



RAPPORT

Mountainside United Church

4000 The Boulevard, Westmount, Quebec



September 12, 2010

JOY IN JULY

At the end of June, we sent Pastor John off on a well-deserved holiday. While we missed him, our lives went on Sunday by Sunday, as we worshipped together in the intimacy of our beautiful St. Andrew's Chapel. In a spirit of friendship and community, we joyfully prayed, sang, laughed and shared fellowship together.

In a further effort to be close, two things happened: we shared our news on our "Let's Stay Connected" board, and a photo gallery was mounted by Alberto and Minerva Santos, who have agreed to preserve their pictures, and any others taken at Church events, in albums for us all to enjoy.

Every Sunday morning was beautified by fresh flowers placed on the Lord's Table; sweetened by decadent treats, (including cupcakes and a birthday cake!); and uplifted by music provided by piano, flute and guitar. The music was co-ordinated by Margaret de Castro who did double duty as "stage manager". She saw to the many details that ensured a hiccup-free service.

The Creators of Joy in July were those who led in worship. Each delivered a thoughtful message with a fresh and singular expression of faith. We could count on several elements being consistent week by

week: friendliness, humour, and commitment. To Miriam Tees, Esther Vicente and her family, Susan and Vincent Salvati, Linda and Bal Mount, and Sheila McDonough, we express heartfelt gratitude.

Judy Johnston



Upcoming Events



Nov. 13 Christmas Shopping Arcade

Nov. 28 Christmas Community Dinner

Dec. 5 A Christmas Celebration Carol Concert

Welcome back!!

I hope all of you had an enjoyable summer and are looking forward to a glorious fall season.

Let me first thank Julie Dawson who, while remaining Treasurer, has taken on the Chair of the Ministry and Personnel Committee, replacing Philip Johnston and thus will be doing double-duty for the Congregation. On behalf of the Congregation, and personally, I want to thank Philip for his service as the M&P Chair, a truly thankless job. Philip will remain as Chair of Trustees.

The "Faith Challenge" issued to the Congregation in the Spring has generated approximately \$15,000 in additional commitments for 2010 from forty-six members of the Congregation. These funds have allowed us to restore approximately one-half of the reductions in the original budget. The areas receiving additional funding are staff salaries, the music program, communications,

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Christmas Shopping Arcade

Saturday, November 13th

10am – 3pm



The fun begins on the Wednesday before the sale. This is the time when we sort the treasures and books. On Friday knits and household gifts are displayed. Many people will be working on arranging the bake table and pantry.

We hope you will think of how you can be part of this event. Now is the time to check for books and treasures that you are ready to donate. We will have pie baking bees in October. The dates will be posted soon.



BOOKS



KNITS



TREASURE TROVE



HOUSEHOLD GIFTS

JEWELRY & HANDBAGS

TOYS

DECORATIONS

BARGAIN BASEMENT

Join us, support us, lunch with us.

Your team of
Dawson & Fraser



United Church Launches an Emergency Appeal for Pakistan

Pakistan continues to struggle in response to massive flooding, which has affected an estimated 20 million people. Continuing monsoon rains have washed away roads and bridges and are hampering relief efforts. The rains also sometimes make it impossible for relief and rescue helicopters to reach stranded communities.

The United Church of Canada, together with other members of the global ACT ALLIANCE, is continuing to monitor and respond to the crisis. The United Church sent \$25,000 to ACT immediately following initial news of the crisis, and has now sent an additional \$40,000 also to be used for ACT's work on the ground.

ACT members in Pakistan are working diligently to deliver assistance including food, water, tents, kitchen kits, hygiene kits, mosquito nets, and emergency medical care.

The United Church has also contributed \$75,000 through its membership in the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB). The funds will be used for a multi-CFGB member supported project that will provide food kits containing rice, lentils, flour, oil, sugar, salt, tea, and spices.

The United Church will receive donations to its Emergency Response Fund and channel these through

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OUR LIBRARY LADY

Are we not lucky at Mountainside United to have a fine, well-used library managed by an honest-to-goodness professional librarian? She is, of course, Edith Drummond who has enjoyed an amazing 65-year career in the world of libraries.

Edith graduated from the Library School at McGill in 1945. Her first assignment was as assistant librarian



at the Aluminum Company of Canada. Soon thereafter, Canadian Car and Foundry offered her the position of Chief Librarian...and a fine opportunity that was. "They were very good to me," Edith reports. "They sent me to the United States to attend conferences

of the Special Libraries Association". But even better...it was while she occupied this position that she met her husband. Dave was an auditor with Price Waterhouse. He and his team used Edith's library as their temporary office! Soon, the "temporary" arrangement became permanent!

