

# Cornerstone

June 2011

## 'Tis the Season

### Special points of interest:

- \* Jazz Mass
- \* Strategic Planning
- \* Henry Poutiainen
- \* Lisa Parmiter
- \* Yasu Kuwahara
- \* New members

I Cor. 13:13 *And now faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.*

Along with the liturgical season of "Ordinary Time" or the "Season After Pentecost" or in more appropriate Canadian terminology "Cottage Christianity" it is now "Wedding Season"! Event planners, venue managers and nervous parents, brides and grooms across the continent are ramping up the anxiety to ensure that their ideal of the perfect day of union comes off without a hitch. With approximately 3 million weddings in North America each year the wedding industry has ballooned to an astounding 40 billion

dollar commercial enterprise including clothes, flowers, music and the myriad of other elements that are a part of the ceremony, reception, honeymoon, and bachelor and bachelorette parties.

Yet here in the Church we still firmly hold to the view that this coming together of two souls is in fact a sacred merging of lives. The marriage ceremony models for us the ideal life in union with God that we name as **covenant**. This ceremony, an agreement, a sacred ritual is based in God's love, the Grace of Christ and the Communion of the Holy Spirit.

It is a moment to mark the future of a new dynamic relationship for two people who gather in God's presence to enjoy and endure life's journey together. As I Corinthians 13 vs. 4-8 reminds us, from the most read passage of scripture in weddings throughout the land:

*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.*

- Rev. Mark MacLean



**Jazz Mass**  
**St. Andrew's United Church**  
**Sunday, July 3**  
**10:30 am**

## Jazz Mass featuring Tom Reynolds Trio w/ Special Guest John MacLeod

A Jazz Mass at St. Andrew's United Church, featuring The Tom Reynolds Trio with Tom Reynolds/piano, George Koller/bass, Lorne Nehring/drums, very special guest John MacLeod and voices from the St. Andrews Choir. The Mass will feature original compositions, jazz standards and arrange-

ments of traditional liturgical elements.

This year the Tom Reynolds Trio and Rev. Mark MacLean will be presenting the third annual Jazz Mass at St. Andrew's United Church, Toronto. Although jazz has a strong presence in the weekly service at St. Andrew's this mass provides the opportunity to explore the full potential of improvisation in worship.

Tom Reynolds is a gifted jazz pianist, composer and Professor of Theology at Emmanuel College, University of Toronto, and writes extensively on the subject of jazz and spirituality. Tom brings a unique musical perspective on the place of Jazz in The Sanctuary. You can hear a selection from this innovative and inspiring collection at [www.myspace.com/thetomreynoldstrio](http://www.myspace.com/thetomreynoldstrio) from the trio's recent CD "Convergence."



## Thank you to Lisa Parmiter

Lisa Parmiter-you may or may not know her but chances are if you have been in the congregation for more than one Sunday, you do. She's the lovely lady with an affinity for purple (check out her new glasses) and a love for God that will blow your socks off! Lisa is currently enrolled in the 4 year Masters of Divinity Program at Emmanuel College. I had a chance to sit down with her recently to talk about her time at St. Andrews, and I have to say she's a breath of fresh air. No really, once you start talking to her-it's quite refreshing.

### Things you probably don't know about Lisa Parmiter....

Did you know.....Lisa is from Labrador City

Lisa found St. Andrews through Wondercafe ([www.wondercafe.ca](http://www.wondercafe.ca))

Lisa has an awesome blog. (<http://lisap505.wordpress.com>)

Lisa has a creative side-she explores painting and writing & going to the ROM; she has a undergrad degree in Humanities!

Lisa loves to cook

Lisa first felt called to ministry after being confirmed (AFFIRM program [www.affirmunited.ca/english/affirming\\_ministries.htm](http://www.affirmunited.ca/english/affirming_ministries.htm))

Lisa likes folk rock groups like *Hey Rosetta*, and *Mountains in the Trees*

Lisa's favorite color is purple.

As far as her pilgrimage is concerned, Lisa feels that St. Andrews is bringing her another step closer to figuring out who "Lisa" really is and how she wants to present herself to the world.



She admits that she has made some 'amazing' connections at St. Andrews and has taken the Sunday school class to a new level (in both attendance and participation). Lisa has also

learned about the challenges of an urban congregation and likes to think that there is "space for all of us."

