



# YPBC NEWS

October 2012

This is the third article in a series of articles I have written for the newsletter based on the six major objectives of The Long Range Plan of Yorkminster Park Baptist Church.

## **TO BE A WORSHIPPING CHURCH, WHERE WE BROADEN OUR WORSHIP EXPERIENCES SO THAT WE ARE INSPIRED TO A GREATER FAITH AND COMMITMENT.**

Historically, Yorkminster Park Baptist Church has been set apart by its worship. Most today would describe its worship style as ‘traditional’ and yet it was not always so. Eighty-five years ago when the church opened her doors at Yonge and Heath the worship was very similar to what it is today, but at that time it would have been considered more cutting edge than traditional. Our order of service of that day appears to have been very similar to the new services being used at the church which was to become New York’s Riverside Church. There are numerous other historical footnotes that would suggest there was a connection between the two churches, and the worship was very similar.

However, whether it is described as traditional or cutting edge, the worship both then and now was and is characterized by the description in the church’s mission statement of 1994 as ‘structured worship.’ It is not the warmest of descriptions, but nonetheless it is true. Our worship is structured, which means it is thoughtfully, prayerfully and carefully crafted to follow a designed order. In the 1920’s the service was a sharp contrast to both the ‘gospel’ services of



the day which would have had more of an extemporaneous flavour and the Pentecostal movement which would have seemed radically unstructured.

Those who craft the worship service at Yorkminster Park have always sought to build on a reverent and transcendent approach to worship. Indeed, the large neo-gothic design of the Sanctuary invites such an approach. But beyond the traditional style, in recent years we have also sought to instil the service with genuine warmth generated by the hospitable spirit of the people and the caring tone of those leading the worship.

Our recent long term plan calls on us to broaden our worship experiences, but there is no thought of compromising our reverent and awe-inspiring approach to worship. In the months ahead we will be seeking to flesh out how we can indeed broaden our worship experience. It may well mean offering a mid-week service for those frequently away on weekends. It may involve the publication of a new supplementary hymn book and the introduction of some new hymns, litanies and corporate prayers over time.

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*Director of Children's Ministries*

**Mrs. Heather Hetherington**

*Parish Nurse*

**The Rev. Dr. William Sturgess**

*Minister Emeritus-Pastoral Care*

It is my hope that a small committee will soon be formed to help guide this part of our long term plan. Please pray for the clergy and musicians as we not only seek God's wisdom in developing this plan, but as week by week we seek to offer worship that raises us all above the concerns of the day that we may lay them in faith before the Sovereign Creator and Ruler of the Universe and be lost in wonder love and praise of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The late William Temple, who served as Archbishop of Canterbury during the 1940's defined worship in the following way:

***"Worship is the submission of all of our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness, nourishment of mind by His truth, purifying of imagination by His beauty, opening of the heart to His love, and submission of will to his purpose. And all this gathered up in adoration is the greatest of human expressions of which we are capable."***

May these wise words guide us all as week by week the Holy Spirit empowers us to gather as a people and offer praise and thanksgiving to God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Peter

In this issue:

	Page
Musings - Pastoral Care	2
These Days in Children's Ministries	3
Heather Hetherington	4
Sponsored Family - Update	5
Update - YPBC Women's Executive	6
Birth of a School	9
Transitions	11
Yorkminster Park Gallery	12

In this issue we welcome the perspectives of our new Minister of Pastoral Care.

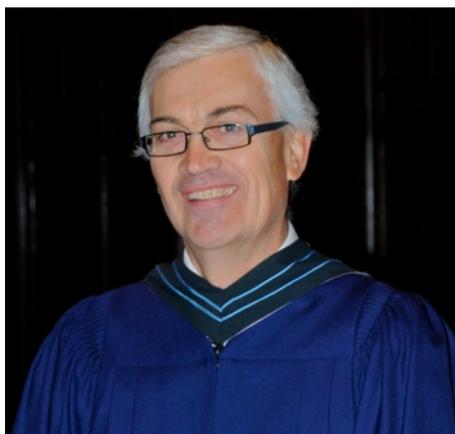
One of the feature articles (page 9) is the update from the YPBC Women's Executive. The activities of the YPBC Women are many and this group makes a significant contribution to the overall life of the church. Financially the Women are independent, but do contribute to other activities in the church; most recently new chairs for Cameron Hall.