Some time later, the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal approached Edith with a new challenge. Libraries in secondary schools were about to be established and she was invited to develop such a facility at Westmount High. Her work began in the building that is now Selwyn House, then moved to the brand new building on Ste Catherine Street. At that time, funds were plentiful enough for Edith to be sent to Rutgers University for a six-week course in School Librarianship, and to the University of Montreal for a course in French.

New card catalogue for Library

We will be inheriting from LCC School a free-standing wooden card catalogue unit. This will replace the several metal files which we have been using. LCC has gone digital and no longer needs this unit which they kindly offered to us. Many thanks.

WATCH FOR THE NEW GARDENING SECTION IN OUR LIBRARY

The Diggers and Weeders Group, who meet monthly in our church, have requested and been granted space in our library for gardening and flower arranging books. They will be cataloged by our librarian, Edith Drummond, and will be available for congregational members to borrow. As winter approaches, books on flowers can brighten gloomy days as we plan for next summer's garden.



In 1980, Edith accepted the position of Head Librarian at Lower Canada College. During her tenure, the library changed locations several times. When she



first began, it was situated under a staircase. Later, during a period of renovations, the library occupied space on both sides of a corridor. This made maintaining discipline an interesting challenge!

After her retirement from LCC, Edith's volunteer career began, and continues to the present. She spends every Tuesday morning at the Westmount Library

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MYG

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Mountainside Youth Group

Got youth? Ages 13 to 18 come join us every Sunday for conversation, food, & fun.

Got God? Bible talk, Jesus talk, & walk the talk.

Got friends? We do! Come & meet us on Rally Day or any Sunday 11:15 to noon.

Got it?



TM2

September is upon us yet again, and with the new season begins another year of TM2, our youth music program. Started by an energetic group of teens six years ago, our fun and upbeat youth band has since participated in worship at churches in Toronto, Boston, Ottawa, Ste. Agathe and in the Montreal area, as well as for several of our own services here at Mountainside. We have gained a city-wide reputation for being one of the best church youth bands around, and we're looking forward to another exciting year. Rehearsals start on Sunday September 12 at 12:30 pm. All young musicians and singers welcome!

Vanessa Rodrigues

Musical Notes at Mountainside



As summer draws to a close, it is an appropriate time to say a big thank you to all who volunteered to provide Ministry of Music selections during our Sunday services in the chapel. Special thanks is also due to Aldy Santos and Vanessa Rodrigues for doing pianist substitute duty during my vacation.

On Sunday, Sept. 12th, Mountainside Choir will once again lead worship in the sanctuary. The first mid-week choir practice of the season will take place on Thursday, Sept. 16th. Please keep in mind that our annual *A Christmas Celebration of Music* will take place on Sunday, Dec. 5th, at 4 p.m. More details will be available as the autumn progresses. Welcome back to another musical year!

Margaret de Castro
Director of Music



Choir Practice Dates

Sundays, beginning Sept. 12 – 9:15 a.m.

Thurs., Sept. 16 – 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 7 – 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 21 – 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 4 – 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 18 – 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 2 – 7:30 p.m.

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the ACT Alliance to provide a coordinated response with other church organizations.

How United Church members can help:

> **Pray:** Hold the people of Pakistan and their families around the world in prayer.

> **Donate:** Designate a gift for "Pakistan Flood Relief" as part of the United Church's Emergency Response Fund. Congregational treasurers may receive and receipt individual cheques and then forward one congregational cheque to the United Church, attention "Pakistan Flood Relief."

Online donations can be made at www.united-church.ca/pakistan.

Pastoral Care at Mountainside

A group of dedicated members of Mountainside meet informally to respond to the pastoral care needs of our aging congregation. They have identified and taken on various projects which keep the shut-in and ill members of our church family connected. They write cards, make phone calls and arrange transportation to Sunday services. A "Stay in Touch" easel which encourages members to share news of family and friends was put in place at the beginning of the summer in Tees Hall. In May a



Pastoral Care Luncheon, followed by a communion service, was organized. Invitations were made, festive decorations put in place and a warm welcome extended to all who attended. Rev. John Forster leads the pastoral visiting team and requests that anyone who is aware of someone who is ill, in hospital or requires pastoral assistance please contact the church office. (Don't forget to let us know the maiden name.) Can you help? This is a rewarding way to live the faith challenge.

