

RAPPORT

Mountainside United Church

4000 The Boulevard, Westmount, Quebec



May 24, 2009

A Summer Parable

Now it came to pass that, as the time of vacation drew near, a certain member of the Church bethought him of cool streams where fish are found, and his children thought of shady beaches by the sea, and his wife thought of mountains. And this member spake and said: "Lo, the hot days come and my work lieth heavy upon me. Come, let us depart and go where fishes do bite, and where the cool winds bring refreshment and the land is beautiful about us."

"Thou speakest words of wisdom," said his wife. "Yet four things must we do ere we go."

"Three things think I of, but not a fourth," said her husband; "that we ask our neighbour to minister unto our flowers, that we arrange for our grass to be mowed and watered, that we have our mail forwarded; but no other thing cometh to my mind."

"The fourth is greater than all," said his spouse. "Even this: that thou dig into thy purse and pay thy church pledge, in order that the good name of our church may be preserved, that the hearts of the finance Committee be made glad, and that it may be well with thee. For verily I say unto thee, thou has more money now than thou wilt have when thou dost return."

Children's Church closing and Picnic – June 14th

Once again we are planning our annual picnic to mark the end of the Children's Church year. Hotdogs, drinks, ice cream and water melon will be provided. If you're able, please bring finger food (sandwiches, dessert, etc.). Don't forget a sun hat and maybe a folding chair.

Weather permitting, we'll have fun and games for the children.

– Lynne Dawson

And the husband replied, "Verily thou art noble and wise among women." And he did pay his pledge for the summer and there was great rejoicing, saying, "Of a truth, there are those who care for the good of the Church." And it was so.

Dare we say, "Go and do thou likewise"?

P.S.: P.A.R. keeps me up to date.

– Rev. John

Baptism of Liam Robert Galli

The Galli and Fraser families celebrated a special Mother's Day on Sunday, May 10th, 2009, as Mountainside welcomed Liam Robert Galli by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Liam is the son of Carlo Galli and Shannon Fraser. His big sister Katherine was there to be part of this happy family occasion.



Farewell Luncheon for Joyce Schaaf

The congregation of Mountainside gathered for a celebration of Joyce Schaaf's "25 years plus" ministry with us. Joyce's focus has been in the area of pastoral care, and in this capacity has been both involved with many families over the years. Diane Harper and her team prepared and served a delicious buffet lunch for over 120 guests who came to be a part of this very special day. Joyce was joined at the head table by her family—Norbert, Heidi, Rodney and her nephew and his family.

Donna Fraser was Mistress of Ceremony for the occasion. Reverend John spoke of his years working with Joyce and how much her creativity was going to be missed.

Dorothy Sutherland presented a teddy bear which Joyce had to dress with all of the clothes knitted by the Monday group. Since teddy bears have been so much a part of the pastoral care team's work, this was a very special gift. Berneice Fielding had assembled a



scrapbook with the various pictures, poems and other memories which members had been asked to submit. Presentations on behalf of the congregation were made by Colin Spencer and Elva Crawford, Chair of Session.

We all wished Joyce the very best in her retirement !

March 5, 2009

Dear Friends,

How can I say the right words to thank you for the wonderful party and gifts that I received on Sunday, March 1, celebrating my retirement. Everything was so lovely and I felt a special kindness and caring that my family and I so appreciated.

The Memory book was filled with such wonderful mementos that I shall also cherish along with the clock of appreciation. The 'gift purse' will be well used on Heidi's Birthday Cruise.

I have had a great journey with you all and may God bless and keep you.

Always in friendship,

— Joyce

PROJECT: ENGLISH FOR NEW CANADIANS

Are we proud??!!

This project ran for 12 weeks in the fall and 12 weeks in the winter. The second phase was a great improvement over the first, as we had learned a lot.

Refugees, through Montreal City Mission's Project Refuge, were invited to supper at 6:30 p.m. and then one and a half hours of English lessons. We hosted an average of 30, mostly Haitians and Africans, each evening.

