

• GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOOD NEWS TO ALL CREATION •



YPBC NEWS

Autumn 2022



Published by:

Yorkminster Park

Baptist Church

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Minister of the Congregation

The Rev. Paula Willis

*Minister of Pastoral Care and
Discipleship*

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FTCL, FCAM - *Organist and*

Director of Music

Ms. Heather Mackey

Director of Family Ministries

Ms. Lily Cugliari-Kobayashi, RN

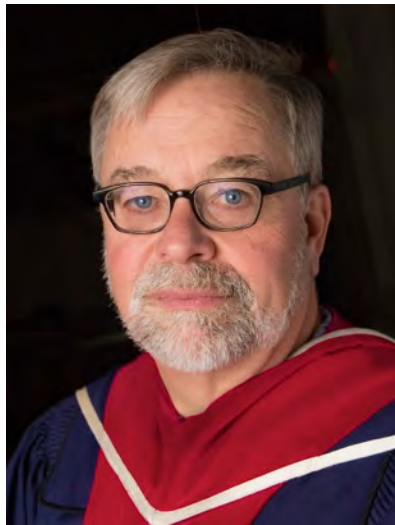
Parish Nurse

The Rev. John Torrance

Minister Emeritus, Pastoral Care

The Rev. Dr. William A. Sturgess

Minister Emeritus, Pastoral Care



FROM PETER'S PEN

By the time the YPBC Newsletter goes to print I will have had ankle surgery which will require me to be non-weight bearing on my

right foot for at least six weeks. I had originally been scheduled to have the surgery in July which would have enabled me to navigate the recovery period over the summer causing minimal disruption to my work schedule. However, COVID caught up with me just before the July date and my surgery had to be postponed.

Fortunately, during the early days of recovery I will be able to work from home and what's more the church is in the wonderful hands of Paula Willis. I will miss being at the church for a few Sundays, but as always, we look forward to inspiring sermons from Paula Willis and John Torrance.

The preaching schedule and some of the other special things we have to look forward to this fall are highlighted below. Were I with you over the next few Sundays, I would be speaking enthusiastically about many of these things! So here they are.

Fri. Sept 30, 7 p.m. YP Coffee House, featuring some of YP's remarkable musical talent.

Sunday, Oct 2 - 11 a.m. Communion - Sunday Paula Willis preaching
4 p.m. Iona Service, homily by Paula Willis, music by Iona Passage

Wed. Oct. 5, 7 p.m. online Life Group led by Paula Willis and Peter Holmes (weekly)

Sunday Oct 9 - 11 a.m. Thanksgiving - Paula Willis preaching

Fri. Oct 14, 7 p.m. YP Speakers Series – Ellen Schwartzel *Discover Toronto's Ravines*

Sat. Oct 15, 1 p.m. – Memorial Service for Mary Sturgess

Sunday, Oct 16 – 11 a.m. John Torrance preaching (50th anniversary of his ordination) Service includes Dedications

Oct. 23-25 Lester Randall Preaching Fellowship

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Thanksgiving at YPBC

Comments and suggestions for future editions are welcome. Please send to:

pilgrim.h@sympatico.ca

The winter edition of the newsletter will be published in December 2022.

Paul R Hill

Sunday, Oct 23, 11 am. LRPF Becca Stevens preaching
 7 p.m. LRPF Ray Aldred preaching
 8:15 p.m. LRPF panel featuring keynote speakers
 Mon. Oct. 24 7 p.m. LRPF Bishop Robert Wright preaching
 8 p.m. LRPF concert with Toronto Mass Choir
 Sat. Oct. 29, Toronto Korean Concert Choir
Sunday, Oct. 30 - 11 a.m. Andrew Ollerton preaching
 Fri. Nov. 4, 7 p.m. YP Speakers Series, Tim Cook, *Lifesavers and Body Snatchers: Medical Care and the Struggle for Survival in the Great War*
 Nov. 5, 8 p.m. Remembrance Concert Hedgerow Singers with Heather Bambrick
Sunday - Nov. 6, 11 a.m. Remembrance Sunday, with Toronto Police Services,
 Peter Holmes preaching
 7 p.m. Iona service, Prayers for Peace, homily by Peter Holmes, music by Iona Passage
Sunday, Nov. 13, 11 a.m. Communion – Peter Holmes preaching
Sunday, Nov. 20, 11 a.m. Peter Holmes preaching
 7 p.m. Choral Evensong
 Fri. Nov. 25 YP Speakers Series, Michael Enright, *Surviving the Media Maze: With All This Information, Where is the Wisdom?*
Sunday – Nov. 27, 11 a.m. ADVENT I - Paula Willis preaching
 Sat. Dec. 3, 3 p.m. City Carol Sing with Choirs and Loreena McKennitt for COTH Food Bank
Sunday - Dec. 4, 11 a.m. ADVENT II – Communion - Peter Holmes preaching
 7 p.m. Iona Service, homily by Peter Holmes, music by Iona Passage, RH Thomson
 Tues. Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m. Toronto Mendelssohn Choir Festival of Carols
 Wed. Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m. Toronto Mendelssohn Choir Festival of Carols
 Fri. Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m. Elmer Eisler Singers & Viva Singers Toronto present Handel's Messiah
Sunday - Dec. 11, 11 a.m. ADVENT III Peter Holmes preaching
 4:30 p.m. Carols by Candlelight
 Fri. Dec. 15, 7 p.m. John McDermott Family Christmas