Comments and suggestions for future editions of the YPBC News are welcome. Please send them to:

[pilgrim.h@sympatico.ca](mailto:pilgrim.h@sympatico.ca)

*Paul R. Hill*

## MUSINGS FROM THE MINISTER OF PASTORAL CARE



Most of us would agree that first impressions are important. When we meet someone for the first time, we usually walk away with some initial impressions about the encounter. The same goes for many other things in life, be it a job interview, house hunting, travelling to another country or a host of other new experiences. As your new Minister of Pastoral Care, I've been asked to offer some reflections for this edition of the church newsletter. As I considered this opportunity, I thought this would be a great chance to give my first impressions of my first week at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. I offer these thoughts from the threefold perspective of past, present and future.

**Honouring the past.** It seems to me that this is something Yorkminster Park does very well. Over the years it has continued to carry on the great tradition of excellence in worship, preaching and the ministry of music. From the swelling notes of the magnificent pipe organ to the great liturgies of the faith; from the vocal harmonies of the choir to the tender and gentle moments of the children's story; from the reading of the scriptures to the proclamation of the Word, this church successfully honours some of the great traditions of our faith. I watched the webcast of the service from September 30<sup>th</sup>, which was John Torrance's last Sunday. You honoured John's ministry over the years in a special way. I am indebted to my predecessor for helping to ease my transition to this congregation, and for initiating some wonderful and effective ministries which I hope to carry on.

**Welcoming of the present.** Both Donna and I felt warmly welcomed by the congregation on our first Sunday. Many of you have already embraced my ministry here, and have made the transition much easier for me. My first week also happened to be Thanksgiving Sunday. The front of the church was beautifully decorated in the colours of autumn, and the display of fruits and vegetables symbolized God's rich harvest in our lives. The staff at Yorkminster Park have also welcomed and accepted me as part of the team, for which I am grateful. This church is an exciting place to be, and as the saying goes, "there's no time like the present" to jump in and get involved.

**Anticipation of the future.** In recent months, I have greatly anticipated the beginning of my ministry here at Yorkminster Park. You graciously waited and afforded me the opportunity to finish well in the ministry of my previous church. During my first week here, I have jumped in with both feet (or maybe headfirst, depending on how you look at it!) I went on the bus trip to Stratford (where I met lots of people); shared in a day long pastoral staff retreat; and made visits to some of our church members in local hospitals. I have been impressed in my initial conversations with the ministry team. Their enthusiasm and passion for this church and its ministry is infectious. I am looking forward to our future together, as I become better acquainted with you all and your diverse gifts for service in God's kingdom.

So these are my "first impressions" of a week at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. It seems to me that past, present and future are nicely balanced in the ministry we share together in this place. Thank you for your warm welcome to Donna and me, along with our visiting family. In terms of my first week, so far so good... now if I could only stop getting lost in this large building!

Blessings and peace, Dale

## THESE DAYS IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



These are exciting days in Children's Ministries. There are new families joining us, we are in our second year of using the Orange curriculum and loving it, and our volunteer team is growing and 'coming together'.

Life is very full for young families and sometimes it is hard to know how to guide our children spiritually. The beauty of the Orange program is that helpful tools (that don't take too much time) are available for parents. You can go on line and watch this little DVD about the strategy for the curriculum. It is at <http://whatisorange.org/> and press on the orange button that says: 'What is Orange'. Learn about how the love of the home (red) joins with the light of the church (yellow) to grow the child's faith. The goal is that each child will grow to have a close relationship with God through Jesus. To reach the goal, we are most successful when the home and church link hands and work together.

There are many resources that parents can use with their child. I am having fun with the Parent Cue app that I downloaded to my iPad. Last night I listened to the parent podcast related to this month's theme. I find I get a lot from each of the lesson themes and hope that the children benefit as much as I do! On the Parent Cue, there are ideas of how to ask strategic questions to

reinforce the biblical theme. On the app version there are excerpts from the lesson DVD for children to watch with parents.

