

The GrapeVine

Fall, 2016

From the Desk of Don Parsons

Last week I received an email from a friend with “Some very sad news” in the subject line. It was one of those notes that takes your breath away. A relatively young, very active member of one of the congregations I have been privileged to serve, had suffered a large brain aneurism on Tuesday afternoon, and the prognosis was not good.

It just did not seem possible. The evening before she had been laughing with friends at a church gathering, and then in a matter of hours was on life-support in a major Toronto trauma centre. The church choir in which she sang, the staff with whom she volunteered, the Congregational Care Committee she coordinated, her beloved church family -- all were bewildered and struggling with grief. Sometimes “the valley of the shadow” is profoundly dark and heavy.

That seemed particularly true when the doctors gently informed the family that there was nothing further they could do. Once again I was sobered and saddened as I was confronted with the fragility and uncertainty of life. The petty concerns that I sometimes allow to consume my day were now justifiably jettisoned by the life-and-death trauma faced by my friend and her family.

Sometimes we wonder where God is, when devastating things happen to good people. I have wondered that myself at times. And yet there is something in me that believes that when these horrendous challenges shatter our lives, God’s

heart is the first of all our hearts to break. God does not will sadness upon us. I believe that God grieves with us, and is in the very centre of life with us.

When we are called to face such trauma in our lives, let us place ourselves and those we love in God’s holy, healing love. And let us, as best we can, hold onto what our creed affirms, that “In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.”

Don Parsons
September 26/16

Our Website Has a New Look!

- Visit erindaleunited.church Regularly
- Latest Church Calendar
- New Pictures

Chair of Council

Welcome back from your summer adventures. I hope everyone had an opportunity to spend some time with family, friends, and enjoyed the wonderful hot weather. We now begin preparing for school, and the new adventures that lie ahead.

On behalf of the Erindale congregation, I would like to express our appreciation to Margaret McCrae for her expert leadership during her term as Chair of Council. It has been a privilege to work with Margaret over the last 2 years.

As I take a moment to reflect on what lies ahead, I can't help feel a sense of excitement. There are signs of a vibrant congregation willing to adjust and embrace an unknown future that comes when there are changes in ministerial leadership.

I would like to express my appreciation to Rev. Don for his leadership, preparing us for change, as Erindale's Joint Search Committee actively searches for our new minister. Rev. Don has brought forward a new perspective to Erindale's worship experience, introducing us to the Taize community through a special service, and introduction of aspects of Taize in our Sunday service.

The Search committee has been working hard, using the JNAC as their guide, to find a minister to lead Erindale. It takes time to review candidate resumes, conduct interviews, perform research, and prepare a recommendation for a ministerial call to Erindale. I have every confidence in the Search committee, and know they will be successful. Rev. Don has agreed to stay and provide ministerial leadership to Erindale, while the committee continues in its work. As chair of Council, I look forward to working with Rev. Don through our transition.

This fall, there are two great events planned; the Erindale Emporium and the Organ Concert. Planning is well underway for both events, but they will only be successful with your support. There are many ways to show your support,

through volunteering, promoting and attending these events. Watch for the announcements, and reach out to see how you can best provide support.

One of the indicators of the health of a congregation, is its commitment to outreach programs. Erindale has a rich history of providing outreach support. Erindale continues to build on this history by supporting a student in the Congo to become an orthopedic surgeon. Erindale are strong supporters of the Refugee Sponsorship program. This type of outreach is not always easy, proving uncertain at times, but the impact this has on others is substantial.

The future of Erindale is bright, and I'm proud to be a member of Erindale and a contributor to shaping Erindale's future.

*Ralph Nott
Chair of Council*

News from the Worship Committee

As we settle into the "New Year" that follows Labour Day, a warm welcome (back) to worship at Erindale United Church.

For a fourth summer, we enjoyed shared services with members of the Mississauga Mennonite Fellowship. Many of you commented on the value of being exposed to others' rituals; making new friends; and renewing friendships from past summers. The Mennonites led July services, while Rev. Don led August services. Huge thanks to everyone who helped us open our Sanctuary in both months to both congregations.

While we enjoyed the warmth of the summer season, great progress was also made on a number of initiatives in support of our worship experience. I will highlight two for you here:

Continued Page 3

- Choir robes were in need of replacement, and we made plans for this in the 2016 budget. Thanks to Dora Williams for leading the replacement effort. The new robes have arrived, and we expect to see them in our Sanctuary for our Thanksgiving service.
- A task group has been hard at work planning our first organ concert, "Organs & Octaves". The concert will be held on Saturday, November 12th 7:30 – 10 p.m., showcasing Rob Anderson's talent, along with flutist Roselyn Brown. Please take a moment to thank Marilyn Johnston, Carolyn Hendricks, Laura Turner, Barbra Manchur and Brian Crombie for organizing this event.

