

Cornerstone



Lenten Worship

As we draw to the close of Epiphany, God's light among us, and begin the journey inward through Lent to the Cross and shadows, we take some time to reflect on what we mean by living as a Christian? Again, following the revelation on the mountaintop of The Transfiguration of Christ, we descend to the wilds of the cultural desert that surrounds our everyday lives as Christ did. This is exactly what Jesus in Matthew's Gospel is trying to make clear in this timeless reading, "Consider the lilies of the field" from the Sermon on the Mount. We share the same journey of learning and temptation, of challenge and need. This shared journey in faith is Jesus' central image for Christian discipleship – "Do not worry, about excessive material consumption or the challenges of tomorrow, today is enough; for your God will provide".

The Christian life is about engaging in the world and culture around us with deep passion and faithful commitment, offering God's hospitality to all. The Christian life is **not** about attempting to escape from the reality of our dog-eat-dog world or the individualistic culture that surrounds us. It is **not** about avoiding our responsibilities to ensure healthy and secure lives for the ones we love and our community. What we do here together in the community of Christ is to explore the very thin and utterly mysterious line between **entertainment** and **engagement**. Here in our worship we seek guidance and strength not to cross that line. But we also receive the assurance of a forgiving love, freely offered, when we acknowledge that daily we do cross the line for we are only human; although created in the image of the divine, we're by no means perfect.

We are invited into the heart of God in our *Sanctuary In The City*. It is a place of faith, not to escape from the pressures of our daily lives but to enter into them more fully, and more completely inspired by the Christ who walked this way before. In doing so we are inspired by the generosity of generations before us to utilize our sacred space and our gifts of wealth and spirit to encourage others to benefit from the same inspiration — the support and love we are the beneficiaries of today. It is our high calling to provide a vision for future generations, to faithfully engage each other and the community around us with a passion and commitment that builds bridges, opens fences and tears down the walls between us.

We will share the gift of faith through stories of "**Personal Pilgrimage**" with members of our church and the wider community exploring whether values and faith impact our daily living.

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| 7:00 pm Wednesday, March 9 | Ash Wednesday – Celtic Lamentations
Sermon: <i>Dust & Ashes</i> |
| 11:00 am Sunday, March 13 | Lent 1 – Halina von dem Hagen , PhD. Economics; Fin. Ind.
Sermon: <i>Lovers In A Dangerous Time</i> |
| 11:00 am Sunday, March 20 | Lent 2 – Lorne Nehring , Jazz Drum Professor & Performer
Sermon: <i>Waiting For A Miracle</i> |
| 11:00 am Sunday, March 27 | Lent 3 – Hege Lepri , Sociologist, Blogger & Worship Chair
Sermon: <i>Free To Be</i> |
| 11:00 am Sunday, April 3 | Lent 4 – Hon Art Eggleton , Senator, former Mayor of Toronto
Sermon: <i>Up On This Hillside</i> |
| 11:00 am Sunday, April 10 | Lent 5 – Joe Mihevc , City Councillor & PhD, Theology
Sermon: <i>Rumours of Glory</i> |
| 11:00 am Sunday, April 17 | Palms & Passion: Baptism & New Members; Lisa Parmiter & Henry Poutiainen share their "Theological Pilgrimage". |
| 7:00 pm Thursday, April 21 | Maundy Thursday |
| 11:00 am Friday, April 22 | Good Friday – @ Rosedale Presbyterian Church |

Getting to Know...Day Merrill

Q. What brought you to St. Andrew's? How long have you been here?

A. I was introduced to St. Andrew's by former Music Director Dexter Roberts. He was a student of mine in the Organizational Behaviour course I teach for the Human Resources Professional Association. He and I became friends when we discovered we were both attending the Worship Matters conference in Halifax in 2005.. The first SAUC service I attended was the Pride Service in 2006. I was recommended by Dexter as a Supply Preacher in the summer of 2007, and was actually the last preacher before the arrival of Mark MacLean the next week!

Q. What does St. Andrew's mean to you? Why is it important to you to be part of this community?

A I was moving from Richmond Hill to Toronto where my daughter Robin and I both were working. I was looking for a faith community, and I liked everything about SAUC right from the start. Even though I moved back to Richmond Hill this past summer, St. Andrew's remains my spiritual "home." I love the diversity of people and worship styles, the architecture and music, the inspired leadership and programming. I feel that this is a place where anything is possible!

Q. How has your faith helped you in your life?

As the daughter of the Church Secretary, I grew up in church (1st Parish Church Congregationalist in Brunswick, Maine) Faith has always been a big part of my life, and

more so in recent years. I have finally given up trying to do God's job. Someone once told me, "If God is your co-pilot, move over!" I made a conscious decision to turn my life and my will over to the care of God as I understand Him/Her. Ever since, my life has been filled with amazing grace!