Here are some more Resources you will find easy to use in the format best for you:

1. **The Parent Cue** (on paper in the Sunday school area or sent by email monthly) which comes tailored for parents of children in the First Look groups of Preschool and Kindergarten and also for parents of children in 252Basics for Grades 1 to 5.
2. **God Time Cards** are devotional activities for children in Grades 1 - 5 that you can do with or encourage your child to do on their own. These are handed out at the end of small group time.
3. **Studio252.tv Website** On Blast Off Sunday, some families received a code to enter the Studio 252 website. If you didn't get this, ask Miriam or your child's small group leader for one. This membership is provided by the church and is free of charge to you. On this website you will find lots of follow up material for your child and you including tools for every time of the day. Get digital versions of the Movie Poster and Story Cards; see 10 monthly Hang Time videos and so much more!
4. **Parent CUE App** This app offers Drive Time videos and music, Mealtime questions, Hang Time videos, and Parent Time tips, all in the palm of your hand. And you can set it to remind you to use these tools each week. Search "Parent CUE" in iTunes or the Android Market to install it on your mobile device. This is available for both age groups at \$1.99 each.

Have fun! Blessings!

Miriam Little, Director of Children's Ministries  
416-922-1361 [mlittle@yorkminsterpark.com](mailto:mlittle@yorkminsterpark.com)

## HEATHER HETHERINGTON

Someone recently asked me what the Parish Nurse does. I didn't have the job description in front of me so I instead described some of the things Heather Hetherington has done in the eight years she has served on our ministry team.



photo by Donna Willett

A typical week for Heather would probably include accompanying a few people on their visits to an oncologist, surgeon, cardiologist or GP in order to listen and ask appropriate questions alongside the parishioner who is often feeling completely overwhelmed. She is able to act as both translator and advocate while providing spiritual care and sometimes even door to door taxi service. During the same week she would probably sit with a family and help them understand the process of application to senior's residences and even get the ball rolling. There would be others she would look in on at the hospital or nursing home and family members who would seek her out to help clarify a medical diagnosis or procedure. Her week

also involves prayers in the chapel each Tuesday morning and often after church following the Sunday morning service. She keeps the ministry team updated and together visits are planned so that we schedule visits not to overlap.

Heather also takes an active role in promoting health care education in the church family by arranging special lectures, presentations and seminars. During her years she has brought many of the experts in the various medical fields into the church to present. In doing so she has helped us offer our blessing and prayers to these important members of the community whatever their particular faith may or may not be. In this sense she has been a great ambassador of the church and as she has become well known to various community groups and health care centres the witness of the church has always been enhanced.

There are many remarkable stories of Heather's ministry that we may never know because she is not one to blow her own horn. However, I do know of two instances where she had literally saved a person's life. If I ever have a heart attack, I hope and pray Heather is in the room as she was on an occasion when a member of Grace Church on-the-Hill slumped down in their chair at a meeting and almost died before our very eyes. Thanks to Heather's quick and skillful response the woman is alive to this day.

There are so many other things I could list like health care clinics in the park, and the introduction of various emergency protocols in the church as well as the hours she has spent just listening to people overwhelmed by life, but before I got that far in my conversation I was interrupted by the questioner who said, “But I thought you said Heather was a part-time employee.” “It is true,” I replied, “She is supposedly half time, but the reality is she is whole-hearted and her watch stopped working years ago.”

Heather Hetherington is retiring from the position of Parish Nurse as of October 31st and we will miss her greatly. After eight years of remarkable service we can only wish her many years of the good health she has helped to bring to us. God bless Heather Hethington!

submitted by Peter Holmes

## OUR SPONSORED FAMILY – FALL UPDATE

### One chapter ends, a new one begins....



On Sunday 23 September, several dozen members of the Yorkminster Park congregation joined Ebrahim, Batoul, and Nazli in the Friendship Room after the morning service. With a tea reception, we marked the conclusion (on 22 August 2012) of YPBC’s official sponsorship of the family. It was a celebration of what the family has achieved over the past year to settle in their new homeland, and an opportunity for the family to say thank you, and for YPBC friends to wish them well as they begin their second year in Canada.

Ebrahim expressed heartfelt thanks on behalf of his family. Daughter Nazli concluded the family's remarks by reading a

beautiful poem written by Ebrahim.

