



# ***RAPPORT***

## **Mountainside United Church**

**4000 The Boulevard, Westmount, Quebec**



**September 7, 2008**

### **Mountainside United Church New Canadians Project 2008**

#### ***Beginning in September!***

Our mission area as a member of the Cote des Neiges Council of Churches is a multi-cultural, multi-lingual corridor to the north and east of our church along Cote des Neiges Blvd. between Westmount and Town of Mount Royal, with a high population of new Canadians, be they landed immigrants, refugees or visa students. These new Canadians are often isolated from the wider community because of linguistic and cultural barriers.

The decline of English language education and services in Quebec for newcomers to Canada offers us an opportunity to begin sharing our heritage and fellowship to the growing population of new Canadians in our mission area interested in learning English in a community setting.

With joint funding from the **Montreal Presbytery** and in conjunction with the **Montreal City Mission** refugee program we are beginning in September to share our community gifts of fellowship, language and faith with those interested in this kind of cultural integration.

**English as a Second Language** instruction will be offered Tuesday evenings in the Sunshine room for twelve weeks from **Sept. 16 to Dec. 2**. A community barbeque is planned as a 'get to know one another' start-up event. The exact date has not been set as of writing. People are asked to sign up to share fellowship and discussion on the theme of each lesson. Some sort of soup or muffin and coffee is envisioned as part of the sharing time of each evening.

Mr. Richard Asare from the Montreal City Mission will coordinate the new Canadians' side while we will be responsible for hosting, fellowship and underwriting the E.S.L. expense.

More information will be forthcoming shortly.  
Sign up sheets will be up soon.

It is great to be an English speaking Protestant Church in Quebec. This is one of the ways we show it. This is **one of the ways we take Christ into the world.**

*Rev. John Forster*

#### ***Are You a Coffee Drinker?***

Did you know that the Outreach Committee started selling fair trade coffee in mid-May? We were pleased with the congregation's response and hope to continue in the fall. There are many varieties of coffee available (including decaf), in one-pound bags, as beans or ground to suit your coffeemaker. This coffee is being used at Sunday coffee hours now.



Why are we doing this? It is a fundraiser for Montreal City Mission and Saint Columba House. Look for our table at coffee hour in early September. A tasting session will be organized for October.

*Your Outreach Committee*

### **Mountainside to Welcome an "In Ministry Year Student"**

In September Mountainside United Church will welcome Philip Read, a theological student who will spend September to May with us as a part of his final training year at United Theological College. He will be with us ½ time (20 hours a week) and will be supervised by Rev. John Forster. We look forward to his time with us.

## BAZAAR ALERT



### JARS, JARS, JARS

This is the season to make jams, jellies and pickles, and the cooks all need jars. The most appropriate are the mason jars, especially the 250 ml. size, but also 125 ml., 500 ml. and even larger ones. For those of you not actively jamming or pickling, please bring your empty jars to the church and leave them in the kitchen for Miriam Tees. If you are jamming or pickling and need jars, let Miriam know at 514-934-0262, and she will try to supply you.

IT'S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT -- ARE YOU READY ???

*CHRISTMAS*

**SATURDAY - - NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**BAZAAR - GARAGE SALE - FLEA MARKET**

**WE NEED YOUR JAMS - JELLIES - RELISHES**



**CLEAN OUT THOSE BOOK CASES**



**BRING US ALL OF YOUR TREASURES FOR  
THE TREASURE TROVE**



**ART WORK & FRAMES**



**ALL NEW GIGANTIC UPSCALE GARAGE  
SALE AND NOT SO UPSCALE FLEA MARKET**

## Money for Myanmar

On May 2-3, Myanmar (Burma) was struck by the worst Asian cyclone since 1991, triggering a storm surge and flooding in highly populated areas. More than 100,000 were killed and one million displaced. The United Church immediately launched an emergency appeal for donations.

Mountainside United Church raised \$430 which was then forwarded to this fund. The United Church has assured congregations that 100% of donations received will be committed to relief and reconstruction in Burma.

*Julie Dawson  
Treasurer*

### **FUTURE DATES TO NOTE:**

- >> **Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Community Dinner, 4:00p.m.
- >> **Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>** A Christmas Celebration Carol Concert, 4:00p.m.