Sunday - Dec. 18, 11 a.m. Peter Holmes preaching
 4:30 p.m. Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
 Sat. Dec. 24, 4 p.m. Bethlehem on Yonge
 11 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight with Choir, Peter Holmes preaching, RH Thomson
Sunday - Dec 25. 11 a.m. Communion, Peter Holmes preaching
 Sat. Dec. 31, 11:15 p.m. Watchnight Service, Paula Willis preaching
Sunday - January 1, 11 a.m. Paula Willis preaching

Please watch the Sunday calendar, our website www.yorkminsterpark.com and our Facebook page to learn about our life groups, our family ministry opportunities and many more events and opportunities for service in the life of our church.

Wednesday Evening Online Bible Study led by Paula Willis and Peter Holmes

The study begins on Wed. October 5th at 7 p.m. and will continue through the fall season. This fall, our study is based on Bruce Neal's most recent book, *Water, Wind and Life Defining Word: A Baptist Testimony*. Bruce Neal served as the Minister of Christian Education at Yorkminster Park from 1961 to 1965 and was our only minister for much of that time. Bruce went on to serve Baptist churches in Hamilton, Toronto and Mississauga. He served as President of Canadian Baptist Ministries and played a crucial role in the formation of our denomination's relief and development work. In an age where there is much confusion about what Baptists stand for, in this book Bruce calls us back to the best of who we are. As one who has made an important contribution to ecumenism in this country, Bruce's book will offer wisdom to people of all Christian traditions and we hope our discussions will be strengthened as they usually are by participants from other denominations.

The chapters of the book look at faith, church, baptism, communion, the Bible, worship, freedom, mission and ordination; topics of interest to all Christians.

To register for the study and/or to order the book please contact Paula at pwillis@yorkminsterpark.com.

FALL | ONLINE

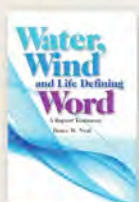
Wed. Evening LIFE GROUP

Starts October 5 | 7:00pm

Our weekly presentations and discussions will be based on *WATER, WIND, and the Life Defining WORD* by Bruce W. Neal

Leaders: Paula Willis & Peter Holmes

Here is a fresh sketching of what Baptists stand for – from a Canadian point of view. Bruce Neal, once a youth leader, then a pastor, preacher, and past president of the Canadian Baptist Federation, has been a Baptist Christian for all of his personal and ministering life. Despite protestations that we are now in a post-denominational era, he believes that...



“our particular Church family’s perspectives, visions, pilgrimage stories, are gifts which, even in today’s world, we can share with others. In which case, we need to refresh, relearn, learn anew how to offer our Baptist testimony.”

To register to attend the class or to order the book, please contact pwillis@yorkminsterpark.com

The Lester Randall Preaching Fellowship is an annual conference for both clergy and laity that features great preaching as well as lectures, panel discussions and workshops focussed on the topic of preaching. The LRPF was founded by Yorkminster Park in 1987 in response to a vision of the Rev. Dr. John N. Gladstone and Gerrard Collins. This year’s event takes place from Sunday, October 23 through Tuesday, October 25. The Sunday evening and Monday evening sessions are open to the public.

On Sunday morning we will have the privilege of welcoming The Rev. Becca Stevens of Nashville to

our pulpit. Becca Stevens is not only a renowned preacher, but also the founder of the remarkable Thistle Farms which brings healing, hope and employment for women survivors of trafficking, prostitution and addiction.

On Sunday evening, Rev. Dr. Ray Aldred, an Indigenous theologian and professor from Vancouver will preach followed by a panel discussion featuring our keynote speakers. On Monday evening, the Episcopal Bishop of Atlanta, the Most Rev. Robert Wright, will preach followed by a concert featuring the Toronto Mass Choir, a gospel choir conducted by Karen Burke.

To learn more about this year’s event please go to www.lesterrandall.com

John Torrance 50th Anniversary of Ordination – Congratulations to John Torrance on the milestone of his 50th anniversary of ordination. John graduated from McMaster Divinity College with the Master of Divinity degree in May 1972 after which he commenced his first ministry at Frank Street Baptist Church in Warton. It was there that he was ordained in October 1972 by the Owen Sound Association of Baptist churches of CBOQ. John would go on to serve as minister of Ontario Street Baptist Church, Stratford, Bethany Baptist Ottawa, and Central Baptist Sarnia before coming to Yorkminster Park in 2002 as our Minister of Pastoral Care. Following his retirement, John served as Interim Minister in several places before returning to Yorkminster Park as our Minister Emeritus, Pastoral Care. John will be preaching at the 11 a.m. service on October 16.

