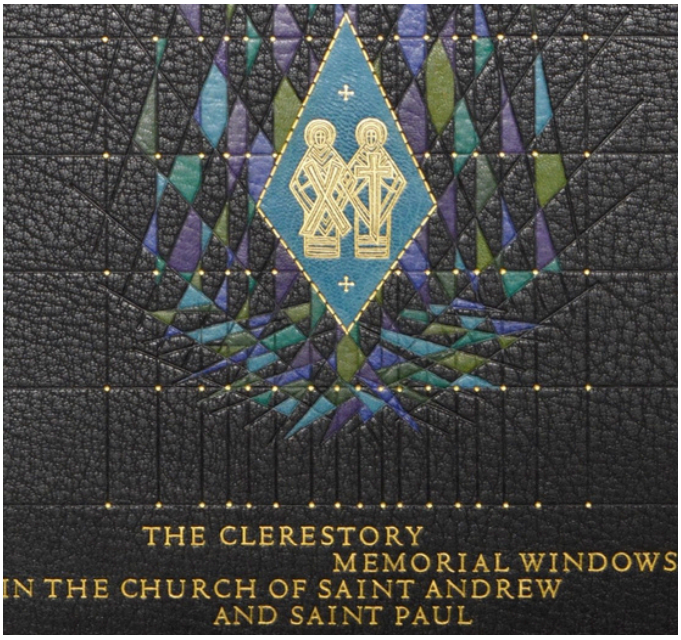
The Presbyterian Church in Canada chose The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul as its official Expo church. There were exhibitions in the Narthex and tours of the church, with special attention paid to the ten newly-installed clerestory windows. And on the first Sunday of December of that memorable year, a Book of Remembrance – the record of all the donors to this monumental project – was dedicated.



The manuscript opened to The Calling of Saint Andrew, the first window unveiled by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother on June 10, 1962.

The black, leather-bound book contained unimaginably beautiful images, innovative calligraphy and shimmering golden illuminations. All was written and drawn on the finest vellum – one calf skin per page. The donors had been promised a "handsome book," but our Memorial Book with its lengthy official title, *The Clerestory Memorial Windows in The Church of Saint Andrew and Saint Paul,* exceeded their wildest expectations.

Those of us who enter the church by the front doors or even those of us who arrive by the porte-cochère entrance seldom notice our hidden treasure. Few of us know that Peter Sabourin, the Church Officer, turns a page every week using a silver turner that looks like a small military sword. The Coffee and Conversation group that meets after service in the Memorial Tower often places coffee cups, purses, and backpacks on the glass top of the walnut case containing our priceless illuminated manuscript, unaware of its uniqueness and fragility.



A detail of the leather cover of the manuscript designed by bookbinder Peter Waters, husband of Sheila Waters.

The Book of Remembrance: Our Hidden Treasure

By Donna George



The Queen Mother's coat of arms.

In a new history of The Clerestory Memorial Windows of The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, discover how the Hon. G. Miller Hyde and a small committee assembled a Dream Team of artists and craftsman to achieve "Mission Impossible" – the financing and installation of all ten clerestory windows. Foremost among them was the renowned stained-glass artist Lawrence Lee who also painted the images of his windows in the Memorial Book. But the rising star of the team was a young calligrapher and illuminator Sheila Waters, now regarded – especially since her death in 2022 – as the world's "Queen of Calligraphy."

And for the first time, you will be able to examine every glorious page of our "Book of Remembrance" – the unofficial title of the manuscript. You will also learn from Sheila Waters' own words recorded in 2016 how she designed and executed one of her most important commissions. Discover delightful anomalies such as why the deer in "The Nativity" changes colour. Our prized jewel contains many surprises.

We will be launching a new book on The Book of Remembrance this fall. Look for updates on its publication in the Sunday bulletin, the Friday newsletter, and the church website.