## FALL RENEWAL

On returning from the summer hiatus one felt excitement in the air. There was a sense of renewed vitality and excitement coming from both the new and exciting things in our environment and the new projects we anticipate unfolding in the months to come:

- the new "brightness" at the entrance and lighted corridor, Lansdowne side entrance
- a new telephone system, with seven new phones and one to be added in our big kitchen in due time
- we can listen more attentively with a new sound system
- the opportunity of having a student in Ministry starting in September
- an interesting and collaborative approach with Montreal City Mission for a New Ministry Initiative for Immigrants with a goal of assisting them to integrate into their new surroundings
- and **ALL** the programmes and activities outlined in other areas of Rapport in which we look forward to participating with renewed energy, support and spirit.

*Elva Crawford  
Chair of Session*

## HENRY AUBIN, MOUNTAINSIDE AUTHOR

Many of you will remember Henry Aubin's fascinating book, *The Rescue of Jerusalem: The Alliance between Hebrews and Africans in 701 BC*, which was published in 2002. Now Henry has written a new book for the 12 to 15 age group entitled *Rise of the Golden Cobra* which has just won two awards: it has been named an Africana Book Award Honor Book, and has also won the Silver Nautilus Award. It is published by Annick Press in Toronto.

The book tells the story of the conquest of Egypt in 728 B.C. by King Piankhy of Kush or Nubia, a territory that is now northern Sudan, and it is the first in a series of novels based on Henry's earlier book.

Henry says, "I got hooked on this little-known period during my stint as a Sunday-school teacher. An allusion to a Kushite military expedition in 2 Kings 19:9 piqued my curiosity to know more. I'll always be grateful to Julie Dawson for talking me into teaching!"

Congratulations, Henry.

Interest Group  
Wednesday, October 8 - 1:30 p.m.  
Speaker: John Crawford



### The Galapagos -a Place Like No Other-

Located only 1000 km from Ecuador's coast is the Galapagos archipelago. These Enchanted Islands have been a magnet for naturalists, adventurers and travelers since their discovery. Join us for pictures of sea lions at play, birds that no longer fly, and giant tortoises.

**FALL TOUR** MOUNTAINSIDE UNITED

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 30**

**8:00am-5:30pm**

**VIEW THE 1000 ISLANDS  
FROM A TOUR BOAT**

**\$65.00 PER PERSON**

**ALL INCLUSIVE  
BUFFET LUNCH ON  
BOARD**

**INFO: 514-486-1165**



## Liturgy & Learning

It has been an interesting summer! Certainly drought has not been a problem, with the lush and ubiquitous green all the more beautiful in those rarer moments of bright sunshine.

The annual picnic in June was a great success with good weather and good attendance. Special thanks to Maria Dizon and friends for the fabulous food! June ended at Mountainside with a spirited service led by a choral group from the St. Thomas United Methodist Church of Manassas, Virginia.

It has been another wonderful season of intimate summer-Sunday services in the Chapel, and our gratitude goes to Joyce Schaaf, Susan Salvati, Sheila McDonough and Margaret de Castro for their leadership in worship during July while Rev. John was on vacation.

We look forward now to a busy and stimulating fall at Mountainside United Church, again fortunate to have Susan Salvati, with the help of Debbie Zemnickis, assuming overall responsibility for the MYG (Mountainside Youth Group), and Judy Johnston, Lynne Dawson, Lynn Walkling and Laura Dizon for the Church School, with the continuing assistance of Vanessa Rodriguez and Cordell Henebury. The start of Church School on September 21 follows Registration the preceding two Sundays.

With best wishes to all for the fall season,

Alan Greig  
Chair, Liturgy & Learning

# The Saint Andrew's Chapel at Mountainside United Church

## A Brief History

In September of 1984 the decision to amalgamate Dominion-Douglas Church with St. Andrew's Church was made by both congregations. A new name was chosen and Dominion-Douglas' building was selected to be the home of the new congregation. There were extensive renovations to be done and worship took place during that fall in the St. Andrew's building. One of the key renovations was the construction of the chapel, which was to be a



symbolic part of the amalgamation. It very closely duplicated the existing chapel at St. Andrew's.

The chapel was constructed at the Lansdowne entrance from rooms formerly used as the crib corner. Jim Girvan, a member of St. Andrew's, was instrumental in the design and was closely involved with the completion of the work. The chapel was designed to reproduce as closely as possible the appearance and spirit of the chapel at St. Andrew's.