Co-chairs Jake Aikenhead and Kathleen Wilson spoke a few words on behalf of the Board of Mission, reiterating the mission and ministry of YPBC. They expressed how we have been blessed by and through the family, and affirmed that they are no longer strangers we welcomed, but part of our family.

David Phillips brought (most of) those gathered to tears with a masterful recounting of dramatic highlights in the life of the family, and of his and Cathie's experiences with them over many years. He spoke of watching Ebrahim watching a version of the gospel of Mark on television, and the marvel of seeing him open his eyes to who Jesus is - how the story of Jesus touching the leper led to his coming to faith.

John Torrance closed the formal proceedings with a prayer and benediction.

It has been a rich, challenging, and for some of us, long experience of walking alongside this family. We deeply appreciate your prayers, volunteer time and effort, financial contributions, and faithful interest, without which this sponsorship would not have been possible – and that would have been a deep loss not only to this family, but to us individually and as a congregation.

Although our formal sponsorship has ended, Ebrahim, Batoul, and Nazli need our ongoing prayers, especially with regards to their financial situation, and as they seek work sufficient to meet their needs. Our prayer is that you will be willing and available to provide them with friendship and warm attention as they continue their journey among us, transitioning from refugees to new Canadians.



photos by Donna Willett

submitted by Janet Kim, for the Refugee Sponsorship and Settlement Committee YPBC Board of Mission

## UPDATE FROM THE YPBC WOMEN'S EXECUTIVE

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

As women with a passion for serving God, we are a caring community who strive to be faithful, creative and accepting.

#### For such a time as this we endeavor to:

1. Invite and welcome all women into our community
2. Encourage women to discover their full potential in Christ
3. Motivate, minister, mentor and befriend
4. Live and serve under the influence and empowerment of God's Spirit

### CURRENT MINISTRIES AND SERVICES:

#### Weekly

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** 10 to 11:30 am, YPBC Friendship Room

Leader: Carol Belford - Currently studying "Women of the Old Testament"

Women of all ages are invited if you have Tuesday mornings free. Carol says that all you need to bring is your imagination and an openness to the ways in which God works in our lives.

#### **Other study opportunities available:**

- Sunday Morning and Midweek Bible Studies at YPBC
- Intriciti - Integrating Faith and Business - Alana Walker Carpenter

Two groups have openings:

- 1) MAMA MEa - Roundtable (Women) – At the home of "The Carpenters"  
Third Thursday of the month – 8 to 10 pm (Don Mills and Lawrence)  
(Combined Intriciti and YPBC)
- 2) Emerging/Seasoned Corporate Leaders Roundtable (Women) – Wednesdays – 7:30 to 8:30am  
Marche (Brookfield Place)

Please email Nicole Passerin, Intriciti Intern, at [intern@intriciti.ca](mailto:intern@intriciti.ca) if you are interested in either of these roundtables.

**Dorcas Group:** Tuesdays in their NEW room # 508, 10 am to 1 PM. Bring a lunch – coffee and tea provided!

Leader: Lois Bishop

A time of fellowship, while articles are knitted/crocheted for those less fortunate. "Dorcas" also trims stamps for the Canadian Bible Society as well as soup labels which help to purchase sports equipment.

#### **Flower Delivery:**

Flowers from the sanctuary are delivered every Monday by women *and men* to those who may be ill or shut in. If you'd like to help out in this ministry please contact Kay Hayes at 416-447-9416. Kay would love to have lots of volunteers!

#### Monthly

**Mission Fellowship:** First Thursday of every month 12:30 to 2 pm, YPBC Friendship Room

Leader: Esther Barnes

An inspiring roster of speakers with a missional focus make this a rich and informative experience. Bring a lunch. Cookies and tea are provided. Men and women welcome.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Fourth Tuesday of every month 7 to 9 pm, YPBC Friendship Room

Coordinator: Rhoda Hill

Men and women are invited to share in this ministry of care and outreach for an evening of knitting and fellowship. Expert knitters and "crocheters" are available to teach and assist us. Needles, yarn and patterns are also available. Members of the pastoral care team deliver completed projects to shut-ins and to those going

through difficult times or treatments. Our prayer is that recipients would experience the embrace of God's love and healing in this tangible way.