Donna L. George
Heritage

Knitters for Neechewagon



'Knitters for Neechewagon' were again able to send 100 knitted sets of warm hats/scarves/mitts in a variety of colours and patterns to Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry in time for their Christmas Party this past year. All individually wrapped parcels went with the Twinning Committee's winter clothing shipment to SNCM at the end of November 2023.

BIG HUGS to Sharon Dworzak and the Youth Group who designed and printed greetings cards with a lovely message for inclusion in each parcel, bringing more "joy" to the most vulnerable.

As we had met our 'quota' for SNCM, all remaining knitted items were delivered to the Native Women's Shelter and to the Open Door here in Montreal. Our gifts were greatly appreciated by both agencies. Although knitters work from home and supply their own materials at no cost to the congregation, donations in kind, and any leftover balls of yarn which one may no longer need are gratefully received. This past year, congregants Jean Shettler and Maurene White gave us a generous supply of yarn, while others left no name for us to acknowledge. To everyone, thank you for your kindness and support!

Lastly, anyone who likes to knit or who would like to learn "how-to", would be most welcome to join us. Knitters get together on the first Wednesday of each month from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in church house, beginning March 8, 2024 (weather permitting).

Elizabeth Cuthill and Margaret Wallace,
Co-Convenors, Knitters for Neechewagon

How to Plan a Lunar New Year Party

By Aaron Law

Our second ever Lunar New Year celebrations wrapped up on Saturday, February 17. I say wrapped up, because even though our eighty-odd guests mingled with us in Kildonan Hall only from 6:00 till 9:00 that evening, our story actually began half a year before that.

If you're new to A&P, you will soon learn to love the hustle and bustle of our church. There's always something happening: concerts, weddings, movie shoots, Taizé services, Bible studies, all filling up our busy schedule. Once we squeezed our New Year party into the calendar, we looked to the next question: who do we want to invite? Last year, we were delighted to welcome Rev. Bien Chung from Taiwanese Robert Campbell Presbyterian Church. This year, we reached out to the Montreal Chinese Presbyterian Church, who graciously accepted our invitation. We also made open invitations to the student communities in the universities nearby.

We've figured out our who, when, and where. Now what? What are we actually doing to celebrate? Our team of four come from diverse backgrounds: Sophia and Shaoyi are Chinese, Siska is Taiwanese, and I am Hongkonger, and together we make up parts of the Chinese community at A&P. We have each celebrated the New Year differently in the past, and that means we each get to bring something unique to the table. Siska has a keen eye for decorating, and her husband Thomas is a seasoned calligrapher. Sophia has many artistic skills to showcase. Shaoyi, however, holds an important role. One thing our team has in common is our love for 餃子 (also called dumplings). As the expert dumpling maker, Shaoyi took up the task of making dumplings to supplement our potluck dinner.

The day of the party quickly approached. Siska and her daughter Yilin marvelously decorated Kildonan Hall with wreaths of red and gold. At 3:00 p.m., Sophia brought along her friends to help Shaoyi wrap the dumplings. They made sure to include vegetarian options for Srikanta, our vegetarian-in-residence. Our guests started arriving at 6:00 p.m. and brought with them their meticulously-prepared dishes. Paris tried her hand at MaPo Tofu, it turned out so well she cannot wait to make it again for her friends. People from all walks of life across the city found their way in, and the whole room bubbled up in conversation. As Monica later said to me, "The community is amazing, the hospitality, you really feel welcomed, this is something I would tell others about."





"The community is amazing, the hospitality, you really feel welcomed, this is something I would tell others about."

After our meal, it came time for us to share our culture. Sophia gave an amazing performance of Oceans, and if you are not in the choir, singing in front of a crowd is harder than you'd imagine! She also hosted the paper-cutting workshop, while Siska gave a masterclass on dumpling wrapping and Thomas wrote traditional Chinese couplets on request. We were supposed to take photos, and I like to think that everyone was so captivated by the fun activities we simply forgot!