When St. Andrew's was rebuilt after a devastating fire in August 1965, the style was distinctly contemporary with the one large 30 foot high stained glass window dominating the south wall of the sanctuary. The "Angel of Peace" window was designed and executed in the Montreal studio of Theo

Lubbers, a well-known stained-glass artist. The theme of the window, "Victory of Good over Evil," was portrayed by the Angel of Peace holding the cross of victory and a dove with a palm branch in its mouth. A giant sunburst symbolized life and rebirth while the lower panels of flowers and vegetables represented life persistently seeking light and truth. Although these beautiful windows were not able to find a home as an entity after the church was sold to Selwyn House School, many of the panels were sold off individually. The windows from the chapel, also by Theo Lubbers, were reinstalled in the memorial chapel at the Dominion-Douglas site.

Most of the furnishings of our chapel were brought from the St. Andrew's Chapel. Many were memorials to various dedicated members of the congregation. Some are identified with plaques which note these contributions. The stained glass



windows were given in memory of Irene Preston Gilbride, the altar cross in memory of Mrs. Thomas McIntosh and the communion table in memory of Mr. F. J. Tait. Hanging on the walls



are four tapestries, one honouring the life and work of Mrs. J. D. Robb. These tapestries were created by Hedda Lubbers, wife of the stained-glass windows artist, and a painter and textile artist in her own right. The suspended wooden ceiling was made as a replica of the ceiling of the St. Andrew's sanctuary and hanging from it is

the original chandelier moved from the first chapel. The red carpeting was chosen to be reminiscent of the St. Andrew's decor.

The dedication of the new memorial chapel took place on March 3, 1985. It marked a special occasion in the young life of the amalgamated congregation. It was seen as one of the conclusive steps in uniting the two churches. The former minister of St. Andrew's, Rev. Bob Hussey, returned to dedicate the chapel, calling the occasion "a momentous moment." He also said, "I don't know where else a merger has worked so creatively and joyously." Rev. A. J. Farquhar,

minister of the new congregation, said, "the chapel was one of the conclusive steps in our pilgrimage together."

As we gather in the St. Andrew's Chapel for worship throughout the year, take time to look around you. Gaze at the windows, look at

the ceiling, take a close look at the wall hangings and remember one of our heritage congregations.

*Betsy Zukow*



## Erskine & American Building Sale to Museum Completed



ERSKINE CHURCH  
on Sherbrooke Street, at the corner of Ontario Avenue  
OPENED SEPTEMBER 30, 1894

After literally years of negotiations involving the vendor, purchaser and the three levels of government, it is gratifying to announce that the sale of the Erskine and American (E&A) building, on the corner of Sherbrooke Street West and de Musée, to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) was completed on June 30<sup>th</sup> last and the proceeds of the final payment from MMFA distributed to (a) Montreal Presbytery (\$1,161,600), (b) St. James United (\$871,000) and (c) Mountainside United (\$871,000). There remains in the joint bank account for the E&A proceeds approximately \$29,000. These monies will be held until year end for any unforeseen expenses, after which they will be distributed to the three recipients mentioned above.

At the Closing, attended by representatives of Montreal Presbytery, St. James and Mountainside churches and MMFA, Fred Braman, on his last day in office as Secretary of Presbytery, expressed on behalf of The United Church thanks and appreciation to MMFA for their inventive and far-sighted vision in acquiring the E&A building for the purpose of enlarging and turning it into its Center for Canadian Art. The key roles played by the late Brian Clarke and Messrs. Bernard Lamarre, Chairman & Paul Lavallée, General Manager Administration of MMFA in initiating and carrying through this significant project were acknowledged.

Mountainside's share of this distribution has been added to its Endowment Funds that are invested with Letko & Brosseau Inc., Investment managers.

*Philip E. Johnston*  
*Chair of Trustees*

## Summer Sunday Worship in the St. Andrew's Chapel

There is always a relaxed, joyful atmosphere on Sundays at 10 a.m. as our members and friends come together for worship with music, prayer and scripture. During the month of July, while Rev. John Forster was enjoying his holiday, the services were led by a member of the congregation or staff. This year we thank Miriam Tees, Susan and Vince Salvati, Joyce Schaaf and Margaret de

Castro for taking on this responsibility. The month of August we welcomed our minister back from vacation and our worship continued in these beautiful, informal surroundings. As always, a time of fellowship with a cup of coffee follows when members can catch up with news of the summer and welcome newcomers.



*Susan Salvati, Joyce Schaaf*

These "beautiful surroundings," the Saint Andrew's Chapel, have a story and many of our newer members do not know anything about the history of the chapel. Even the old timers are vague in their recollections. Since we are currently in the process of making an effort to preserve and archive the memorabilia from our amalgamating congregations in the hallway between Lansdowne and Roslyn Avenues, it seems timely to tell the story of the chapel.