As our confidence and admiration for these young people grew—mostly young men in their 20s and 30s—and their trust in us grew, these conversations became easier. Also the meal became simpler—a hearty soup, bread and cookies for dessert.

What did we learn from them?

- That our oranges and mangoes just don't taste as good as those back home—off the tree in their back yard.
- Salad wasn't popular—they don't eat leaves.
- They are not used to a big dessert—perhaps that is why they have such beautiful teeth.
- Their favourite traditional meal is "journoux", a mixture of rice, beans, corn and squash.
- How important their grandmother is—she is the one who raised them. They can never go home. They hope to bring some family members to Canada if they can, but they regret they will never again see their grandmothers.
- They want to stay in Quebec even though Quebecers don't understand their mother tongue—Creole—and they have trouble with the French Canadian accent.

Dates to Note



- Nov. 1** Outreach Sunday
- Nov. 7** Fall Bazaar, 10:00am – 2:00pm
- Nov. 29** Christmas Dinner for the Shut Ins
- Dec. 6** A Christmas Celebration Carol Concert, 4:00pm

Summer Day Camps

Inner city families need your financial help to send their children to a stimulating day camp this summer. Our congregation contributes towards paying for children to attend Camp Cosmos (Montreal City Mission), the Côte-des-Neiges Council of Churches' camp and Saint Columba House camp. If you choose to make a donation, please make out your cheque to MOUNTAINSIDE UNITED CHURCH and label it for "summer camps". We can make a difference in a little person's quality of life!

– *Outreach Committee*

- 85% of the population of Haiti is illiterate, 100% speak Creole. Parisian French is only learned at school by the 15% who attend.
- They want to learn English to broaden their job opportunities.
- How lucky we are to be Canadians.

As political refugees many had bribed their way onto planes and boats to escape imprisonment and the danger of being killed. They arrived in Canada with nothing, including no identity papers. After a few weeks in refugee detention they had to find other individual accommodation. They are given a government welfare allowance while their case is reviewed. Our evenings provided them with a chance to meet friends as well as learn English.

Henry Aubin added, "The teaching experience brought home to me how ragged Quebec's system of orienting newcomers is. Many of the refugees did not know Montreal was on an island, where the rest of Canada was (they marveled at a map I brought in) or what this passion called hockey is. I think that in addition to the language training and socializing that the program offered, it also provided some badly needed orientation."

By the end of March we felt very connected. Sheila McDonough summed it up on the last evening by saying, "I just want to adopt them all and take them all home."

Student in Ministry — Philip Read

SEPTEMBER '08 TO APRIL '09. During this time we were delighted as a congregation to have with us Philip Read, Student in Ministry. We benefited from his enthusiasm, his dedication and, most of all, commitment to his faith.

Alas, April 19th arrived, the last Sunday Philip would be at Mountainside. Following the Service we shared a cake with Philip and Aimee at coffee hour and made a presentation to Philip of a Blue Advent Stole with Lamb and Cross.

On May 6th, Mountainside was privileged to host the Convocation of United Theological College when Philip and a second student, Cathy Hamilton, each received the degree of Master of Divinity and Testamur. A reception, sponsored by Mountainside, followed the ceremony where a great buzz of conversation was heard in acknowledgement of the accomplishments of the students, and a welcome to our Honoured Guests, in particular, the recipient of an Honorary Doctor of Divinity, Faye Wakeling.

In summary, it was a very good year!

– *Elva Crawford*



Dear Friends:

Convocation 2009 may be over, but as a community we have been left with some very powerful memories.