How to Plan a Lunar New Year Party

By Aaron Law

I wrote a couplet myself too. It's a blessing that I like a lot: 摯人致仁. It can be interpreted two ways. The first goes as such: "The Son of Man has perfected love," Jesus has shown what it is to love God and neighbour. The other way to read it, is that "the faithful person tries to love." The couplet now finds itself sitting comfortably above Rev. Susan's radiator and under the cool shade of her ferns. I recall a conversation with Siska the Wednesday before the party. We were finalising our ingredient inventory and we started to worry: what if we prepared too much food, how would we take care of that? We couldn't possibly let it go to waste! And then it hit us: we are doing this in service of God's holy people. In the end, even with all the delicious food that was brought in, on top of the 400 dumplings we made, we had just enough to provide everyone with a filling meal. We get to be reckless with our generosity, and God will take care of what is to come. That Saturday night, we got to be those faithful people trying our best to love.

Aaron Law

Editor's Note:

The Lunar New Year celebration was made possible by the warm donation of our entire community who brought their talents and dishes to share. However three members of our congregation, Sophia Wang, Aaron Law and Siska Chen contributed financially. Without their generous contributions this celebration would not have been possible.





Thomas Chen at the calligraphy table.



Emma and her takeout blessing.

Stones that Speak, Part 2: The Narthex

From The Archives Committee

When The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul was built in the 1930s, its decoration benefitted from the theological guidance of The Reverend George H. Donald, V.D., M.A., D.D., minister of the Church from 1925-1945. He left us a wonderful booklet entitled “Stones that Speak” where-in he explains many of the icons, sculptures, and artifacts found in the sanctuary.



In the previous issue of Inside-Out, the Heritage Committee presented the 20 square cement inserts at the base of the clerestory window arches. This issue will look at the 8 icons above the doors in the Narthex with descriptions based on excerpts from the booklet.

On entering the Memorial Tower via the porte-cochère, two interesting symbols exquisitely carved will be found above the door. On the left is the **Fleur-de-Lis the lily flower,** the flower of the Iris plant. As the heraldic lily, it is supposed by some to have originally represented the Iris, and by others the top of a sceptre or of a battle-axe. It is best known from having been borne upon the royal arms of France under the old monarchy and is sometimes taken to denote the French flag (before 1789), or the French nation or government. The figure is also used as a heraldic sign on certain articles—as for example to mark the north of a compass. But in general, it is the lily flower which is emblematic of Him who was the Rose of Sharon, the Lily of the Valley, and is a well-known emblem of purity and innocence, and is the especial attribute of the Virgin Mary.

Next to it is the Seven-Branched Candlestick of the Book of Revelation, representing the seven churches burning bright and giving light to the world.

Seven is an ecclesiastical number. It is the number of perfection. Seven champions of Christendom — St. George for England, St. Andrew for Scotland, St. Patrick for Ireland, St. David for Wales, St. Denis for France, St. James for Spain, St. Anthony for Italy. Seven deadly sins—Pride, Covetousness, Lust, Anger, Gluttony, Envy, Sloth. Seven gifts of the Holy Ghost — Wisdom, Fortitude, Understanding, Knowledge, Counsel, Godliness, and the Fear of the Lord.

The number seven is frequently used in the building of churches and temples. Seven steps to the Holy Table, the Altar—and in setting stones seven in one way and seven in another. In the Book of the Revelation are the seven churches, seven spirits, seven stars, seven seals, seven angels, seven vials, seven plagues, seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Stones that Speak, Part 2: The Narthex

From The Archives Committee



Once inside the Memorial Tower, above the door, you will find an Angel with a **Trumpet** calling people to Worship, sounding the note of triumph and resurrection; and the **Crown of Thorns,** in the centre of which is the sign of the Pascal Lamb, the Greek letters X and P meaning Jesus Christ, and also considered to be a common representation of the crucifixion scene.