Q. What spiritual practices do you use regularly?

A. I practise "an attitude of gratitude," starting and ending every day thanking God for all the abundant goodness in my life. I ask for strength to deal with the challenges that inevitably come and for purposefulness in doing my part to create the world God dreams of for all of His/Her beloved creation.

Q. What do you do outside of St. Andrew's?

A. have my own Career-Work-Life coaching business and assist a range of clients in finding the careers/work/jobs that allow them to contribute their "gifts differing." I read fiction daily and belong to two book clubs. I write poetry and am working on a book about the experience of losing your job. My family and friends are very important and finally, I am a self-professed gym rat!

Q. How old are you?

A. Sixty-two-good to be true :)

Q. Where were you born?

A. Portland, Maine on St. Andrew's Day (November 29-Joyce Ford is my Birthday Twin :)

Q. Where do you live now?

A. I share a townhouse facing a ravine in Richmond Hill with Michael Locey, a 13-year old

Golden Retriever and a rescued cat.

Q. Favourite scriptural verse or spiritual quote?

A. Joshua 24:15. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Q. What is one thing you give thanks for?

A. That we are created in God's image, and therefore called to love, bless, create and forgive as we go about whatever our life's work may be.



Day Merrill is the new chair of the Faith Formation Committee

Getting to Know...Michael Locey

Q. What brought you to St. Andrew's? How long have you been here?

A. My partner in work and life, Day Merrill, introduced me to St. Andrew's in 2007. I had joined the United Church at Richmond Hill United where I had been living since 1995. I ended up following Rev. Elizabeth Macdonald from RHUC to Kimbourne Park United located near Danforth and Coxwell from 1997 through 2001, so I've been used to commuting to church for some time!

Q. What does St. Andrew's mean to you? Why is it important to you to be part of this community?

A. I appreciate the ministry of Rev. Mark MacLean, singing in the choir led by Mark Ruhnke and the diverse community of people. I've certainly felt "carried" by the community through some difficult times and I am very grateful for this.

Q. How has your faith helped you in your life?

A. My parents have been very involved in the Presbyterian Church in the US, so church has been part of my life from birth. The family story is that they chose the Presbyterian Church over the Methodist Church as the Presbyterian Church had a nursery where I could be left, whereas the Methodist Church did not. So I've been influential in my family's choice of worship from the beginning! I went through a typical teenage set of questions, based on my rational, mathematical and scientific outlook at the time, which was not quite a rebellion, but led to a real search for the why and how of religion, and what it might mean for me. I think faith and knowledge have become intertwined for me to

a certain extent, but where faith has been helpful is in not taking mysteries or questions for granted, but pursuing a path towards satisfying answers and having the patience to wait for revelation where things don't make sense.

Q. What spiritual practices do you use regularly?

A. Study; reading religious texts including the Bible; dedicated inquiry into the mysteries that lie behind our Christian religious viewpoint and understanding. Developing more compassion, which hopefully is creating for me a greater connection to others and the world. Finding the courage to pursue activities like singing in the choir, which was originally well outside my comfort zone!

Q. What do you do outside of St. Andrew's?



A. I have my own Entrepreneurial Coaching business and help a range of clients in their business planning, organizational

design, process improvement and solving problems and implementing particular projects. I play classical guitar, go on bicycle rides (in the summer!) and have a number of associations such as Transition York Region where I am involved in social development initiatives.

Q. How old are you?

A. Fifty-nine.

Q. Where were you born?

A. Homestead, Pennsylvania on St. Michael's Day (September 29th)

Q. Where do you live now?

A. I am currently living in Richmond Hill.

Q. Favourite scriptural verse or spiritual quote?

A. 1 John 4:16 "God is love; and he that abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him."

Q. What is one thing you give thanks for?

A. That my daughters, Clara and Robin, have grown up into such special, loving and caring human beings. They are truly the stars of my life and I am grateful that I have had the grace of experiencing and contributing to their lives and development.



Michael Locey is a new Presbytery representative from St. Andrew's. He is also a choir member