Although Lisa is sad to leave, she is looking forward to what lies ahead. She is going into her 3<sup>rd</sup> year in the program (internship). Currently, Lisa has no idea where she will end up next-she says there is a 'mysterious cloak over placement' but also chalks it

up to being part of the journey (don't worry, she finds out where she is going at the end of April). Being led by the Holy Spirit is not a BAD thing although not always the most convenient! One thing is for certain, Lisa will go into her new placement with the blessings, prayers, and support from her St. Andrews family as she grows closer to the Holy Spirit.

*"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."* -Romans 8:28

*submitted by Meredith Kercher*

*PS. Lisa Parmiter has officially been placed at Stamford United Church in Niagara Falls for her internship, which begins in September.*



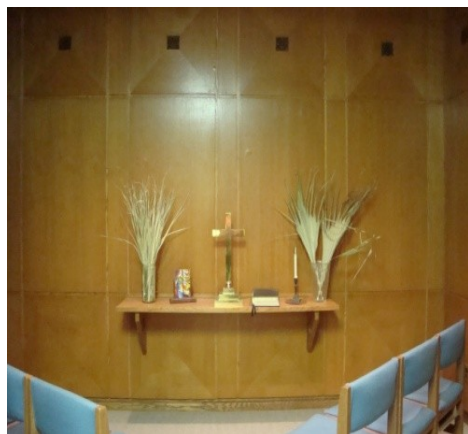
## Gifts from Our History

as remembered by the late Rev. Dr. Richard Davidson, Minister Emeritus



### Chapel

Around the top are the small carvings that were on the old organ screen. The panelling and ceiling came from Westminster-Central Church.



### Amateur Photographers

If you have a good camera and flash which are able to take clear pictures in a large space like our sanctuary, we need you to take pictures for Cornerstone and our St. Andrew's web site. Let Karen in the office know if you are willing to give it a try.

## Thank you to Henry Poutiainen

Henry Poutiainen, our intern minister, has successfully completed his placement at St. Andrew's. As his residency draws to a close, let's recap his experience with our congregation, and look forward with him to the future. Let's also take a moment to recognize and thank those who supported Henry during his internship.

Henry began his placement at St. Andrew's in September 2010, and he worked full-time with our congregation until April 2011. You'll remember Henry's background from an earlier edition of the Cornerstone which described his 25 years in the computer service industry where he honed his leadership and people skills.

During his 8 month placement, Henry contributed to our congregation in a number of ways. Highlights include:

**Services:** Participating in the design of our worship services with Rev Mark MacLean and Mark Ruhnke, Director of Music. Leading the worship on selected Sundays, as well as making a regular appearance during the Children's segment.

**Exploring and growing our faith:** Leading the **Plugged Into Lent** study group which explored



Paul's words to the early church, and how these words speak to our own pilgrimage of faith.

**Supporting our extended family:** Providing pastoral care to members of the St. Andrew's family who are ill, in the hospital, or would like to be visited at home.

**Reaching out to our neighbours:** Supported the **Light to Unite** campaign, which provided an opportunity to help those in our community who need it most, while engaging the local community.

Thank you Henry for your contribution to our congregation and good luck as you explore your ministry options following graduation. Thanks are also due to the individuals who supported Henry during his resi-

dency, including his work supervisor (Rev. Mark MacLean), his educational supervisors (Katherine Corlett and Janet MacPherson), and the Lay Supervision team (Judy Britnell, Jennifer Dick, Miriam Skey, Michael Locey and Rev. Bart Van Nie).

*- submitted by Peter Shephard*



During the summer Henry is again working with IBM and will return to Emmanuel College in September to finish his studies for ordination..

## Strategic Planning

St. Andrew's is embarking on an exciting new phase in its development. In the last Council meeting, a Strategic Planning committee was struck (Murray Corlett, Anne Hughes, Michael Locey, Melody Gaukel, Rev. Mark MacLean).

Strategic planning is an exercise in envisioning where we want to go and then setting objectives and plans that we believe will get us there. Two years ago we approved a vision for St. Andrew's and six strategic objectives to achieve it. We are now at the stage of putting in place intentional coordinated plans to achieve our objectives. Typically, a vision has a time horizon

of about five years, but objectives and plans should be assessed and adjusted at least annually.