RECENT GRADUATION



Our Parish Nurse, Lily Cugliari-kobayashi has recently graduated from the Foundations in Parish Nursing Education Program in August, 2022.

Congratulations, Lily!!

FROM THE MINISTER OF PASTORAL CARE AND DISCIPLESHIP



It was wonderful just a few weeks ago, on September 11th, to welcome so many of you back after a long and lovely summer. Thanks to the blessing of Zoom technology no

matter how far afoot many of us went this summer, we were able to join together on Wednesday evenings to study the Parables of Jesus and a rewarding time it was for all who were able to come. One of the great blessings of being part of the community at Yorkminster Park is having lots of options for things to do together well beyond Sunday worship. There are so many ways to join in the life of the church, through volunteering with Out of the Cold, Heather Mackey's Family Ministries, and the Yorkminster Park Women and various boards, just to name a few and then there are our numerous study offerings.

For those of you who were unable to come to our Welcome Back Sunday earlier in September please take a look at the brochure that Janice Ivory-Smith produced to highlight our life groups. The brochure lists the weekly events that are happening in the church either in person or via Zoom ([Link here](#)) If you have any questions or need any assistance in how to join any group please call me at 416-922-1240 or email me at pwillis@yorkminsterpark.com.

I am excited to share that on Sunday October 2nd we have a new group starting, for Young Adults (ages 18-25), via Zoom. The group will meet once a month but in December, March, and June, we will be planning some fun outings to complement the Zoom meetings. Please if you know any young adults could you pass on the information about the group and how to join ([link here](#)). If you are a young adult please consider this notice, as a personal invitation to join.

Over the years - long before I was blessed to become a member of the ministry team - I have found it remarkable, how life goes on in our church. We have many "formal" groups to be sure, but there are many more organically formed "life groups" that have flourished and in times of grief and joy in the life of the church they too have been a blessing to one and all. In my role as Minister of Pastoral Care I have remarked in awe and thanks so often, at how so many of you look out for each other, just as a family would, anticipating a need someone might have or calling and asking for a prayer. And why not? We are all part of the family of God, God's own children. As we sang at our Anniversary Service on September 25th, blessed be the ties that bind our hearts in Christian love!

If you have not considered before joining a study or wish to inquire further about volunteering in the church, please do not hesitate to reach out to me and we can find a study or good fit for your gifts. Having come to the church for the first time around Christmas many years ago, my first encounter with our life groups was over Lent and one of the greatest gifts of my life were all the lasting friendships that were forged over the Bible, tea and cookies. May it be so this year for all of you, that you will keep your old friends in Christ, but also make some new ones.

May the Lord bless you,

Paula

TRANSITIONS

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

Infant Dedications

Júlia Sene de Sousa e Silva, *dau of Eduardo Augusto Ribeiro de Sousa e Silva and Renata Sene Domingues de Sousa e Silva*

New Member (see Page 14)

Deaths

Joyce Wood
Norm Rattray
Cathy Kyle
Diana King



Be joyful, pray continually and always be thankful. 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

Family Ministries continues to grow and delights in ministering to children and youth along with coming along-side parents/grandparents to help nurture faith growth and community. We are grateful to be meeting in-person and to also continue with our online ministries.

Every Sunday (11am), Lighthouse (Children's Ministry) and **DOXA** (Youth Ministry) are in the sanctuary with their families for the first part of the Worship Service to sing hymns, pray and be introduced to our FM Scripture Focus. After the Children's Prayer Time, we gather in Cameron Hall for Praise Songs, Bible Lesson and Prayer. Then children and youth with their leaders go into their age groups for further discussion, crafts and activities. It is beautiful to witness how God's face shines upon us we share sweet fellowship and engage in worship together. Many times, we are humbled by how we all share God's love together and recognize God's guiding hand upon us. All praises to God!

Our **Tuesday ZOOM times** each week are also a blessing to be a part of and we look forward to them every time. They provide an intimate space of fellowship and faith development through diving into God's Word, discussion, drawings/activities and prayer.

Family Ministry (ALL ages) from 6:30-7:15pm (Every Tuesday)

Youth Ministry (Gr.6-12) from 7:30-8:15pm (1st and 3rd Tuesday/month)

FM Leader Time (FM staff and volunteers) from 7:30-8:30pm (4th Tuesday/month)

Our **Family Ministry Email** that is sent out weekly is a wonderful source of faith tools for all ages. They include Family, Children and Youth Teaching Videos, Praise Song videos, Craft video and Collage of artwork done by children, youth and leaders. We also provide links for our Family Lesson Plans, Prayer and other Faith Resources. Since the start of Covid, we have created over **500 different video resources** (teaching, music and crafts).