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES ST. ANDREWS UNITED CHURCH LENTEN FILM SERIES 2011

7 EMPOWERING MOVIES ABOUT REDEMPTION



**THE SHAWSHANK
REDEMPTION**
Friday, March 11th
7:00 pm



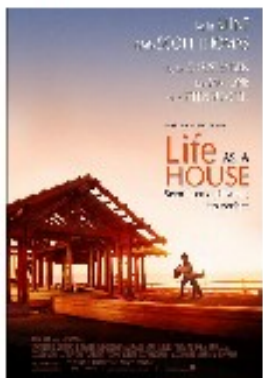
INVICTUS
Friday, March 18th
7:00 pm



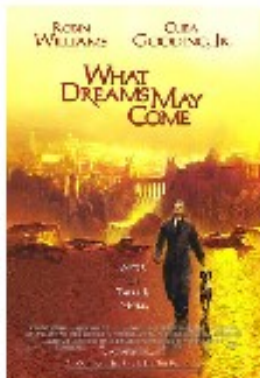
WITNESS
Friday, March 25th
7:00 pm



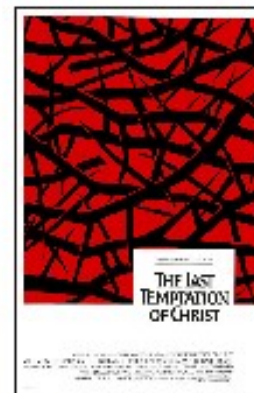
LEAP OF FAITH
Friday, April 1st
7:00 pm



LIFE AS A HOUSE
Friday, April 8th
7:00 pm



WHAT DREAMS MAY COME
Friday, April 15th
7:00 pm



**THE LAST
TEMPTATION
OF CHRIST**
Friday, April 22nd
7:00 pm

HOSTED by: Day Merrill, Chair of the St. Andrews Faith Formation Committee
MODERATED by: Emmanuel Lopez (a.k.a. Motivatorman), Movies That Motivate Blogger

LOCATION: St. Andrews United Church
117 Bloor St. East (southside east of Yonge St.) Toronto

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES ST. ANDREWS UNITED CHURCH LENTEN FILM SERIES 2011

7 EMPOWERING MOVIES ABOUT REDEMPTION

HOSTED by: Day Merrill, Chair of the St. Andrews Faith Formation Committee

MODERATED by: Emmanuel Lopez (a.k.a. Motivatorman), Movies That Motivate Blogger

The Shawshank Redemption

Friday, March 11th

(1994) Director: Frank Darabont; Starring Tim Robbins, Morgan Freeman

Two imprisoned men bond over a number of years, finding solace and eventual redemption through acts of common decency.

Invictus

Friday, March 18th

(2009) Director: Clint Eastwood; Starring Morgan Freeman, Matt Damon

Nelson Mandela, in his first term as the South African President, initiates a unique venture to unite the apartheid-torn land: enlist the national rugby team on a mission to win the 1995 Rugby World Cup.

Witness

Friday, March 25th

(1985) Director: Peter Weir; Starring Harrison Ford, Kelly McGillis

A young Amish boy is the sole witness to a murder; policeman John Book goes into hiding in Amish country to protect him until the trial.

Leap of Faith

Friday, April 1st

(1992) Director: Richard Pearce; Starring Steve Martin, Debra Winger

Fake faith healer Jonas Nightingale is stranded in a small town where he finds he can't fool all of the people all of the time.

Life As A House

Friday, April 8th

(2001) Director: Irwin Winkler; Starring Kevin Kline, Kristin Scott Thomas

When a man is diagnosed with terminal cancer, he takes custody of his misanthropic teenage son, for whom quality time means getting high, engaging in small-time prostitution, and avoiding his father.

What Dreams May Come

Friday, April 15th

(1998) Director: Vincent Ward; Starring Robin Williams, Cuba Gooding Jr.

Chris Neilson dies to find himself in a heaven more amazing than he could have ever dreamed of. There is one thing missing: his wife. After he dies, his wife, Annie killed herself and went to hell. Chris decides to risk eternity in hades for the small chance that he will be able to bring her back to heaven.

The Last Temptation of Christ

Good Friday, April 22nd

(1988) Director: Martin Scorsese; Starring Willem Dafoe

The life of Jesus Christ, his journey through life as he faces the temptations that all humans face during their lives, and his final temptation upon the cross.



MOTIVATORMAN is Emmanuel Lopez, Motivational Superhero! He is an award-winning illustrator, professional speaker and movies that motivate blogger.

THE NEW YORK TIMES and THE WASHINGTON POST have featured his blog called, Movies That Motivate: The Adventures of Motivatorman as a recommended resource for motivational tips and inspiring movie examples. Speaker clients include: TD Canada Trust, Royal Ontario Museum, Lululemon Athletica, Schulich School of Business and The Art Institute of Boston.

Read Movies That Motivate Blog:
www.motivatorman.com

Worship Matters 2011

A Symposium on Preaching, Music, and Worship Leadership

Members of the St. Andrew's community who would like to volunteer to help with this event will be able to attend this event for free. If you would like to get involved, please call the Church Office at (416) 929-0811 to offer your assistance.

What: **Worship Matters** is an annual event on preaching, music, and worship leadership in The United Church of Canada. It is an invaluable experience for worship committee members, clergy, musicians and anyone else who has a passion for the worship of God.