September 7, 2008 issue.

*Rapport* is published by the Mountainside United Church Communications Committee. Please send articles and announcements to the church office, 687 Roslyn Avenue, Westmount, QC, H3Y 2V1  
(may@mountainsideunited.ca)  
514-486-1165.  
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## Choir News

September is just around the corner and choral activities at Mountainside will begin once again. On Sunday, September 7, the choir will meet in the choir room at 9:15 a.m., prior to the 11 a.m. morning service in the Sanctuary. Our first mid-week rehearsal will be held on Thursday, September 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the choir room. Anyone interested in joining Mountainside Choir for the 2008-09 season is invited to call Margaret de Castro, Director of Music, at 514-486-1165.

## The Joyful Noise Singers visit Mountainside United Church



On Sunday, June 29, the Joyful Noise Singers from Manassas St. Thomas United Methodist Church of Manassas, Virginia, visited Mountainside and presented an energetic production of music, dance and drama entitled "Because He Lives!" The teenage ensemble included Mountainside in a larger tour of various churches and communities in New York, Vermont, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara Falls and Virginia. After the morning service, Mountainside Church provided a light lunch for the group and all congregational members

present. This provided a time of fellowship for the group members to meet and interact with the Mountainside community. All in all, a wonderful and exciting event to kick off the summer season!



## The Canadian International Organ Competition

Between October 8 and 19, 2008, the Canadian International Organ Competition will welcome sixteen competitors to Montreal to play on three of the major pipe organs of the city: the Casavant instruments of Notre-Dame Basilica and St-Jean Baptiste Church and the von Beckerath organ of Immaculée-Conception Church. The competition jury, nine renowned specialists, will present a total of \$65,000 in prize money, as well as other important awards.

This triennial competition will promote the organ as a major instrument in our country's musical heritage and stimulate the careers of young organists. It is the only international organ competition to be held in the Americas in 2008.

For more details, including the exact program when it becomes available, check the competition website at [www.ciocm.org](http://www.ciocm.org).

## REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

With the days getting shorter, a hint of fall in the air, and our return to the Sanctuary, it is once again time to think of our congregational needs and our future. We have been blessed with a sizable increase in our Endowment fund, thanks to the purchase at the end of June of the Erskine & American building by the Museum of Fine Arts. The income from this will help to offset our operating deficit. As I reported on the last Stewardship Sunday, our goal is a balanced budget, which in our case

means that the expenses relating to our ministry and church programs should be fully funded by the contributions from the Congregation plus all other sources of income, save for the investment income generated from the Endowment Fund. This income is earmarked for all expenses relating to our church buildings and capital improvement programs. Unfortunately, for the past few years we have not been able to balance our budget and thus have continued to draw down on the principal balance in our Endowment Fund. Continuation of this trend will ultimately result in the same situation faced at Erskine & American where we had no choice

but to sell the building.

Our Stewardship campaign for this year is still a month or so away. We have some time to reflect on what Mountainside United means to each of us as we consider how we will support its activities, both financially and by volunteering our time.

Also, did you know that donation of marketable securities such as stocks and bonds can give you an attractive tax reduction? This is because Revenue Canada allows a tax deduction for the market value of the security without having to report a Capital Gain.

*Vince Salvati  
Chair of Finance*

## Report from TM2

It's hard to believe that I'm already starting my 5th year directing Teen Music Mountainside! The last year has been a transition and a bit of a bumpy ride, but we made it and we're stronger than ever. To give a little background and reflection on where we've been and where we're



going from here, I'd like to begin by thanking the original founding members of TM2; they started as a group of young teenagers, at what was then "St. Andrews Dominion-Douglas United Church," who had a very strong connection to each other, as they had grown up together here through Children's Church and confirmation. In the four years I spent with them, I watched them mature as musicians, both as individuals and as an ensemble; we took part in many church activities and services and had the experience of performing and representing Mountainside United at other churches and venues, in Montreal and in cities as far away as Toronto and Boston.



The original TM2 members are now adults with commitments such as work and study. Though we will no longer be rehearsing them every week, they have expressed the desire to continue playing and spending time together as a group as time permits. They have already continued their musical pursuits in various capacities. (Many of them have been playing in other groups and have even formed their own bands over the last couple of years. Also, special congratulations to Sade James who tried out for Canadian Idol last March.) This group is now known as the TM2 Senior Band, and as was done this past year, they are planning to host the annual Spaghetti Supper next spring.