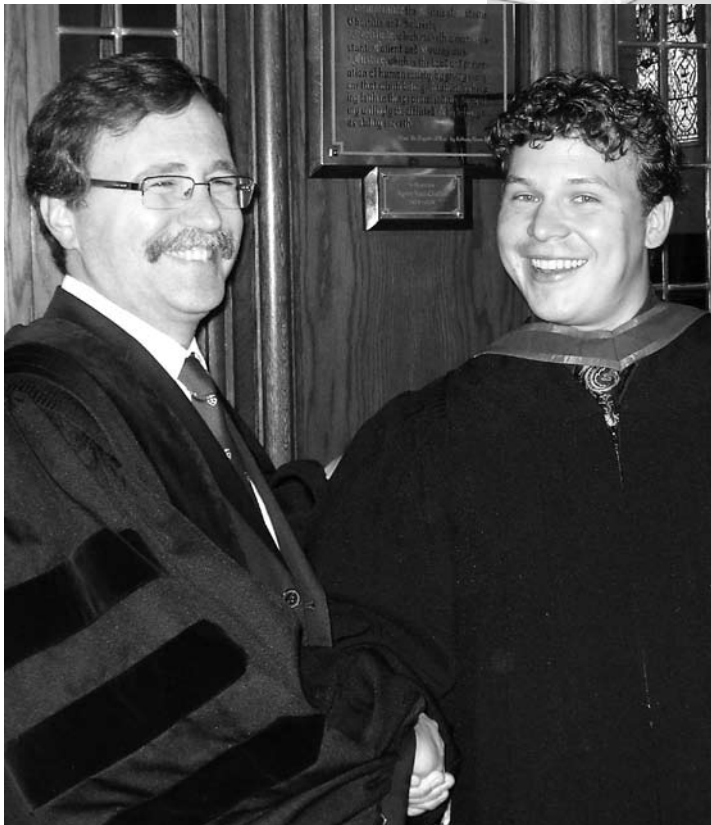
We have had many calls, notes and e-mails from students and friends to express their appreciation for Convocation. But the reality is that no matter how carefully we plan, a huge part of the success of this event depends on the work and the hospitality of the hosting congregation.

Mountainside came out in force to strengthen our numbers, cheer on our students, honour our DD, Dr Faye Wakeling, and express your love for Philip. It made for a great occasion of celebration. Thanks as well for a fine reception following the service. Your welcome and your support mean a great deal to us.

Thank you so much.

Shalom.

– *Phil Joudrey*
Principal, UTC



Dr. Walter C. Lloyd-Smith

April 25, 2009

Family, friends, colleagues and members of the Mountainside community gathered in the sanctuary to remember and celebrate the life of a devoted husband, father, surgeon and dedicated church supporter. "Walter was blessed with a spiritual gift, extraordinary generosity, and creative and skilled hands which he used faithfully in fixing and healing." Walter's father, Rev. A. Lloyd-Smith, served as minister of Dominion-Douglas Church for over 25 years.

Walter was a fierce presence in his determined support of Outreach projects. He was the outspoken critic when support seemed to lag for Mission and Service or for The United Theological College, two causes close to his heart. Just one week after his funeral, Walter was honored at the convocation of UTC, which took place at Mountainside. The first Lloyd-Smith Memorial Award for Mission Social Outreach was dedicated and then presented to Mountainside's in-year ministry student Philip Read. We know that Walter would have been very proud.

We will all miss you, Walter.



Contributions Towards Hosting Convocation

Please find enclosed my contribution towards the gift for Philip Read and the expenses incurred in hosting the Convocation of May 6th.

Tear off and return to MOUNTAINSIDE UNITED CHURCH. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Report from Session: Discussion Helps to Make Decisions

Have you, as others in the congregation have, read “The Emerging Church, A Model for Change and a Map for Renewal” by Bruce Sanguin? For some, the take away message is not about following his ideas slavishly but to read the book and allow the ideas presented to form a basis for discussion in renewal at Mountainside United.

On January 29th at the meeting of Session, the members divided into three groups and devoted the time to imagine a Mountainside of the future. The discussions were interesting and revealed that the core values of the congregation would remain but aspects in areas of our present and future programmes, social and welcoming, inclusiveness, community connections, becoming technologically savy, all needed to be reviewed and examined.