Strategic planning is about making choices since we do not have the resources, human or financial, to do everything. It is not just about starting new things, but stopping some existing things that are not moving us toward our goals.

Some strategic decisions may involve large changes while others may appear small but may have a large impact. Focus on the direction we want to go is vitally important and must overrule things that are merely nice

to do. We must approach everything with a questioning attitude and ask ourselves: where is this taking us? In a dramatically changing world, there is just not one way to do church.

Consultation with committees is already underway and regular updates will be provided to the congregation. A congregational meeting is planned for Saturday, October 1. Please put it on your calendar

## Morning Glory

### Morning Glory

Produced by Workman Arts

Directed by Kate Lushington and written by Karin Bolette Sonne

Workman Arts facilitates aspiring, emerging and established artists with mental illness and addiction issues to refine their art form through training and performance opportunities, while also producing the Rendezvous with Madness film festival, and Being Scene Art Exhibition.

Karin Bolette Sonne developed Morning Glory

through the training program Writing 4 the Stage, in 2008 while an inpatient under the Law and Mental Health program at CAMH.

We are thrilled her play will premiere at the Summerworks Festival.

Meds and laundry and making art with broken crayons. Who can you rely on to get you through the day. Five sizzling vignettes expose the brutal world of women with Special Needs in Ontario prison's, and the unlikely friendships that bloom under constant surveillance.

"Insanity in prison is the darkest and loneliest place that exists anywhere on this earth of ours," writes

Sonne, "It is a world that closes in upon itself and leaves few survivors." But she has survived. Her play Morning Glory was written to honour the lives and friendships of women she met while imprisoned in two different Special Needs Units, at Metro Toronto West Detention Centre and The Vanier Centre for Women.

More information is available through the Summerworks Festival 2011, on line.

- submitted by Karin Sonne

## Greetings from Debbie and Mike Burns in Blantyre, Malawi

*From Mike Burns (Ecumenical Partner) who used to be the staff at Rosedale Presbyterian in outreach in the St. James Town Afterschool program and was present as a speaker at St. Andrew's a number of times.*

*The Presbyterian Church in Canada has sent The Rev. Michael Burns and his wife Debbie to serve the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in Malawi (CCAP). Mike is an associate minister at St. James Church, helping meet the CCAP's need for qualified ministers. Debbie is looking forward to discerning a position in Malawi that will allow her to use her God-given gifts in ways and areas that fit with what is needed by the people there.*

Moni Nonse! (Hello Everyone):

We are sending this email to all of you nine weeks after our arrival in Blantyre, Malawi and hope this message finds you all well.

We have been in contact with many of you via email, Facebook, Skype and through our blog, but wished to send a general email out at this time to ensure that everyone has our email addresses, blog address, mailing address and are aware that we are on Facebook and Skype as well.

We wish to let all of you know that things have been going well for us during our stay here in Malawi. We feel truly blessed to have been given this opportunity to serve God, the Presbyterian Church in Canada (PCC), the congregation of St. James, Central Church of Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) and God's people. It is a privilege for us to be here, we have met many warm and welcoming people within and outside the church and are grateful to have many fellow PCC people here in Malawi as well. We are healthy, content and overall pleased with how these first two months have gone. As with any country, culture or situation, we have had a few minor obstacles, but by God's grace, they have always seemed to work themselves out.

We thank everyone who has been in contact with us and for those of you who have continued to keep us, the PCC, the CCAP and the Malawian people in your prayers. Please know these all have made a difference. We were also so thankful to have already had a visit from our cousin, Sara, who is from Canada, but has been living in China for a few years. Her visit meant a lot to us.

While all is going well here, we do miss our family, friends and church communities and ask that you continue to stay in contact with us. It uplifts us and keeps us connected with all of you.

This email is also to let you know that our main form of communication is through our blog. The address for it is: <http://pccweb.ca/mikeanddebbieburns>. While we do our best to send some individual emails to people,

(especially if we receive one first), most of our information is shared through our blog.

We also wish to remind all of you that due to our own responsibilities and positions, we now have our own email addresses. If you wish to send something that is for both of us, please remember to send it to both email addresses. Mine is [debramburns@gmail.com](mailto:debramburns@gmail.com) and Mike's is [burnsmichaeld@gmail.com](mailto:burnsmichaeld@gmail.com). All other email addresses you have for us are invalid and unchecked.