### **Ongoing**

**General** - Volunteers needed to assist with various events.

**Link and Visitor** – An informative bi-monthly publication by Canadian Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec that highlights local and global missional initiatives.

Coordinator: Marilyn Brady

**House of Compassion Meal Preparation:** First Thursday of every month

Coordinator - Inga Fjuk

Inga reports that more than a dozen women help fill a freezer with casseroles for House of Compassion. Several women meet once a month and enjoy a great time as they cook in the Heritage Room kitchen. Others make the "recipe of the month" at home and bring it to the church. House of Compassion staff affectionately refer to these casseroles as "throw ins"! More "at home" cooks are very welcome. For more information, contact Inga at [ingaindeerpark@sympatico.ca](mailto:ingaindeerpark@sympatico.ca).

### **Food Services:**

Meals are provided for the Fall and Spring Thankoffering meetings and occasionally for receptions. Men and women are part of our team. Anyone interested in food preparation and/or clean up for any event, please contact Rhoda Hill 416-691-9219 or Ellen Branscombe 416-395-2990

### **Seasonal**

#### **Fall and Spring Thankofferings:**

Our speakers/programmes are planned to bring local and global missional emphases to the attention of the YPBC congregation. Men and women are warmly invited and welcomed. Funds raised at these celebrations are primarily directed to the ministries of Canadian Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec.

Coming in November...**"Lessons from Lebanon"** On Saturday November 17th our dynamic YPBC Short Term Mission team will report on their ministry in a Lebanese children's camp this past summer. This mission fulfilled part of our three year agreement with our Canadian Baptist Ministries' STEP partner, the Lebanese Society for Educational and Social Development. Be sure to save this date and watch the bulletin/ bulletin boards for further information. Tickets will be available from members of the Women's Exec. and from the church office. Lunch will be served.

#### **Salt and Leaven (Women)**

Each year three Salt and Leaven potluck suppers are planned in home environments, for all women, on the last Monday of October, February and May. As women we are encouraged to be agents of God's love and healing wherever God has placed us. All women are invited to come and share a meal, meet new friends in a relaxed setting and to be inspired by other women's stories and ministries. *Please note* – a homemade meal for potluck is not a necessity if time is of the essence- we'd love to have you come. The next Salt and Leaven will be held on Monday October 29, 6:30 pm at the home of Violet Pantilidis, 16 Chestnut Park Road, Toronto. All women are warmly invited!

#### **Fundraisers**

Monies from our fundraising activities have been directed to our local/global missionaries and missional activities, our STM team and to purchase equipment and supplies to enhance the YPBC environment and ministries. Some examples of fundraisers are the Victorian Tea, Eduard Klassen (harpist), Tim Elliott (pianist), Christmas dinners provided for Matthew House and lunches provided for University Women.

#### **Retreat (Women)**

We are already planning our third annual retreat for women for February 2/13 – details to follow. This day apart takes place in an off-site venue to provide spiritual refreshment and encouragement to women of all ages. Rev. Cheryl Hanna has led "I'll Bring the Chocolate" and "Praying in Colour" and the theme for next year's retreat will be "Getting Naked". Be sure to save this date (see following page).

**(Women's World Day of Prayer) – Now called World Day of Prayer (With Churches on the Hill) – First Friday in March**

**Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer – November 5th**

At YPBC this is promoted through Mission Fellowship. The 2012 day of prayer continues *In Step With the Spirit* (Gal. 5:25) with a program that focuses on joy, one of the fruits of the Spirit. This year's program has been prepared by the Asian Baptist Women's Union.

**Christmas Cookie Delivery**

This annual ministry to shut-ins has been coordinated at YPBC by Janet Swan. Please watch the bulletin for details.

**Funerals**

Coordinator: Judy MacDonald

This is a caring ministry to families as they consider the many arrangement/ details at a time of bereavement. Volunteers are also on site to provide information and direction to family and friends on the day of the funeral.