It takes many hands to support worship and the life of our congregation. On October 2nd, Rev. Don will lead us in reaffirming our commitments to our church and our supports for those who take an active part in our church life. Your Worship Committee members look forward to warmly welcoming you.

*Jutta Argao
Chair*



Erindale Emporium

**Don't miss the grand
"Erindale Emporium" on
October 15th.**

Both **professional artisans and Erindale members** will proudly display their handmade items for sale.

Featured : A Silent Auction with both practical and artistic items which may be just the thing for gifts ...or a gift to yourself.

What can I do to make the Erindale Emporium a success?

1. Come out and support this event
2. Make something like jewelry, stained glass, soaps, quilts, blankets, ethnic food that we can sell, or donate a good or service to the silent auction (some ideas, donate your cottage or trailer for a week, make a dinner for two couples, provide lessons in a skill you are skilled at like music, curling, tennis, golf)
3. Donate goods for sale. The item must sell for at least \$20 and we will sell it for the asking price! Things like art, jewelry, clothes (men's and women's suits, jackets, dresses, coats), electronics, etc. If the product cannot fit into your car's backseat we cannot accept it.
4. Invite and tell everyone you know to come out and see our beautiful church and help us fund raise. We will advertise but word of mouth is much more powerful.

If you have any questions, want to donate or rent a table to sell your wares, please see Steve Wykurz any Sunday in attendance or send an email to swykurz2001@rogers.com. Look forward to making this an event to remember!

That date again - Saturday, October 15, 2016 from 10am to 3pm, and you're all "on the list"!

Steve Wykurz

UCW News

All women of the church are welcome to become part of UCW. There are two units which meet on the third Tuesday each month in the McGill Room for fellowship, refreshments, and a program. Mary and Martha Circle meets at 1.15 (leader Dianne Drennan) and Friends in Faith meet at 7.30 (leader Ruth Nott). Details are printed in the bulletin prior to the meeting day.

Fellowship of the Least Coin. Sunday, October 23 will be the gathering for returning collection cans or making a donation. This international movement began in the 1950s with the idea that the least coin of one's country be put aside each day following prayer for world peace. We collect these monies on behalf of the Women's Interchurch Council of Canada which in turn sends the proceeds on to the International Committee of FLC. This Committee meets each November to prayerfully make grants to women's groups around the world.

There will be a basket in the narthex for donations. A year of our least denomination (5 cents) is \$18.25 but any amount is welcome. Envelopes will be provided for donations of \$20 or more - simply write on your church givings number to receive credit to your annual tax receipt.

UCW has decided to discontinue the sale of **MacMillan** products this year. However, if there is an item you have had in the past and especially wish to have again, please let Dianne Drennan know and we will try to accommodate you.

Cranberry Apple Crisps and United Church Calendars will be on sale later in the fall.

The **Annual Frosty Festive Fare Bake Sale** will take place after worship on **Sunday, December 11** with all the usual cookies, squares, tarts, and preserves for Christmas. We rely on the generous donations of these items from the congregation to make this sale a success. Thank you to all who have provided

these in the past and we hope you will help again this year. Items may be brought to the kitchen in the afternoon on Sat, Dec.10. Please wrap and price your items and note if they contain nuts. A price guide will be available in the kitchen. Loose cookies and squares are also needed for the popular "make up your own box" table.

We welcome once again small Christmas items (and only Christmas items, please) such as decorations, ornaments etc. for the White Elephant Table.

Joyce Murdoch, Eleanor McIntosh or Clarine Dillon will be happy to answer any questions about the bake sale.

The fall **Used Book Sale** will be held on Sunday, Nov. 20 in Gardner Hall.

Ann Edge



Craft Time

A new group at Erindale, with a focus on craft work, had their first meeting last month. Our next meeting is on Wednesday, October 5th at 10:30 a.m. in the McGill Room, This is a mid-week break, once a month to do a little hand work (of your choice). Anyone who wants to come and chat and work on a project is welcome.

Coffee, crafting and a little fellowship. Who could ask for more?

If you are interested please get in touch with Marilyn Johnston 905-823-3229 or just drop in.