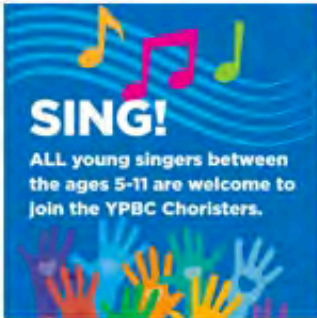
Our Vacation Bible Camp Day - Daniel and the lions' den was a blast for all (children and volunteers). It was a full day of faith learning, fun and fellowship. We focussed on Daniel's faithfulness and obedience to God and his devoted prayer life. Please view our YouTube video highlighting our day together by clicking the link: <https://youtu.be/N6Sv9tNmRi8>

Welcome Back Sunday on Sept. 11th was a joy for all and how wonderful to see so many families together. The Heritage Rm was decorated in a candy/lollipop décor to match our theme of **Sharing Sweet Fellowship Together** (Psalm 55:14b). Our Family Ministry area had lots of action going on with children's games, crafts, friendship building, treats and gift bags!!!

Our **Youth Nights** will be happening on scheduled Friday nights each month and will be in-person. This is a great way for our youth and leaders to gather, share life and engage in community and mission opportunities.



Join the YPBC Choristers!



Our first rehearsal will be Oct. 2nd from 10:00am-10:40 in room 203C. We welcome all (ages 5-11) and will meet and sing in the same room and at the same time every week. The Choristers have been a tradition at YPBC for many years. Jessica Willingham (Choir Leader) has been conducting the choir since 2004. For further information, contact hmackey@yorkminsterpark.com

Our **10 high school graduates** are excited about this next life chapter and we pray God's continued blessings upon them. It was wonderful having them be a part of our church service this past June and to each receive a book by a Christian author and encouragement card along with a blessing prayer lead by Peter. We want to also share that **Ewan Mackay** graduated with honours from Etobicoke Collegiate High School and will be going to Dalhousie University to pursue a Bachelor of Arts. Ewan has fond memories at YP including Children/Youth Ministries, playing a shepherd for B.O.Y. and helping his mom on Sundays with the children. He also volunteered for 2 years at Camp Arise at the Oneida on the Thames First Nations Reserve.

Our Summer Student Interns were so awesome to serve along-side-of and were eager to help support Family Ministries in a variety of ways. Hazel Reyes and Isabel Diaz-Williams were a joy to witness as they took on various tasks and projects with a servant heart. We also had Cynthia Charette share her administrative and creative skills to support Katherine Laundry in helping our Children's Library go online. Thank you all for sharing your gifts with us!!!



In faith,
Director of Family Ministries
Heather Mackey

Children's Ministry Associate:
Leticia Limgenco

Youth Ministry Assistant:
Lutzen Riedstra



NURSES NOTES BY LILY

Introduction to the Foundations in Parish Nursing Program, St Peter's Seminary London, ON Canada



Mission Statement

Foundations in Parish Nursing education program is committed to the healing ministry of the church providing programs that promote the health, healing and wholeness in faith communities. It seeks to provide education to registered nurses for personal and professional growth and ongoing formation opportunities to parishioners and parish leaders who seek to establish ministries supporting physical, mental and spiritual health in their communities.

Vision Statement

“Bringing the healing love of Christ to those we serve”

Description of the Ecumenical Educational Program

Introduce the fundamental concepts of parish nursing to registered nurses which has its basis in the Christian faith tradition

Provide a comprehensive learning experience to meet and exceed the standards and competencies by the Canadian Association of Parish Nursing Ministry

Summer Intensive Virtual Program

Course is flexible and virtual format, approximately 14 months

Focus on the nurse's own spiritual formation as to the “call to parish nursing” along with introducing

the nurse to the history of health ministry in our faith communities and the role of a parish nurses

Incorporate knowledge sharing using interactive learning, webinars and some self-directed learning modules and personal growth opportunities

Receive a certificate of completion

Foundational Plus

Provide further studies over the next 13 months for those interested in working towards a Certificate in Parish Nursing Ministry

Components

A unique mentored practicum of 100 hours in a faith community as there is a mutual growth with both nurses

The Parish Nurse as Counsellor and Spiritual Companion 5-week online study

The Parish Nurse: Facilitating Wholistic Health through the Lifespan 5-week online study

Final three-day weekend of virtual instruction

Reading and assignments

Ongoing support from Foundations in Parish Nursing leadership team

For more information

Check out the link to the St. Peter Seminary: [Parish Nursing - St. Peter's Seminary \(stpetersseminary.ca\)](http://ParishNursing-St.Peter'sSeminary(stpetersseminary.ca))

CPR Class

The last CPR class was such a great success that we are offering another class the fall!