We give thanks for the many opportunities that God has provided for us to be his servants in the power of his Spirit. At the Fall 2011, Baptist Women's at Elim Lodge, our CBM returning missionary, Cathie Phillips, recommended a book for women: *Lioness Arising – Wake Up and Change Your World* by Lisa Bevere. Securely rooted in Scripture, Bevere writes to women:

**“YOU TOO ARE A LIONESS. *Women, it's time to...***

**AWAKEN...**

***God did not save you to tame you.***

**AWAKEN...**

***to a life of fierce passion.***

**AWAKEN...**

***to dangerous prayer, stunning power, and teamed purpose.***

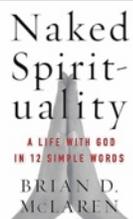
**AWAKEN...**

***your response could very well change your world.”***

Members of the YPBC Women's Executive:

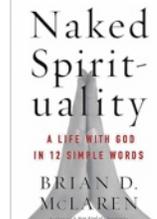
Co-chairs – Rhoda Hill, Ellen Branscombe with Catherine O'May, Chris Gay, Elizabeth McCleery, Judy MacDonald, Mary Stevens, Marilyn Brady, Marlene MacLuckie, Jonanne Fenton

submitted by Jonanne Fenton



## **ATTENTION ALL WOMEN**

**SAVE THIS DATE - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2013  
WOMEN'S RETREAT TO BE HELD AT NOVOTEL NORTH YORK  
FACILITATED BY CHERYLE HANNA  
“GETTING NAKED”**



**BASED ON THE BRIAN MCLAREN BOOK: NAKED SPIRITUALITY: A LIFE WITH GOD IN 12 SIMPLE WORDS**

*“This is a book about getting naked—not physically, but spiritually. It's about stripping away the symbols and status of public religion—the Sunday-dress version people often call ‘organized religion.’ Now we are after a lost treasure as old as the story of the Garden of Eden: the possibility of being naked and not ashamed, naked before God and naked before one another, too, so we have no need to cover up., to be who we are, what we are, as we are. I hope this book will help you strip away distractions and discover that precious hidden treasure underneath.”*

## THE BIRTH OF A SCHOOL

### WELCOME

We welcome and celebrate the coming of The Dalton School to Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. The school began classes on September 5, 2012. It is special that the Founder and Director of the school is Kim Abell, a member of the Church for the past eight years.

Kim's inspiration to start a dual language school grew from her dream over the past few years of "providing a loving environment where children could express their creativity and amazing intelligence. I wanted to create a gentle, loving space where they could grow". When I asked Kim what she would see as success for this new school she responded "I already feel it is a success because despite the small numbers the children are extremely happy".

### A NEW BEGINNING

How did this all begin? Kim had obviously given considerable thought and understood the huge challenge it would be to establish a school for small children. One key hurdle was the availability of adequate facilities which must conform to rigid regulations set by the Ontario Education Ministry. Kim was aware of the excellent facilities at Yorkminster Park and approached the Church in the summer of 2011. There was not time for an adequate response and since time was of the essence, Kim had to look elsewhere. In early 2012 two leaders and Dr. Peter Holmes wondered if we had really lost Kim. Immediate contact was made with Kim and a hastily called meeting opened the dialogue that resulted in Kim's decision to locate at Yorkminster. Many meetings with key leaders, administrative staff and governing boards paved the way for this new school to be established. Once again time was an enemy if this school was to start in September of 2012. Repairs to church property were necessary as well as changes to the actual school facilities. In close cooperation with Miriam Little, Director of Children's Ministries, Kim brought major improvements to the already excellent Sunday school facilities. It is hard to imagine the challenges that Kim faced in the short time frame of seven months. Consider this: a mother of four young children; a husband who has just entered the field of politics facing an impending election; adhering to stringent government regulations and approvals; designing classroom facilities and implementation; many meetings with church officials including necessary approvals from governing church boards; interviewing prospective teachers. Incredibly, a new school was born on September 5, 2012. Kim is most grateful for the assistance of staff and leaders at Yorkminster Park. While many were involved, special thanks go to Tim



Aikenhead during renovations of the Sunday school area. Linda Browning so new in her administrative roll, as Kim put it "moved heaven and earth for me this past summer" and of course Miriam Little who "gave of her heart to share the space with me".

### A DUAL LANGUAGE SCHOOL

The Dalton School is a dual language school – English and Mandarin. Dual language is a form of education where children learn core academic subjects in two languages which is proven to be very effective in providing many academic advantages to the students as well as the added bonus of bilingualism.