Just to the right of the previous two icons above the west doors to the sanctuary see the **Harp** of David, representing praise to God; and on its right the **Anchor** – emblematic of Hope. Hebrews 6:19 - *Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil.*



On the east side of the Narthex above the door to the sanctuary are two symbols — the **Burning Bush**, a symbol adopted by The Church of Scotland and also by other Reformed Churches many years ago, and emblematic of unending vitality – a bush burning but not consumed – "nec tamen consumebatur" – the church martyred and persecuted but ever on fire with zeal, undaunted and undying.

Beside the Bush is a carving of the Pelican and her young. The Pelican is often used as a Christian symbol in consequence of a story which relates that when her young had been bitten by a serpent, she tore open her breast and revived her brood with her own blood. The application of this symbol to the Saviour who shed His blood for the salvation of man is readily understood.

This sign also represents life continuing from generation to generation. It also symbolizes motherhood, the Pelican Mother sacrificing her own blood for the sake of her young. In heraldry the Pelican is shown with her wings "endorsed", raised behind her back, and wounding her breast with her beak — when thus represented in her nest she is called a "Pelican in Piety."

Margaret Suttie,
Archives Committee

Updates in The Quiet Garden

By Charles Lavergne

Along with the usual pruning, planting, and weeding, there were several interesting projects in the Quiet Garden this last year.

- The paving (uni-stone) of the main garden path was extended from the fountain up to the first terrace. Aside from the aesthetic value, this will improve the footing and reduce maintenance. We were lucky that the contractor who did the original paving was available to extend the walk (and he submitted the lowest bid). Thank you to the Property Committee for sponsoring this project.
- The Hutchison sundial had become shaded as the garden flourished around it, so we moved it to a brighter location along the newly paved main path. For those who are not familiar with the sundial, it is also a compass; if you are ever unsure which way is north, just drop by the garden and have a look. We are planning to install a bird bath in its former location, where birds can stop for a quiet drink. If anyone has a large bird bath that they are not using, we are accepting donations; and by the way, the garden regularly hosts a beautiful pair of cardinals. A big thank you to Jason and Peter who moved the sundial to its new location and built a solid foundation to receive it.
- A fountain, donated by Michael Cristofaro, was installed in the upper part of the garden, near where coffee and conversation takes place during the warmer months. The official unveiling is scheduled for this summer. Many thanks to Michael, Peter, and Jason who moved and installed the fountain, which was no easy task given that it weighs several hundred pounds, and rests on an equally solid foundation.
- Coming up this year, along with installing the bird bath that I mentioned, we will be replacing some cedars that were damaged over the winter, and maybe a hummingbird feeder. To top this all off, we will be working to improve the drainage system throughout the garden; and as always there will be pruning, planting, and weeding.
- I am sometimes asked when the garden will be done, and the answer is probably never. Gardening is a work in progress, evolving every year, and reflecting the many hands that have tended it over the last 20+ years and will tend it in the future.