**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 22, 2022
afternoon class**

The Health and Wellness Committee is offering staff and congregants another opportunity for CPR Certification (basic infant/child/adult). This class will be provided by instructor Maroun from the "The Life Saving Company", certified by Heart and Stroke Foundation and has proved to be very informative and successful. <https://www.thelifesavingco.com/>

Do you know the signs of a heart attack or stroke?

By acting quickly in a heart attack or stroke events, we can reduce the amount of heart damage and permit the use of thrombolytic or fibrinolytic therapy, which reduces the damage to the heart muscle or the interruption of blood to the brain. Recognizing the signs and symptoms, seeking proper and prompt medical help, may prevent a sudden cardiac arrest.

Signs of a stroke: <https://www.heartandstroke.ca/stroke/signs-of-stroke>

Signs of a heart attack:

<https://www.heartandstroke.ca/heart-disease/emergency-signs>

- Chest discomfort
- Sweating
- Nausea
- Shortness of breath
- Light-headedness

Lily Cugliari-kobayashi and Siobhan Carlin hosted the Health and Wellness Committee/Parish Nursing Ministry table at the Welcome Back Sunday on September 18, 2022. Siobhan is an Advanced Care Paramedic who works for the Toronto Paramedic Service.



"Billions of people now follow Christ's teaching and find in HIM the guiding light for their lives. I am one of them because Christ's example helps me see

the value of doing small things with great love, whoever does them and whatever they themselves believe." *Queen Elizabeth II in her Christmas Broadcast of 2016, The Catholic Register, page 2, September 18th, 2022*

Wishing all of you a peaceful and joyful thanksgiving upcoming celebration!

Lily Cugliari-kobayashi, RN,

Parish Nurse

Faith Community Nursing Practice
Health & Wellness Ministry

HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE
PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

Our committee was created to support the work of our parish nurse.

"Nursing is more than a profession - it is a passionate way actively sharing God's unconditional love for all people through nursing education which is guided by the Holy Spirit, as the patient (parishioner or member of the community), the poises and the parish nurse journey together toward within the contract of the congregation and wider community."
- Deborah Patterson
Book ABC's of Parish

Hymn #635:
Brother, sister, let me serve you

Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

- Richard Gillard

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS WELCOME:
parishnurse@yorkminsterpark.com | 416-922-1428

YPBC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES ...

REFLECTIONS ON COMMUNITY

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 endeavour to :

- Invite and welcome all women into our community
- Encourage women to discover their full potential in Christ
- M o t i v a t e , minister mentor and befriend
- Live and serve under the influence and empowerment of God's Spirit

Anticipating another year of fresh possibilities, the YPBC Women's Executive met by Zoom on September 8. While mindful of the opportunities to meet virtually and to explore more of an online presence, we acknowledge the importance of fostering a community of women where we experience the overwhelming love

of God, encourage one another and enjoy the caring nature of friendship, realizing that if we don't love one another, community as God wills it, unravels. We celebrate the reality that we are not all the same but we can serve together in unity, grace and trust as God's beloved daughters. Our desire is to support all women as we strive to live into our unique expressions of self whatever our age - our circumstances or God's calling on our lives.



To nurture the health of a truly caring community, we are reminded by Karoline Lewis of the necessity for collaboration, collegiality and hospitality. Jesus collaborated with and counted on his disciples to make the Kingdom happen and to make a difference in the world. In making decisions we too are enriched by gathering around us those whom we need to make our plans become a reality and we live this out in a spirit of collegiality and hospitality - collegiality that is grounded in the Spirit of God to

bring newness and change - hospitality that at its heart is radical, inclusive and welcoming, that creates space for learning, conversation, transformation and in all of this, assuming and practicing reciprocity and mutuality within our community.

To practice the hospitality that Jesus has in mind is to experience the deep, wide, huge love of our God, the love of our God that shows mercy no matter what, the love of our God that became flesh so that the doors of

the divine heart might be flung open to all.

(Karoline Lewis - *SHE-Five Keys to Unlock the Power of Women in Ministry* - p. 181)

As a caring community, our conversations, continue as we pray together and explore God's extraordinary possibilities for YPBC Womens' Ministries.

submitted by Jonanne Fenton on behalf of YPBC Women's Ministries

REFUGEE UPDATE

It is a season to give thanks! While I am writing this update in mid-September, by the time you're reading it, we will likely have already welcomed our latest refugee family who were scheduled to arrive on September 29th. Irad, Sana, Azaliya and Rehab have spent the last 8+ years in Thailand, having fled their native Pakistan. They would be the first to give thanks for God's faithfulness and I'm sure you will enjoy getting to know them as I have and be blessed by their joy and enthusiasm. Many thanks to the volunteers who have been pitching in to help get the family settled and started in their new life in Canada! There are always new challenges that arise and if anyone is interested in learning more about our resettlement efforts and how you can help, please don't hesitate to contact me to learn of any current needs. Please keep this family in prayer as adjusting to life in a completely new environment is never easy.