The Dalton School begins in junior kindergarten and continues for five years to grade three. A 50/50 model



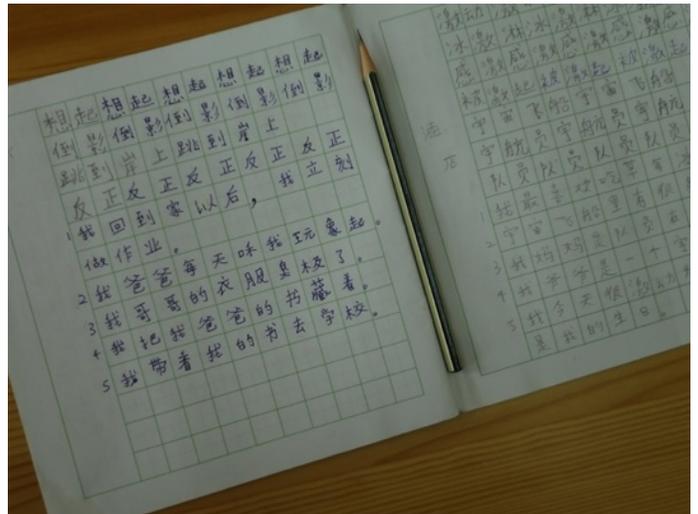
is followed, that is half the day is spent speaking, reading and writing in English with a native English speaking teacher, and the other half day is spent speaking, reading and writing in Mandarin, taught by a native Mandarin speaking teacher. All children whether native speaking Mandarin or English are welcomed with the belief that this promotes bilingualism, bi-literacy and multiculturalism.

Studies have shown that in four or five years students in dual language classrooms typically out perform their peers in monolingual classrooms. Further, students sustain these positive results and advantages over their peers through middle and high school. The Ontario curriculum is followed at all grade levels. Teachers use specific strategies to ensure that students are able to understand academic material in the second language. Bilingual students tend to perform better on tasks calling for divergent thinking, pattern recognition and problem solving. They use strategies to figure out the relationship between what is happening and what is being said. Bilingual students also have enhanced employment opportunities later in life. The Dalton School hopes to eventually add grades four, five and six.

### WHY THE MANDARIN LANGUAGE

Here is Kim's response in a letter to parents and guardians.

“As Canadians we see that our children are facing an evolution of global competition. They must be well educated and have advanced skills that show off their wonderful talents. I feel that Mandarin is the language of the future and so I seek to provide your children with the opportunity to learn it at a young age. My niece and nephew, both in their early twenties, are fluent in Mandarin. It was because of this ability with the language that they are starting out in careers of their choice.”



### THE NAME

The school is named for Kim's grandmother, Kathleen Dalton, who showed great warmth to everyone who met her. She was smart and competitive and she knew that it is through positive thought that we attain success.

Presently the enrolment consists of five students with two more enrolled for September 2013. A maximum of thirty is the target. School hours are 8:30 to 3:30 with options for aftercare to 5 pm. Staff arrive at 8 am and leave after the children. The age span of the children is 4-8. The school year is September to June. Entrance to the school is the outside entrance to Cameron Hall. Eventually a playground area will be set up on the south side (Heath Street) of the Church.

The staff consists of five exceptionally bright, well educated women more fully described in the school's website - [www.thedaltonschool.ca](http://www.thedaltonschool.ca)

**KIM ABELL** – Founder and Director of the Dalton School, has worked as an elementary teacher in both Canada and the United State and holds the Associated Montessori International diploma.

**DONNA BOOTH** – Principal, has 25 years of elementary teaching and several years as deputy principal of an international school in Beijing, China.

**DONG FANG** – Teacher, has studied in China, the UK and Canada, is fluid in both Mandarin and English and has worked with students of all ages. Her greatest joy is her work with elementary students.

**EMILY GRZYB** – Teacher, has extensive and diverse teaching experience in both Canada and the United States including several years with homeless families in New York and teaching experience in California.

**CAITLIN HOLMES** – Teacher, has many years of experience as a private tutor, classroom volunteer, camp staff and Children's Program Leader at a private club as well as experience in music and the fine arts.

The Dalton School is a private school and has incorporated a “best practices” policy, looking at and pulling from the Ontario Curriculum, the Chinese National Curriculum as well as literacy components from the Australian National Curriculum.