Will You Make Squares?

courtesy of Berneice Fielding

It's 6 o'clock, my home's a mess,
And dinner's running late
The baby's lost her soother,
My son just lost his date.
The phone is ringing, I hear thunder
Coming down the stairs,
"It's for you, Mom, it's Mrs. Jones,
She says, "Will you make squares?"

The Bishop came lat Sunday,
An Episcopal event,
Finest linen, finest china,
(And we didn't make a cent!)
The Pastor put on his good suit,
Patricia put on airs,
Sue and I washed the dishes,
And, oh yes, we brought the squares.

I love our Spiritual Retreat,
It fills me with such peace,
To be at one with God and world,
At last I've found my place.
I'd love to linger here a while,
Perhaps to say some prayers,
But I'm in charge of making tea
And setting out the squares.
My kitchen's filled with luscious scents,
Hubby watches as I bake.

He sees me chop the fruit and nuts.
He sees me ice the cake,
"Now tell me dear", he coyly asks,
"Who are these goodies for?"
"For God and Canada", I say.
And whisk them out the door.

I admit I've been discouraged,
And I've asked myself, "Who cares?"
But I found out, I went JUST ONCE,
Without my precious squares.

When I've organized my last bazaar,
Ad raffled my last prize,
I'll not be sad to see it end,
I'll welcome my demise.
And through it all I've loved a lot
And laughed until it hurts,
And in the end I'm very sure
I'll get my just desserts.

But should my master summon me
And catch me unawares,
Consider this — Now at my wake
Who'll make the ruddy squares?

Mountainside receives bequest from the family and estate of the late Henry T. Findlay

We have received a bequest from the family and estate of the late Henry T. Findlay. Dorothy writes that Henry enjoyed a long and enriching association with the people

and life of his church. The Findlays moved to Ottawa to be nearer family but are remembered fondly for their many years of support, loyalty and love of our church.



Hi everyone

I hope your summer has been a good one with lots of free time and opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors. The big event for me was the marriage of my daughter Tasha to John Dinner on July 17th. John is also a teacher like Tasha and shares the travel bug. They met four years ago in Sri Lanka on the building project connected to the tsunami relief efforts. Our church partly funded the project through sponsoring Tasha with a large donation. The wedding was staged at

Camp Big Canoe, a United Church camp just east of Bracebridge in Muskoka. The weather was wonderful for the outdoor service. I was able to perform the service without tears, mistakes, gaffs, or too much to say. The couple left the chapel in the woods by the lake in a canoe and arrived for pictures without tipping. I trust this points to a stable relationship and a balanced start on their journey of life together.

This late-summer heat wave makes it difficult to think of the September ramp-up to Autumn activities. However, we press on and, in the apostle Paul's words, "run with perseverance the race that is set before us."

There is a new "Living the Questions" DVD series available for our Wednesday evening adult discussion group. Maybe we could have an afternoon session offered as well? We will begin in October right after Thanksgiving.

We will be planning another "Day Away" spirituality event this fall. My hope is that we develop a different event for each season of the Christian year. We will soon be half way to this goal.

Pastoral Care continues to be picked up on an ad hoc basis, by interested and concerned church members: The Pastoral Care Luncheon, the Christmas Community Dinner, cards and letters, and phone calls to shut-ins, visits and follow up with those who are unwell. We need everyone's help to let us know when folks wind up in hospital. Remember, for the women of our congregation, we need the maiden name to locate them in the system.

I hope everyone is ready, willing and able to embrace another season of sharing and serving at Mountainside United.

Rev. John

Archivists for Mountainside photos

Alberto and Minerva Santos have volunteered to post photos of all of our current activities and then put them in albums kept in the Library.

Thanks to you both!



Our website has gotten a face-lift!

All of the previous content is still available and accessible, but now with a new colourful, dynamic look. One important new feature is the real-time Google calendar which appears on both the main page and the calendar page and will display very up-to-date information about the current goings-on at our church. Please go to www.mountainsideunited.ca and have a look!

Vanessa Rodrigues
Webmaster



Library Lady...continued from page 3

choosing books for a group of shut-in patrons. The books are then delivered by other volunteers — a sort of “Books on Wheels” programme! Edith volunteers at the lending library at Place Kensington where she keeps an eye on things three times a week after her exercise class.

The library at Mountainside took shape during Bob Shank’s time with us. He was very helpful to Edith, offering support, making recommendations for additions to the collection, and even assuring that she had a budget to work with. Since the beginning, the library has grown in both fiction and non-fiction sections, currently through donations. Edith has catalogued the books according to the Dewey Decimal System, and they are loaned on the honour system.