Please also keep in prayer the other family we are sponsoring – Charlene and Chancella's brother Lucien and his family who currently live in a refugee camp in Ghana. While we have not received any updates from the government recently, we hope that their case will progress soon so they too can begin their new life in Canada.

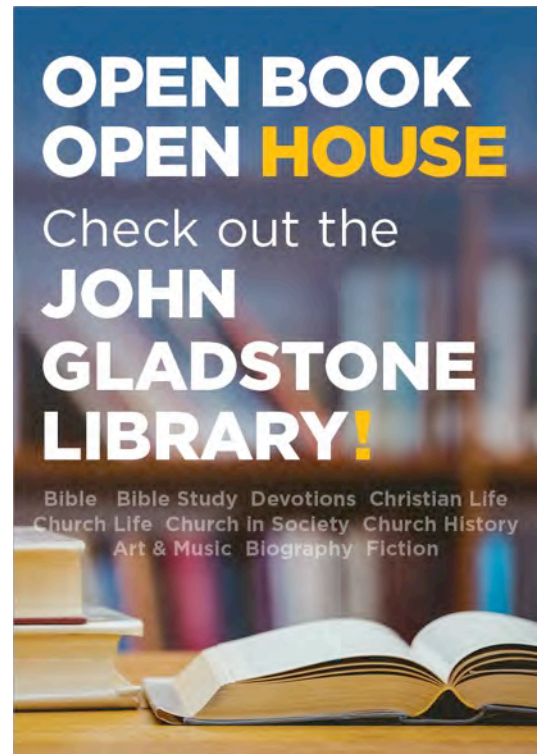
submitted by Kevin Carpenter

LIBRARY NEWS

The John Gladstone Library held an open house during Welcome Back Sunday. There was a quiz, book sale, mystery books to borrow and a personal reading challenge.

All the books in the adult and children's library are now online and can be accessed here: [online catalogue](#).

Beginning in October, the library will be open before and after service on Sunday mornings: 10:30 to 10:50 a.m., and after the service until 12:45 p.m.



MISSIONS UPDATE

Central America and Bolivia

September 2022 Update from our partners in CBM Bill and Janice Dyck who serve the people of Central America and Bolivia

Face to Face with Pastors

Even via Zoom it had been possible to begin a Discipleship and Pastoring of Pastors (DPP) group with four pastors from Guatemala; however, at the end of June Bill was able to meet with them in person. All four of these pastors are now starting their own DPP groups, while Bill continues to meet with them as a group bi-weekly and individually bi-monthly. In addition to that, they've had two Baptist denominations in El Salvador express interest in starting groups there. The movement has gained momentum and meeting in person has given it an extra push.

Face to Face with Seminary Leaders

One of Bill's roles involves consultation around theological education. Thanks to colleagues, Bruno and Kathleen Soucy and Byron Velasquez, Bill was able to consult with four different groups of seminary and church leaders in Guatemala and El Salvador. In many parts of the world, seminaries are struggling to recruit students. A possible reason is that what students are learning is not connecting well with the contexts in which they will serve—potential students don't really care for what is being offered and churches don't really care for what graduates have to offer. In short, Bill encouraged them to

consider changing curriculum to better suit their context. Change always meets resistance which can only be overcome by dissatisfaction, vision, and the resources to put the vision into practice. CBM has resources to offer to help leaders and churches to realign their vision and fulfill their purpose in God's kingdom.

Face to Face in Bolivia

Bill and Janice Dyck currently have plans to go to Bolivia from October 25th till November 17th. There will be a two-day retreat around the theme of "A Healthy Pastor." They are expecting about 100 pastors. Bill also looks forward to meeting his small group of leaders, speaking at their home church, Muyurina Baptist Church, and to a retreat and time together with our CBM Latin America team and others who will be coming from our CBM offices in Canada. Janice is looking forward to being with her music students at the Emmanuel Foundation. She will be able to teach the students whom she has already been teaching virtually, in person, for the brief time they will be there. Janice plans to continue teaching her music students from Canada.

Prayer and Praise

1) We are thankful Bill and Janice Dyck had a relatively safe and hassle-free trip to Guatemala and El Salvador. Seeds have been planted in relation to DPP and Theological Education—now let's pray they will be nourished and grow

2) Lets pray that their daughter Marigan continues to show signs of improvement in her recovery from Long Covid.

3) Lets pray for the upcoming trip to Bolivia from October 25-November 17th

4) Lets pray for the Emmanuel Foundation and the children as they go back to school—in person.

Thank you so much for your continued support of our CBM partners, Bill and Janice Dyck as they serve in Guatemala, El Salvador and Bolivia.



CBM Chinese Ministries

Update from the Team led by Conrad and Fiona Kwok



Needs

There is a great need for financial help and medical workers. The situation in Myanmar is still extremely difficult. High inflation and political unrest affect daily life. Many people have no jobs, and no money to purchase food. There are still shortages of front-line medical workers. A student who graduated from TBTI this year, did not get medical treatment in time. He died of kidney failure. It was very sad; he was only 28 years old. We pray for peace and more resources and skilled medical workers to help where there are critical shortages.