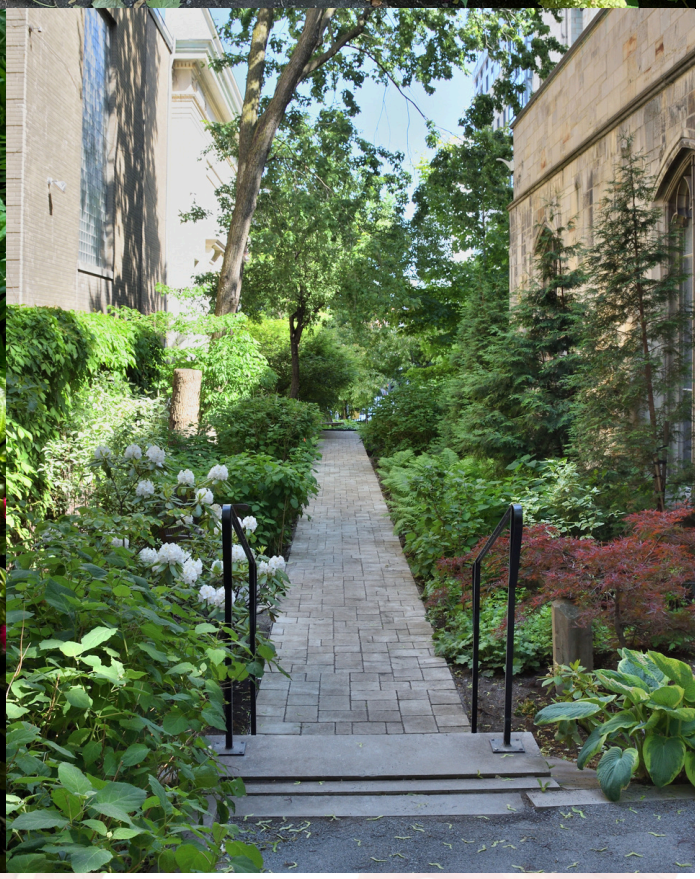
Updates in The Quiet Garden

By Charles Lavergne









Church School & Youth Group



Our Christian Education Department continues to thrive, thanks to the tremendous support of our Church School staff, parents, Ministers, Session, A&P staff, and wonderful members of our congregation. We continue to be blessed with enthusiastic children and young people, who have energized us all, throughout the various activities and events over the winter and into spring.

Since our last *Inside Out* Edition, our children and young people have been involved in many events including the Pumpkin Ball, which was organized and led by our Youth Group. The children had a fabulous time entertained by the Great Todsky as well as enjoyed many fun games organized by our Youth. Admission was non-perishable food items, which were delivered to the St. James Center.






On the weekend following the Pumpkin Ball, for many years now, our Youth Group has offered a helping hand in preparation for the Fall Fair, as well as cleanup after the Fair. They are always so willing to help out and somehow always manage to make it FUN!






Church School & Youth Group

One of the highlights of the year would be our Annual Christmas Pageant, this year dedicated to the late Ruling Elder Brian Merritt, who along with his wife Lucinda had directed the Pageant and who have both been avid supporters of the Pageant for many, many years. The offerings were donated to PWS&D in loving memory of Brian, a very passionate supporter of PWS&D. Following the Pageant was the Family Christmas Dinner attended by over 200 this year! A fabulous time of fellowship!



Another special service prepared and led by our Church School and Youth Group was the Family Christmas Eve Service. This service, led totally by our Youth, with the help of The Rev. Dr. Glenn Chestnutt, has grown immensely in popularity, with more and more attending each year. It is an interactive service, with visiting children invited to participate in the decorating of the Christmas Tree in the chancel – each ornament significant in the story of the birth of our Lord, Jesus. The service ends with a Happy Birthday tribute to Jesus and Birthday Cookies all!

Throughout Advent, our Church School families lit the Advent Candles during each Advent Sunday Service.











Church School & Youth Group

In February our young people raised over $4,000 in the Coldest Night of the Year Walk in support of the St. James Drop-in Center. This is a particularly special event for our young people, and we are delighted to have hosted the event for the second year. Twenty-five teams from across Montreal and outlying suburbs, gathered in Kildonan Hall before the walk, followed by a delicious dinner together after the 5 km trek was completed, in what really felt like the coldest night of the year! Thanks so much to the congregation for your continued support of this important event, which is held across Canada every year, in support of Canada's homeless community.













Church School & Youth Group

As Easter approached, Penni Clarke worked hard with our Church School and Youth Group in preparation for Palm Sunday, when they sang a beautiful song for the congregation. A favorite service of our Church School is Palm Sunday, when they parade in waving their palms – two of our young people also read the lessons during the service.

On Easter morning, our young people led the "Son" Rise Service with the participation of Rev. Susan Brasier and our Director of Music and Organist, Jonas Apeland. Truly a special service indeed, with attendance growing more and more every year. I truly commend these young people and the effort they put into the service, spending much of Saturday preparing, and then arriving before 8:00 a.m. on Sunday morning (which is pretty incredible for teens) to be ready for the 8:30 a.m. service! Following the service, everyone enjoyed a delicious pancake breakfast, prepared lovingly by Iain Lamont, who has been doing this for us for at least 15 years!