Organs & Octaves

A Contemporary Celebration of Music

Featuring:

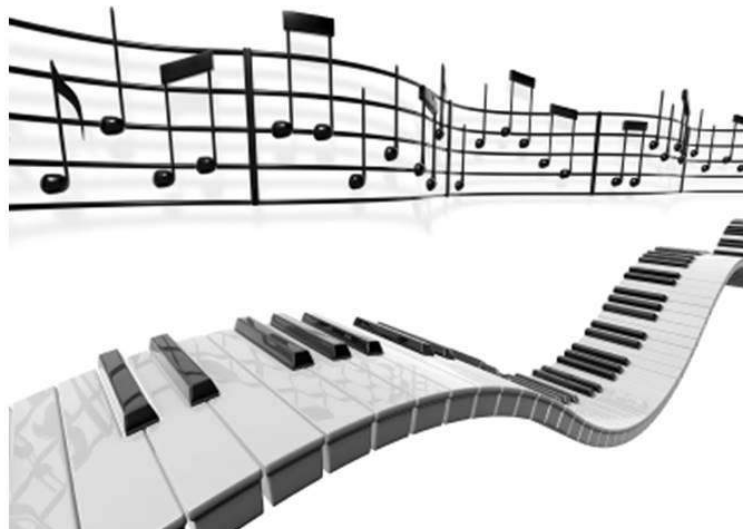
Robert Anderson on Organ

Roselyn Brown on Flute

Saturday, November 12, 7:30pm

Erindale United Church

1444 Dundas Cres., Mississauga



Tickets: \$25

To reserve tickets call: (905)277-3656 or

email: churchoffice@erindaleunited.org

Worship

A warm, friendly welcome always awaits you at Erindale.

Sunday, October 2 - 10:30 a.m.

World Communion Sunday

“You Already Have Faith”

(Rev. Don Parsons will be preaching)

Scripture - Luke 17: 5 - 10

During the service we will covenant with our volunteers,
and share the Sacrament of Holy Communion together.

Sunday, October 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Thanksgiving Sunday

“Can We Sing ‘Thanks’ Today?”

(Rev. Don Parsons will be preaching)

Scripture - Psalm 66: 1 - 11; Luke 17: 11 - 19

Sunday, October 16 - 10:30 a.m.

“On Not Losing Heart”

(Rev. Don Parsons will be preaching)

Scripture - Psalm 121; Luke 18: 1 - 8

Sunday, October 23 - 10:30 a.m.

“Two People Went To Church”

(Rev. Don Parsons will be preaching)

Scripture - Luke 18: 9 – 14

Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Returning collection cans or making a donation

Sunday, October 30 - 10:30 a.m.

“A Wee Little Man Was He”

(Rev. Don Parsons will be preaching)

Scripture - Psalm 32: 1 - 8; Luke 19: 1 - 10

Sunday, November 6 - 10:30 a.m.

Remembrance Sunday

“When Quiet Peace Is Shattered”

(Rev. Don Parsons will be preaching)

Scripture - Luke 21: 5 - 19

- 2 -

Sunday, November 13 - 10:30 a.m.

“Taking The Hand Of A Child”

(Rev. Don Parsons will be preaching)

Scripture - Psalm 98; Luke 18: 15 - 17

The Sacrament of Baptism will be included in the service

Sunday, November 20 - 10:30 a.m.

Stewardship Sunday
"The Treasure Of The Ordinary"
(Rev. Don Parsons will be preaching)
Scripture - John 6: 1 – 14
Used Book Sale

Sunday, November 27 - 10:30 a.m.

The First Sunday of Advent
Our Service will be led by our Worship Committee

Book Club News

Here is a list of the book selections made by the Book Club which meets at 7.30 p.m. For further information call Marilyn Johnston at 905 823 3229

Dates (Mondays)	Book	Author	Facilitator/Recommended
Oct 24	The Blue Castle	L.M. Montgomery	Jennifer Code
Nov 28	The Children's Act	Ian McEwan	Sandra Butcher
Christmas break- No book Club meeting			
Jan 23	The Disappeared	Kim Echin	Marilyn Johnston
Feb 27	Being Mortal	Atul Gawande	Pat Jenkins
Mar 27	Tarnished	Lesia Annastasia Chytra	Duane McIlwraith
Apr 24	The Boys in the Boat	Daniel James Brown	Horace Neita
May 29 (ONE WEEK LATER DUE TO HOLIDAY)	Deafening	Frances Itani	Anne Carpenter
June 19 Wrap up			

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