Thailand Bethel Theological Institute supported by CBM and YPBC

Praise the Lord, the school reopened for students to attend in-person classes.

Church Growth, Clean water and Medical Clinics in Myanmar

For the Lahu project, CBM and YPBC have helped to achieve the completion of a 5th new church building. In the last five years, 40 villages were visited and 500+ people professed Christ as personal Lord and Saviour.

The Lahu people make their living largely through farming in the remote mountainous regions of Eastern Myanmar. Villages often lack basic facilities such as health clinics and have limited water supplies. With a heart for the Lahu people, Pastor Doudu and his team provide medical help, build up the church and help improve facilities in the remote villages. With a growing number of Christians in Lahu villages, the project addresses the need to

support new Christian communities by building churches and providing pastors to lead and encourage congregations.

Discipleship and Encouraging leaders and students by Zoom and in person

CBM Missionaries Conrad and Fiona Kwok who we support through our donations to the YPBC Mission Fund continue to serve leaders and Chinese speaking students studying in Germany and the far east. With Covid restrictions gradually lifting in the summer of 2022, they have been able to visit both Germany and East Asia, to encourage both leaders and students. Please pray for Conrad and Fiona and all our staff in the field, for their health, safety, faith, perseverance, and wisdom as they serve our Lord.

Thank-you for your ongoing support for Chinese ministries overseas through CBM and channeling these donations through the YPBC Mission Fund.

Lebanon

Update September 2022

The Mission Fund of YPBC sends financial resources to support the projects of CBM in Lebanon where most needed. Financial gifts from the congregation of our church benefit many children through projects such as Refugee Relief and Camps for Vulnerable Children.



Our gifts also enable the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary to serve teachers, and students in many Arab speaking countries. In 2022, twenty-two new

graduates of ABTS are serving their communities in many different ways.

Here are three examples.

1. One graduate of the ABTS Bachelor of Theology course has recently opened a production company that focuses on audiovisual content. The company serves the Moroccan population generally and Christ followers specifically by providing a fully set-up studio where they can use their God-given talents to prepare audio-visual content. The couple also organize camps for children and youth. The Art of Teaching course at ABTS helped them create educational resources that suit their culture and context.
2. Another 2022 graduate pastors a “spiritual tribe” at Resurrection Church Beirut. Through the church, she serves 150 families with the help of 15 home group leaders.
3. A 2022 graduate of Master of Religion in MENA Studies agrees with Billy Graham that one of the next great moves of God is in the workplace and marketplace through believers. Her family has a long history of entrepreneurs; and her education and experience have always been in the business world. Now grounded in Scripture, not man’s wisdom, her vision is for her enterprises to have a transformative impact in the countries where they operate; transformation that elevates dignity, alleviates poverty, and helps individuals realize their personal destiny. Her prayer is that God would use these vehicles to carry out His Great Commission.

ABTS, refugees, students and those who provide food, shelter and medical care in Lebanon need our help more than ever. Shortages of food, electricity and fuel are making life very difficult. Please pray for the people who serve those in greatest need. Let’s give generously through the YPBC Mission Fund.



NEW MEMBER

Milton Eric Fletcher



Milton was born in New Orleans, Louisiana and reared in the church by his grand-parents in Springfield, Louisiana. He credits his grandmother as being the spiritual force in

his life, which resulted in accepting Christ, being baptized and being an active member in every church in which he has held membership. He attended and graduated with a degree in Marketing from Southeastern Louisiana University, in Hammond, Louisiana. Upon attaining his Bachelor’s degree he moved to Detroit, Michigan to begin his professional career, and joined New Harmony Baptist Church, where he worshipped for 10 years, during which time he served on the Trustee Board. He later joined Hartford Memorial Baptist Church where he served as an ordained deacon for 25 years.

Milton initially worked in sales with General Electric Company and then joined Comerica Bank, in the branch management program. He ultimately found his niche in Human Resources with General Motors Corporation. In 2005 he took an early retirement and became a credentialed Executive Leadership Coach, and started his own business.

Milton first entered the doors of Yorkminster Park on New Year’s Eve 2000 while visiting Toronto. His first visit was as a result of the prayer he prayed that God would direct him to a church that was having a Watch Night Service. For the last 21 years Milton has made the four-hour drive from Detroit to attend services at Yorkminster Park on many occasions, and most recently has participated in our services online. Recently, Milton decided to make Toronto his second home and now plans to divide his time between Toronto and Arizona where he resides during the winter months.