As well as preparing and enjoying events, the young people of our Church School and Youth Group enjoy each others company, having dinners together and particularly enjoyed an Escape Room Adventure!

Looking ahead, we invite all of you to attend our Mother's Day Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. on Mother's Day, as well as our Church School Celebration and Celebrating Fathers Luncheon on June 16th, in Kildonan Hall after the Service.

Also, if you know of any children ages 5-12 who would enjoy a Christian Summer Day Camp experience, we have a wonderful two-week Vacation Bible School Program, "Camp Firelight" planned for July 15-19 and July 22-26.

Although this has been a challenging year for our family, the love and support of the Christian Education community, as well as the tremendous A&P faith community at large, has been of great comfort and strength to me. Art and our children and I thank God for each and every one of you. Your concern, love and prayers has truly sustained us through some very difficult days.

God bless you all,

Sharon Dworzak,
Director of Church School and Youth Programs



Come to The Guild AGM & Spring Luncheon!

At The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, Spring is more than just the time for buds and flowers, birdsong and nesting, and longer and warmer days. It is also the time for the Guild's AGM and Spring Luncheon. The date is May 8th and everyone is welcome. Come to hear about the many exciting initiatives and events in which The Guild has been involved in the last year.



In addition to a delicious lunch, there will also be a guest speaker. Jonas Apeland, the church's organist Director of Music and Organist, will share a few thoughts as well as provide a musical interlude. Jonas comes to A&P with a wealth of talent, training, and preparation. He holds a Master's degree in organ performance from the Conservatoire National Superieur de Musique de Paris. He also spent an exchange year at the Schulich School of Music at McGill University during his studies at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo. He has been the Director of Music at St. John's Church in Bergen, Norway and substitutes as a conductor for the Oslo Kammerkor choir, one of Norway's leading vocal ensembles.



It will be a most enjoyable afternoon so mark your calendars.

The meeting will begin at 12:00 p.m. and lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m.



The doors will be open at 11:30 a.m. The cost is $20 payable at the door**. Please RSVP by Friday, May 3rd,** by contacting Edna Ralston at 514 288 9588 or ednaralston@bell.net

We look forward to seeing you and sharing the activities and highlights of the Guild's past year.

Judy Stewart
The Guild

St. Andrew's Seniors' Social

Ciad mile failte! A hundred thousand welcomes!

On Nov 23, 2023 the sound of the bagpipes and voices of seniors young and old wafted out of the doors of Kildonan Hall. **The St. Andrew's Seniors' Social,** hosted by The Guild, The Pastoral Care Committee, and the Senior Support Programme of the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Homes Foundation, welcomed everyone to an afternoon of Scottish music and delicious refreshments, including scones and jam, party sandwiches, and sweets. Gabriel Harris entertained with bagpipe selections, and our own Director of Music and Organist, Jonas Apeland, treated us to "My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose" and "Wild Mountain Thyme" on the piano. The Scottish Singalong began with "Scotland the Brave" and ended with "Loch Lomond" and everyone joining hands for a rousing "Auld Lang Syne."









During the afternoon tea, Tracy Petzke from the Foundation gave a brief presentation on the Senior Support programme and what it offers to our seniors. We had a lovely afternoon of fun and fellowship and look forward to more to come in the future!

Betty-Jo Christiani,
The Guild

The *Presbyterian Connection*

The *Presbyterian Connection* newspaper is distributed four times per year in print and electronically. Use the sign-up form on the website to subscribe to either format. An email notification will go out when each digital version is available.