So again I thank the TM2 Senior Band. Before these young people took the initiative to start their band, there was no official musical group for teens at Mountainside. Now, TM2 is a very strong part of the music program

here, and our youth today see TM2 as something the church has to offer that they will be welcome to participate in. (At this point I would also like to thank Laura Dizon for her active contribution to the entire program throughout this transition.)

Which brings me to the newest incarnation of TM2. Last year, a very strong group of young musicians emerged here at Mountainside, their bond strengthened by their confirmation classes together. Some of the band members were just starting on their instruments, and none had any ensemble experience. By the time the final service at the end of Children's Church rolled around in June, they were really getting confident as a band, and did a wonderful job with the two selections they played for the service. They are now ready to pick up where the senior band left off, participating in services and events at Mountainside and at other churches; we are already planning a performance at a youth retreat on October 24<sup>th</sup> here at Mountainside, and a trip to Ste. Agathe to take part in morning worship at Holy Trinity Anglican Church on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

I am very proud of all of the young musicians I've had the pleasure of working with over the last four years, and I look forward to another successful and exciting year of TM2!

TM2 rehearsals will begin on Sunday, September 7 at 12:30 p.m. after the service. New members are welcome.

*Vanessa Rodrigues*  
Youth Music Director



### MEMORIAL SUNDAY

*"Hope" is the Thing with feathers.*

On Sunday, October 26, we will be remembering those that have died in the past two years. We wish to include any others that have been near and dear to you. Please fill out a form in the church office or on the narthex table and return it by October 20.

Please join us for this time of remembrance.

### Mountainside Youth Group

Breaking News..... Breaking News.....

#### YOUTH RETREAT:

Last year we did Facebook.God

This year we continue with:

"Faith Espresso"

A Café experience to reconnect with your old friends & meet some new ones to share, express and celebrate our faith.

Where: Mountainside United Church

When: Friday, October 24 @ 6:30 p.m. to

Saturday, October 25 until 4:30 p.m.

Who: All ages 11-16 years old

Workshops! Games! Art! Tai Chi! Music! Food!  
The Mountainside Café!

For registration call Susan Salvati

@ 514-931-6913

## SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2008

## SEPTEMBER

<b>Sept. 7</b>	<b>17th after Pentecost</b>	<b>Service at 11:00am, in the Sanctuary</b>
<b>Sept. 7</b>		<b>Children's Church Registration</b>
Sept. 9		Liturgy & Learning Committee meeting, 4:30pm
Sept. 11		Session Executive Meeting, 7:30pm
<b>Sept. 14</b>	<b>18th after Pentecost</b>	<b>Children's Church Registration</b>
Sept. 15		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Sept. 16		New Canadians Project, pm
Sept. 18		Choir practice, 7:30pm
<b>Sept. 21</b>	<b>19th after Pentecost</b>	<b>Rally Day - Children's Church begins</b>
Sept. 22		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Sept. 23		New Canadians Project, pm
Sept. 25		Session Meeting, 7:30pm
<b>Sept 28</b>	<b>20th after Pentecost</b>	
Sept. 29		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Sept. 30		Fall Foliage Tour, 9:30 - 5:00
Sept. 30		New Canadians Project, pm

## OCTOBER

Oct. 2		Choir practice, 7:30pm
<b>Oct. 5</b>	<b>21st after Pentecost</b>	<b>World Wide Communion</b>
Oct. 7		New Canadians Project, pm
Oct. 9		Session Executive Meeting, 7:30p.m.
<b>Oct. 12</b>	<b>22nd after Pentecost</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Sunday</b>
Oct. 13	Thanksgiving Monday	church building closed
Oct. 14		New Canadians Project, pm
Oct. 16		Choir practice, 7:30pm
<b>Oct. 19</b>	<b>23rd after Pentecost</b>	
Oct. 20		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Oct. 21		New Canadians Project, pm
<b>Oct. 26</b>	<b>24th after Pentecost</b>	<b>Memorial Sunday</b>
Oct. 27		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Oct. 28		New Canadians Project, pm

## NOVEMBER

<b>Nov. 2</b>	<b>25th after Pentecost</b>	<b>Outreach Sunday</b>
Nov. 3		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Nov. 4		New Canadians Project, pm
Nov. 6		Choir practice, 7:30pm
Nov. 8		Holiday Bazaar, 10:00am - 2:00pm
<b>Nov. 9</b>	<b>26th after Pentecost</b>	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>
Nov. 10		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Nov. 11		New Canadians Project, pm
Nov. 13		Session Executive Meeting, 7:30p.m.