When: 7:00 pm Thursday, June 16 – 5:30 pm Saturday, June 18, 2011.

Where: St Andrew's United Church and Emmanuel College, Toronto, ON.

Who: The event will highlight three keynote presenters:



**Dr. Teresa Fry Brown – In the Midst of It All:
The Power and Paucity of Black Preaching**

Teresa L. Fry Brown is Professor of Homiletics at the Candler School of Theology and Director of Black Church Studies at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. She is ordained in the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church and currently serves as associate pastor of New Bethel AME church in Lithonia, Georgia.



Rev. John Bell – The Countercultural Nature of Christian Song

John Bell is a resource worker with The Iona Community and hymn writer with a primary passion for the congregational song. He is a worship leader and author, a past convener of the Church of Scotland's "Panel on Worship".



Sarah Hall – The Art and Ministry of Stained Glass

Sarah Hall is one of North America's best-known stained-glass artists. She teaches Art, History and Techniques of Stained Glass at Regis College, University of Toronto. Past projects include almost 1,000 windows and some of the largest installations in North America.

Worship Matters/Célébrons Ensemble 2011

Schedule

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Emmanuel

2:00-3:00 p.m. Registration and Refreshments
3:00-5:00 Gathering Events

St Andrew's United Church

7:00 p.m. Opening Worship with Teresa Fry Brown
9:00 Reception

Friday, June 17

St Andrew's United Church

8:30 a.m. Morning Worship
9:00-10:30 Sarah Hall: *The Art and Ministry of Stained Glass*

Emmanuel

10:30-11:00 a.m. Break
11:00-12:30 Workshop 1
12:30-2:00 p.m. Lunch (Burwash Hall)
2:00-3:30 Workshop 2
3:30-4:00 Break
4:00-5:30 John Bell: *The Countercultural Nature of Christian Song*
5:30-6:00 Break
6:00 Banquet Supper (Burwash Hall)
8:00 Music Celebration

Saturday, June 18

St Andrew's United Church

8:30 a.m. Morning Worship
9:00-10:30 Teresa Fry Brown: *In the Midst of It All: The Power and Paucity of Black Preaching*

Emmanuel

10:30-11:00 a.m. Break
11:00-12:30 Workshop 3
12:30-2:00 p.m. Lunch (Burwash Hall)
2:00-3:30 Workshop 4
3:30-4:00 Break
4:00-5:30 Closing Worship with Mardi Tindal



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We're on the web

www.standrewsunited.com

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 us. Thank you.

Articles for the next newsletter must be submitted

St. Andrew's United Church
117 Bloor Street East
Toronto ON M4W 1A9

February 16, 2011

St. Andrew's Church
Mark MacLean, Minister
117 Bloor Street East
Toronto, ON M4W 3M5

RE: 160 Bloor – Donation to the Food Bank
Dear Mark:

We recently held a Jewellery Sale in the lobby of the above building. Since we charge a fee for this sale, we have decided to donate this amount to the Food Bank.

Please find enclosed a cheque for \$100.00 from our client, JC House of Design, payable to St. Andrew's Church.

Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Yours truly,

Colliers International



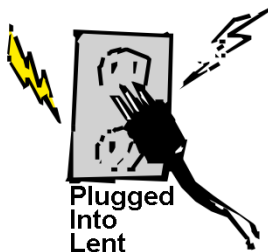
Pauline Fowles, RPA, LEED Green Associate
Senior Property Manager

Ash Wednesday Service 7pm, March 9

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent (40 days before Easter) not counting Sundays. It is called Ash Wednesday because ashes are placed on foreheads by the minister as a sign of repentance. Ashes come from burning the previous year's Palm Sunday fronds which you see in the chapel at St. Andrew's.

2011 Lenten Reflection Group: **Plugged into Lent**

Join Lenten activities at St Andrew's and share a time to reflect on your faith pilgrimage! After starting with an Ash Wednesday service March 9 themed "Celtic Lamentations", we will continue to meet as a group for the following six Wednesdays right up to Easter. We will explore the words of Paul written to three urban churches of his day – Rome, Ephesus and Philippi – and consider how we see our own pilgrimage in them.



How will we "plug in", get a surge and feel connected during the six weeks? For those who can make it at 6:30 or so, we'll restore energy reserves with sandwiches and light snacks. At 7pm, we will gather to hear the theme and reading from Paul for the evening, after which Jennifer Dick will choreograph our bodies in prayer. Each week, we will hear one personal account of pilgrimage before we break out into small groups where we can share our own experiences of walking in faith today. By 9pm, we'll close by plugging into a song together, to keep us connected with our faith until the next time we meet.

So welcome March 9 to the Ash Wednesday service, and starting Wednesday March 16 at 7pm to the Lenten Reflection Group!

Henry Poutiainen, Ministerial Intern