Another method of communication is through Facebook. Both Mike and I have our own Facebook accounts. Please feel free to request us as friends. While it may take a while to reach us, you can also send us mail. If you are sending a card or letter, it can be sent normally. Any mail should be addressed exactly as follows: The Rev. Michael D. Burns, Box 413, The Blantyre Synod CCAP, Blantyre, Malawi.

Peace be with all of you.. Take care,

Debbie and Mike

## 3000 Years of Church History: An Outline!

1000 BCE – Psalms – King David - Golden Age of Israel

“Year 0” – counting from the birth of Christ (AD – Anno Domini – “year of our Lord”)

- Instead of counting from reign of each king/emperor, or from start of the world
- AD/BC notation proposed by the monk Dionysius Exiguus (Dennis the Little) 525 CE  
Renamed BCE (Before Common Era) and CE (Common Era)

1<sup>st</sup> C:

- Jesus dies about 31 CE
- Says he will build his church on what Peter says: “You are the Messiah ...” Matt 16:16
- Says “this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place” Matt 24:34
- NT writings happen as time passes – letter from Paul, gospels from 4 disciples, and so on  
Church is a mix of “Jews and Gentiles” that moves from being a sect of Judaism to one on its own

### Spread of Christianity

- Roman Empire: time of peace, good roads, common official language, secular (many religions)
- North Africa, east to Iran, Iraq, India and China, eastern part of Mediterranean, southern Europe, France, Britain, Ireland

From [https://qed.princeton.edu/index.php/User:Student/The\\_Origins\\_and\\_Spread\\_of\\_Christianity\\_to\\_AD\\_600](https://qed.princeton.edu/index.php/User:Student/The_Origins_and_Spread_of_Christianity_to_AD_600)



◀ Early Christians were often persecuted by the Romans, who saw them as a threat to the stability of the empire because they refused to acknowledge the divinity of the Roman emperor. By ad 64 Nero used Christians as victims in the imperial arenas, and in the early 4th century Diocletian organized campaigns against them. However, Diocletian's successor Constantine legalized Christianity, and at the first "Ecumenical Council" (held at Nicaea in 325) he brought church and state together. Constantine had converted to Christianity after a key victory over his rivals in 312, a victory he ascribed to the power invested in him as the servant of the Highest Divinity, which he equated with the Christian god. Many sects emerged during this early spread of Christianity, and councils were periodically held to discuss the doctrinal disagreements raised – with some sects declared heretical as a result.

4<sup>th</sup> C:

- Constantine makes Christianity official religion of the Roman Empire
- Holds Council of Nicaea 325, first Ecumenical Council (21 total, with Vatican 2 the last)
- In parallel, monasticism arose starting with St Anthony in Egypt

- o Voluntary separation/isolation living away from urban centres
  - o o Parallels spread of Christianity
- Provide services for funds, receive lands as gifts

476: fall of Rome (start of Dark Ages)

### Spread of Islam 622-750 CE

From: [http://www.maps.com/ref\\_map.aspx?pid=11393](http://www.maps.com/ref_map.aspx?pid=11393)



732: Stopping the Muslims at Tours (Charles Martel – Charlemagne’s grandfather)

800: Charlemagne crowned Xmas Day by Pope Leo III – “Holy Roman Empire”

1054: The Great Schism between Western Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Christianity  
 Authority of the Pope, charges of heresy against the East and *filioque*  
 Eastern Orthodox spread north and west from Constantinople  
 Recognizes the first 7 Ecumenical Councils as a basis for faith

### The Crusades 1095-1270 (8)

From: [http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/crus/hd\\_crus.htm](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/crus/hd_crus.htm)



1180 – 1230: Papal Inquisitions

14thC:

The Black Death – bubonic plague kills 40+% of Europeans

15thC:

1440: Gutenberg creates printing press (Bible 1455)

1453: fall of Constantinople to Ottoman Empire

1478 - 1832: Spanish Inquisition under state control

1492: Columbus discovers America

1497: John Cabot discovers east coast of Canada

16thC:

1517: Luther nails his 95 Theses (**start of the Protestant Reformation**)

Pope's authority – e.g. indulgences to build St Peter's (1506-1626)

Sola scriptura, sola fide, sola gratia

Common language

Married priesthood

1520's: Anabaptists sought further "radical reforms" against church customs

1529: Henry VIII declares himself head of the Church of England

John Calvin publishes Institutes of Christian Religion (Geneva)

1542 - 1650: Roman Inquisition under church control

1543-1566: John Knox leads Scottish Reformation

17thC:

1608: under Champlain, Jesuits set up Catholic church, school, convent, hospital in Quebec

1611: King James Bible completed

1620: Pilgrims land on Plymouth Rock

"Puritans" sought separation, left persecution in England

("New" England, York, Jersey, ...)