As a follow up on April 23rd, having reviewed the data from January, the Session approved a small committee to meet and describe a job description for a position to be called “Congregational Coordinator”. Coordinator would be defined as a person who will coordinate Activities and Ministries within and beyond Mountainside through personal contact, the use of modern technology and other appropriate resources.

To broaden the discussion, take a few minutes to imagine one possibility. Fewer Committees and more Ministries where someone is willing to say:

I will offer my expertise/talents/skills/time to contribute to the work of the Church if I do not have to attend Committee meetings and I could do:

- a Ministry in phone calls to shut-ins
- a Ministry in cards, notes for follow up of Baptisms, Anniversaries
- a Ministry in kitchen inventory

Broaden the list from your imagination. Imagine a Mountainside in 2012.

Hope to hear your ideas. Forward to: elva@mountainside.ca



A Note from Liturgy and Learning

We look forward to good weather June 14th for the annual Church Picnic. This will also mark the end of the Children’s Church and the Mountainside Youth Group for the season. For their work with the young people and young adults we again express our gratitude to Lynne Walkling, Lynne Dawson, Susan Salvati, Vanessa Rodrigues and Cordell Henebury.

Rev. John will be away June 21st. In his place Susan Winn has graciously accepted our invitation to speak that day. She is an Anglican lay minister who grew up and was married in this church, and whom we had the distinct pleasure of hearing two years ago.

Those special, intimate summer-Sunday services in the Chapel will begin June 28th and extend through July and August. Beginning June 28th

and for the four Sundays in July while John is on vacation, there is an opportunity for members of the congregation to lead the worship, and while it’s true that there are a number of ‘regulars’ who enjoy this, if you are interested or have in mind someone with an appropriate message to share, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Church office.

All will agree that the dimensions of our liturgy and learning this year at Mountainside have been greatly enriched by the presence among us of our In-ministry Year student, Philip Read. His time with us will not soon be forgotten. Our best wishes go with him and Amy in their new Calling.

– Alan Greig
Chair, Liturgy & Learning

Finance Committee

Here is a snapshot of 2009 at Mountainside United as of April 30, 2009.

REVENUE

Givings	\$58,640
Fund Raising & Donations	5,279
Cost Recovery	6,405
Other	1,580
TOTAL	71,904

EXPENSES

Salaries and Administration	\$96,337
Program	24,630
Outreach	10,177
TOTAL	131,144

Excess Expenses over Revenue – \$59,240

In 2008, Mountainside had 353 members of which 170 households contributed. Although the average gift was \$1,182, some households gave as much as \$6,000. Gifts were also made by adherents and visitors.

Report from TM2



We are now gearing up for our yearly concert/fundraiser, the **Spaghetti Supper**, which will take place on **Thursday, May 28th** here at Mountainside in Tees Hall, starting at 6:30pm. TM2 will be performing songs they have chosen

themselves and have been working on throughout the year. Tickets cost \$8 for adults, \$5 for kids and \$20 for a family, and will be available every Sunday at coffee hour in Tees Hall until May 24th.

As many of you have seen, TM2 is a whole new crop of faces from the original founding group, and this year they have really come into their own, and have achieved their own unique bond as an ensemble. Since our last update, TM2 performed at the Mardi Gras Pancake Supper here at Mountainside in February, and were recently invited to provide the music for morning worship at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Lachine, where they were very enthusiastically received.

We will wrap up this very successful and rewarding year on Sunday, June 14th with our usual youth-oriented church service and picnic. As this year draws to a close we would like to thank the parents, staff and congregation for their continued support and encouragement, and we are looking forward to another great year of TM2!

– Vanessa Rodrigues
Youth Music Director



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC PROGRAM

On Easter Sunday, April 12th, Mountainside was happy to host members of the musical ensembles of Churchlands Senior High School of Perth, Western Australia, who participated in the morning service. The school's chamber orchestra accompanied the choirs of Churchlands High School and Mountainside Church in an anthem presentation of the Gloria from Schubert's *Mass in G Major*. The congregation was also treated to part of a Bruckner string quartet during the offertory and an Australian folk song at Coffee Hour.