The latest issue of the *Presbyterian Connection* newspaper, Issue 29, Spring 2024, was sent out to all congregations and subscribers in early March. This is another edition packed with amazing articles and photos from Presbyterian congregations, individuals and groups across the country. Visit the website to view more and sign up, at https://presbyterian.ca/presbyterian-connection/



2 SPRING 2024 PRESBYTERIAN Connection presbyterian.ca

MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR

Moderator Fall Visits

By the Rev. Mary Fontaine, Moderator of 2023 General Assembly

Many generous, hospitable and gracious Presbyterians in Montreal, Que., London, Ont., and the town of St. Marys, Ont., went out of their way to prepare for and accommodate the moderator's visits. They demonstrated respect for Indigenous culture by arranging for Sharing Circles and by making sure an Indigenous drum was available for worship. Some requested Hummingbird Ministries videos and presentations to learn more. This demonstrates a spirit of peacemaking with Indigenous people.

Presbyters have also introduced me to Indigenous elders and cultural keepers in their respective regions. Don Barnaby (Mi'kmaq), the Orange Shirt Day ceremony on September 30 and the worship service at A&P. As well, she hosted two restaurant dinners and put together a heartwarming homemade dinner, complete with homemade bread. But the hospitality team from A&P—including Gwen and Michael, Keith Randall, Maureen White, and many others—took me on tours and events.

Jill, whose ministry is healing and reconciliation, was my constant travelling companion, giving us the opportunity to share stories and much laughter. She organized the visit to the Montreal Friendship Center event, where I was introduced to Tom Dearhouse, an Indigenous leader. She also arranged the visit to the Communauté Chrétienne Siloé, a French-speaking Cameroonian Church, where we

The Rev. Mary Fontaine and the Rev. Susan Brasier at the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul in Montreal, Que.

Supporting Our Future – Legacy Gifts

On September 22, 1932, The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul was dedicated and opened. As described in "Saints, Sinners and Scots" written by our Minister Emeritus, The Rev. J.S.S. Armour, it was a very impressive service. The Moderator of the General Assembly was the preacher; there was a 70-voice choir, and 1300 people were in attendance (600 were said to have been turned away!)

The church was re-dedicated in 1982 using the same powerful words:

"I do now declare to be consecrate and for ever set apart from all profane and common uses
this House of God, The Church of Saint Andrew and Saint Paul in the city of Montreal in
the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Today, our Church is one of the few Protestant churches in Montreal providing a worshiping community with regular Sunday morning services, services for special events, an excellent choir, a thriving church school and activities for young people to name but a few! However, for some years now, the Church has been turning to its investment fund to help cover the expenses of these important ministries.

The basis of our present investment fund was several bequests totaling $2,300,000 which were received in the late 1970s and early 1980s. These generous bequests have been supplemented by additional bequests over the years and now you, the congregation, are being encouraged to support our future by making a legacy gift to the Church. This will not only help keep the investment fund growing, it may also reduce the income taxes payable by your estate. In other words, the income taxes saved by the bequest will benefit the Church!

Legacy gifts can take several different forms – the most common one is leaving a bequest to the Church in your will. Other forms of gifting can include donating appreciated publicly traded securities, making a gift of life insurance, or purchasing a charitable gift annuity. The website of The Presbyterian Church in Canada has a comprehensive list of the options available; to access them, click on "Home", scroll down to the bottom and click on "Stewardship"; and then click on "Planned Giving".

If you would like just a general discussion on the various options, please contact Don Walcot and/or Judy Mowat.



Easter Communion Service 2024



Earth Day Service 2024



Heritage Sunday 2024

The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul

A member of the Presbyterian Church in Canada

3415 Redpath Street, Montreal, QC H3G 2G2
Tel.: (514) 842-3431 Fax: (514) 842-3433
www.standrewstpaul.com
info@standrewstpaul.com

The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul was built in 1931-32. Two congregations, St. Andrew's founded in 1803, and St. Paul's founded in 1832, joined together in 1919. This is the Regimental Church of The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada, whose colours hang in the sanctuary. The church organ is a four-manual 1932 Casavant (completely rebuilt in 2000) with 112 ranks and 7000 pipes spread over eight divisions, located in the chancel and the gallery.