1650-1800: Age of Enlightenment

use of reason

focus on this world, not the next

challenge to power (monarchies, church, use of the Bible)

shift to individual rights, democracy

e.g. American Revolution, French Revolution, anti-slavery movement

18thC:

1707: Act of Union in Scotland formalizing Presbyterianism

1738 – 1800: rise of Methodism in England (John and Charles Wesley)

Emphasis on order, personal spiritual disciplines

1700-1900: the steam engine and its resulting Industrial Revolution

e.g. automated weaving, steamships, railways

19thC:

1859: Charles Darwin publishes *Origin of the Species*

1860: triggers different reactions to the apparent gulf between science and religion

1800 – 1900: Looking to the future in America

Post-millennialism (things will keep getting better)

some churches emphasize re-shaping society

some churches focus on "changing one's heart"

Pre-millennialism (things are getting worse)

emphasis on salvation with separation

E.g. Adventism, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormonism

20thC:

1906-1915: Asuza Street (Los Angeles, CA) experience

the start of modern Pentecostalism

ecstatic experiences, healing, "tongues"

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If you have an email address, please let us know and we will send you the newsletter by email where you see it in colour.

If you would like to have your name removed from our mailing list, email or phone the church. Thank you.

Articles for the next newsletter must be submitted by September 12, 2011.

We're on the Web  
[www.standrewsunited.com](http://www.standrewsunited.com)



## A New Minister Intern is Coming to St. Andrew's

We are delighted to announce that Yasuyuki Kuwahara (Yasu) will be doing his internship with us from September 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012. Yasu is a Master of Divinity student at the Vancouver School of Theology, and after his internship with us, will return there to complete his degree leading to ordination in the United Church of Canada. Yasu is from Japan and has lived in Vancouver since 2005. He enjoys preaching, soccer and playing the acoustic guitar.

The Rev. Mark MacLean will be his work supervisor. Katherine Corlett and Janet MacPherson will meet with him weekly as his educational supervisors and the Lay Supervision Team will be finalized under the leadership of Judy Britnell.

Yasu graduated from the International Christian University in Tokyo. The Rev. Maki Fushii, our newest Volunteer Associate Minister, also worked at International Christian University.

# A Prayer for Pride,

Sunday June 26 7:00pm

Be sure to join us for this special service.

## Baptisms and New Members—Our St. Andrew's family is growing

April 17

Baptisms: Adults: Jennifer Lee Hall, Dana Arthur Mitchell

Children: Alexander Michael James Aylward, son of Jennifer Hall and Kevin Aylward, Tony-James (T.J.) Andrews Joao, son of Lisa Andrews and Tony Joao, Owen David Mitchell, son of Jill Prior and Dana Mitchell, Zoe Margaret Mitchell, daughter of Jill Prior and Dana Mitchell

New Members by Transfer & Profession of Faith: Lisa Andrews, Kevin Aylward, Kris Daley, Jeremy Dick, Jennifer Hall, Barbara Maxwell, Rod Maxwell, Dana Mitchell, Jill Prior, Peter Shephard, Glenda Verbeek

May 1:

Confirmations: Emilia Malgorzata Wanda von dem Hagen, Emma Linnea Lepri, Elaine Alison Perry Smail,

Baptisms/Confirmations: Carter Elizabeth Connelly, Shauna Leigh Ann Pittman

May 8:

Baptisms: Isabel Stone Edwards, daughter of Jennifer Dick & Gary Edwards,

Naomi Michaela Susan Nwasu, daughter of Chioma Nwasu & Mark Garrow,

Alexandra Mary Grant Vahramian, daughter of Martha Grant & Edward Vahramian

Emilie Lucille Grant Vahramian, daughter of Martha Grant & Edward Vahramian

Olivia Jean Grant Vahramian, daughter of Martha Grant & Edward Vahramian