The final concert of the Concerts Plus 2009 season took place on Sunday afternoon, April 26th. The chamber orchestra of FACE School joined the choir of Mountainside to present the *Mass in G Major* by Schubert and the *Pergolesi Magnificat*. Solo and orchestral repertoire completed the program. The concert was well received by our congregation and by families of the visiting FACE musicians. The Concerts Plus committee hopes that we can welcome this ensemble back to Mountainside again next year.

Once again, please keep the evening of **Tuesday, July 7th**, free for the **50th anniversary celebration of our Beckerath organ**. In collaboration with the McGill Summer Organ Academy, Mountainside will host an anniversary concert given by Michael Radulescu of the Vienna University of Music and Performing Arts. Mr. Radulescu is an organist who has taught at master classes around the world. He is also well-known as a conductor and a composer.

Date to remember: A Christmas Celebration of Music will take place on Sunday, December 6th at 4 p.m.

– Margaret de Castro



MAY – OCTOBER 2009

MAY		
May 24	7th of Easter	Montreal Children's Choir Concert, 4:00pm
May 24		Rapport distributed
May 25		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
May 27		Spring Pastoral Care Luncheon
May 28		Trustee's meeting, 3:00pm
May 28		TM2 Spaghetti Supper, 6:30pm
May 31	Pentecost Sunday	Communion
JUNE		
June 1		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
June 7	Trinity Sunday	
June 8		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
June 11		Session Executive Meeting, 7:30pm
June 14	2nd after Pentecost	Children's Church Closing / Church Picnic
June 15		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
June 21	3rd after Pentecost	
June 24		church office closed for St. Jean Baptist
June 28	4th after Pentecost	Summer services begin in the Chapel at 10:00am
<i>June 28</i>	<i>to August 1</i>	<i>Minister on holiday</i>
JULY		
July 1	Canada Day	Church building closed
July 5	5th after Pentecost	Summer services begin in the Chapel at 10:00am
<i>July 6</i>	<i>to July 31</i>	<i>Church building closed except on Sundays</i>
July 12	6th after Pentecost	Service at 10:00am in Chapel
July 19	7th after Pentecost	Service at 10:00am in Chapel
July 26	8th after Pentecost	Service at 10:00am in Chapel
AUGUST		
Aug. 2	9th after Pentecost	Service at 10:00am in Chapel with Wesley United
Aug. 3		church office re-open
Aug. 9	10th after Pentecost	Service at 10:00am in Chapel with Wesley United
Aug. 16	11th after Pentecost	Service at 10:00am in Chapel with Wesley United
Aug. 23	12th after Pentecost	Service at 10:00am in Chapel
Aug. 30	13th after Pentecost	Service at 10:00am in Chapel
SEPTEMBER		
Sept. 6	14th after Pentecost	Service at 10:00am in Chapel
Sept. 7	Labour Day	Church building closed
Sept. 10		Session Executive Meeting, 7:30pmm
Sept. 13	15th after Pentecost	Service at 11:00am, in the Sanctuary
Sept. 13		Children's Church Registration
Sept. 17		Choir practice, 7:30pm
Sept. 20	16th after Pentecost	Rally Day – Children's Church begins
Sept. 21		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Sept. 24		Session Meeting, 7:30pm
Sept. 27	17th after Pentecost	Service at 11:00am, in the Sanctuary
Sept. 28		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
OCTOBER		
Oct. 1		Choir practice, 7:30pm
Oct. 4	18th after Pentecost	World Wide Communion
Oct. 8		Session Executive Meeting, 7:30p.m.
Oct. 11	19th after Pentecost	Thanksgiving Sunday
Oct. 12	Thanksgiving Monday	church building closed