### SCHOOL GOALS

The Dalton School aims for each child to have the ability to speak in two languages, read in two languages and write in two languages. It is expected students will develop the ability to complete math, problem solving and more abstract level thinking in both languages achieved by exceptional teaching in an interesting and challenging way, ensuring the children are happy and well cared for.

### THE FUTURE

The Dalton School has a promising and bright future led by its founder, the quiet and unassuming Kim Abell, a visionary, an educator, a mother who has a genuine passion for children, seeking to instill in children confidence, compassion and a love of learning.



The school is housed in wonderful facilities at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, designed with children in mind with bright beautiful classrooms with resources that inspire learning and fun. Cutting-edge technology that includes new Mac computers, interactive white board technology, digital media and educational software, provides exciting learning opportunities. Note the lovely pictures that always tell the story better than mere words.



The school is ideally located because of its proximity to the subway and a large parking area where parents can easily drop off their children.

When I asked Kim what would be a central point in communicating to the Yorkminster Park people, she replied, **“I am very much driven to help Yorkminster Park in more ways than one”**.

What can we do to help the Dalton School? Here are a few suggestions:

- Pray regularly for the teachers and children
- Visit the school for a tour but call them ahead of time 416-432-3475
- Attend one of the two Open Houses – **Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5-7 pm** or **Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 9-11am**. Please let Donna Booth know at the above phone number
- Encourage the staff and certainly Kim when you see them
- Get the word out

My final question to Kim was - How has YPBC helped you so far? Her answer – “By trusting my judgement. Miriam Little has also been extremely supportive. I am very grateful”.

submitted by John Fenton

### TRANSITIONS

Since the last newsletter there have been several milestones in the life of the church.

#### Deaths

Robert Puffer  
Norm Irish  
Iain Henderson  
Norman Rogers

## YORKMINSTER PARK GALLERY

*O God, whose Spirit lives within each one, calling us and inspiring us to be partners in your creation and artists to your glory: with gratitude for freedom, imagination, and grace, we offer this YORKMINSTER PARK GALLERY to you as an Act of Dedication, praying that it would be a place where visions of hope are born, where sorrows are comforted, and where you, O God, are glorified.*

With this prayer on Sunday September 16, 2007, the Yorkminster Park Gallery began its ministry through the visual arts. For five years, a wide variety of art has enlivened the entrance to Yorkminster Park Centre and the appreciation of viewers and artists continues to build. Each year there have been sufficient sales to cover the expenses of running the gallery as well as improving the space. One mark of success is the high calibre of artists represented. A total of thirty-seven artists have exhibited in one-artist or two-artist shows. They each will present one work in a major group show and sale to celebrate our 5th anniversary.

The YORKMINSTER PARK GALLERY 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY RETROSPECTIVE will be opening on Sunday, November 18 after the morning service. It will be possible to stand in the exhibition space, make a slow pivot, and see the sweep of works that make up the history of our gallery. In chronological order the participants are: **Elizabeth Myles Elliott, King Wong, Margaret Glew, Douglas Elliott, Lila Lewis Irving, Karl Griffiths-Fulton, Paul Roorda, Janet Read, Judith Raymer Ivkoff, Douglas Brown, Douglas Purdon, James Ridyard, Jacqueline Treloar, Rose Hirano, Nancy Falconer, Randall Speller, Dorothy Mould, Carol Westcott, Henry Regehr, Les Tibbles, Nancy Oakes, Judith Livingston, Paul Osadchuk, James MacDougall, Tracey Lawko, Shuna Heeney, Doreen Renner, Anthony J. Batten, Lois Dierlam, Howard C. Dierlam, Robin Laws Field, Esther Lovrics, Joan Burdette Ness, Jane LowBeer, Graham French, Anne Renouf and Linda Kemp.**

Thank you to the artists, to Art Committee members, to the Board of Deacons, to ministerial, administrative and custodial teams, to supporters Douglas Brown, Tim Aikenhead, John Fenton, Gordon Mackay, Janice Ivory-Smith, all who have attended shows, bought artwork, invited guests and allocated money to the gallery.

May the gallery continue to be *a place where visions of hope are born, where sorrows are comforted, and where you, O God, are glorified.*



Blueberry Island

submitted by Sue Ericsson