Edith’s awards include an Honourary Life Membership in both the Quebec Library Association and the Special Libraries Association. She is Past President of the Montreal School Libraries Association and the Special Libraries Association, Quebec Branch.

We owe Edith a debt of gratitude for the gifts she shares with us. Her library is the source of pleasure to many.

Judy Johnston

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and our Mission and Service Outreach programs. Although I am pleased with the support of those who participated we have failed to generate enough additional commitments to allow us to restore all of the previous reductions. Further, less than one-third of our contributors have stepped up to the challenge, which is a factor as we begin planning for 2011 and beyond. I do not believe that the objective of a balanced budget is realistic in the short term; we must aggressively manage our operating deficits to avoid a rapid depletion of our Endowment Funds. To that end, we will be forming a small committee to begin the process of charting the future of Mountainside United Church. The approach will be to take a “clean sheet of paper” and look out five to ten years to determine what a viable Mountainside will look like. The recommendations will be evaluated and may result in a series of action plans to begin to build a bridge from today to that future. Members of the Congregation are encouraged to participate in this effort, there is no monopoly on good ideas.

An additional change in the administrative workings of Mountainside is that we will “split” our Annual General Meeting into two parts. We will have a short Congregation meeting following the service on November 21, the sole purpose of which is to discuss and approve the budget for 2011. An additional meeting will be scheduled in the Spring of 2011 to deal with all the other business items which we normally discuss and approve at the Annual General Meeting. This change has moved up the date of Stewardship Sunday to October 3, in order to allow sufficient time to complete the annual campaign and have a budget ready for the November meeting. I am a strong supporter of this change as it allows us to have an approved operating budget in place from the beginning of 2011. The learnings from our 2010 budget experience and “Faith Challenge” will be incorporated into formulation of the budget.

Lastly, I encourage all members to become involved in the life of Mountainside United. As members of our Church family we all have a role and stake in its future.

Vince Salvati
Chair of Session

In Memoriam

Dr. Eric Mountjoy
June 18, 2010

Dr. Virginia Barber
August 12, 2010

SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2010

SEPTEMBER		
Sept. 5	15th after Pentecost	Service at 10:00am in Chapel
Sept. 6	Labour Day	Church building closed
Sept. 9		Session Executive Meeting, 4:30pm
Sept. 12	16th after Pentecost	Service at 11:00am, in the Sanctuary
		Children's Church Registration
Sept. 16		Choir practice, 7:30pm
Sept. 19	17th after Pentecost	Rally Day – Children's Church begins
Sept. 20		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Sept. 25		wedding – Michelle Landry (Cowan)
Sept. 26	18th after Pentecost	
Sept. 27		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Sept. 30		Session, 7:30pm
OCTOBER		
Oct. 3	19th after Pentecost	World Wide Communion / Stewardship Sunday
Oct. 4		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Oct. 7		Choir practice, 7:30pm
Oct. 10	20th after Pentecost	Thanksgiving Sunday
Oct. 11	Thanksgiving Monday	church building closed
Oct. 13		Adult Education, 7:30pm
Oct. 14		Session Executive Meeting, 4:30pm
Oct. 17	21st after Pentecost	
Oct. 18		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Oct. 20		Adult Education, 7:30pm
Oct. 21		Choir practice, 7:30pm
Oct. 23		1:00pm wedding – Melissa Brown
Oct. 24	22nd after Pentecost	Outreach Sunday
Oct. 25		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Oct. 27		Adult Education, 7:30pm
Oct. 31	23rd after Pentecost	All Saints Sunday / Reformation Sunday
NOVEMBER		
Nov. 1		Rapport deadline
		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Nov. 3		Adult Education, 7:30pm
Nov. 4		Choir practice, 7:30pm
Nov. 7	24th after Pentecost	Remembrance Sunday
Nov. 8		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Nov. 10		Adult Education, 7:30pm
Nov. 11		Session Executive Meeting, 4:30pm
Nov. 13		Christmas Shopping Arcade, 10:00am – 3:00pm
Nov. 14	25th after Pentecost	
		Rapport distribution
Nov. 15		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Nov. 17		Adult Education, 7:30pm
Nov. 18		Choir practice, 7:30pm
		Session, 7:30pm
Nov. 21	Christ the King	Congregational Meeting immediately following service
		– Budget 2011
Nov. 22		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon
Nov. 24		Adult Education, 7:30pm
Nov. 28	1st in Advent	Communion
		Community Christmas Dinner
Nov. 29		Monday Women's Group, 12 noon