AUTUMN: A TIME TO RESPOND



Is this the
season to be
a n g r y ?
Aggressive?
S a d ?
Worried?
Sarcastic?
C u r t ?
Dismissive?
Alternatively,
is this

waning-pandemic autumn a time to be reflective? Introspective? Hopeful? Courageous? Gracious? Patient? Kind? Understanding? Thoughtful of others? Forward thinking? And, ultimately, *thankful*? Last week I made my, ugh, dutiful biweekly run the grocery store. “Ugh,” because I love *preparing* the food. I love *eating* the food. But as for the *hunting and gathering* of the food—and the *schlepping* of it home and packing it away—not so much. I’m mindful that I could use an attitude shift about my petulant loathing of grocery day, and work harder on adjusting my mindset around this task, so that I can eventually profess an authentic positive focus when it come to the mission of fetching the food. I keep reminding myself, when I approach my grocer’s threshold, to reset my attitude... to count my blessings that I live in a community and a country where I can quickly drive to *a building full of food*... and that I have the funds to pay for this sustenance that nourishes my body and soul (provided that I stay away from sinful, calorie-and-fat-laden snack foods, that is!). And let’s not forget the blessing of the grand, autumn produce aisle that represents all the hard-working, harvest-time contributions of farmers, big and small, near and far—especially in the late summer and autumn in Ontario. My independent local grocer, like all others at this time of year, is overflowing with the splendour and bounty of the harvest from our blessed “bread basket” of the nation. Basket upon basket, and bushel upon bushel, of apples, peaches, pears and plums; tomatoes, cucumbers, potatoes, peppers, green beans, wax beans, carrots, parsnips, broccoli, cauliflower, eggplant and zucchini! An A-Z cornucopia of abundance!

Knowing that this annual autumn “good and plenty” awaited me last week, I actually found myself excited to “go a-marketing.” Still cautious compared to many, I donned my mask, and headed into the fray. In fanfare style, all that pretty produce showed off the minute the sliding doors parted. Oh what a lovely sight; but it was bunched up at the opening, causing the traffic jam of shoppers and carts to begin before even reaching the first little merry-go-round of fresh fruit and vegetable baskets butted-up tightly and neatly against one another, immediately to the left of the doors.

Just ahead of me, two old-friends couples serendipitously bumped into one another. In their delight, they, of course, just *had* to “stop, drop and roll” in place ... standing directly in the way of customers reaching for carts (like someone stopping at the top of a busy moving escalator). All the while, shoppers continued to arrive. I politely apologized—so Canadian of me, lol—begging forgiveness for interrupting their gleeful conversation, so that I could reach a cart. Realizing that they were standing in the way, without any acknowledgement or apology of their own, they shuffled slightly to the left, a little further into the store. Good enough. I was able to grab a cart and begin my “hunt.”

As with most shoppers, the first thing I do is head for that fresh, finally-local autumn produce. The same foursome was now loitering in the skinny-isled produce showcase area (shaped like a square carousel). So, yet again, I had to beg their pardon and navigate around the grocery gabbers to reach for fuzzy rosy peaches and little white new potatoes. This time, while doing so, and after involuntarily overhearing their loud one-upmanship about who had the grandest European summer vacation, I was met with a blatantly annoyed look from one of the women. Her expression suggested that I was purposefully stalking them. I said nothing. I quietly continued with my shop, while they continued with their “coffee-clutch chat,” moving once again only a little further along the tight aisle (that was barely wide enough for *one* person with a cart to navigate, let alone *four* plus one). Within 60 seconds, once again I needed to reach for items that they were blocking. This time the same woman, with the same expression, curtly, shrilly and loudly said, “*You, AGAIN????!!*”

At such a moment the best within me *could* have, and *should* have, found the most gracious and polite of responses to such a brusque, discourteous comment and tone, however, I confess, I missed the mark. I sinned (in the archery-term sense of “sinning”/missing the bull’s-eye). On a rudeness scale of one to 10, my retort tone was about a five when I replied, “Well I’m *trying* to *shop* here!!!” To that she sarcastically rebutted, “Well *we* are trying to *socialize* here!!!” The four of them laughed at her quick and clever comeback, the way the “in crowd” at high school might have done when dismissing an “inconsequential” junior. Funny about that, for these four were *seniors*, just like me. Pleased with myself for showing restraint and not “getting into it” with them any further, I politely suggested that if they’d only move a few more feet to the right they’d be out of the way of *everyone* who needed to come through this area to shop. Not just me. They paid no heed—it was as if I hadn’t spoken at all. To my credit, I counted to 10, took a deep breath, “shook the dust off my feet” (as we just were reminded in the Scripture Reading of Luke 9: 1-6 on September 11th, and Peter’s corresponding sermon, *Taking it to the Streets*) and continued shopping.

As Victor Frankl reminded, in his book *Man’s Search for Meaning* (his profound 1946 volume chronicling his experiences as a prisoner in WW II Nazi concentration camps; also in which he concluded that there are two kinds of races of people: decent and indecent) between stimulus and response there’s a *space*. And in that space one owns the power to *choose*. *No one* can take that power away from you. I chose to hold my tongue.

In terms of the art of assertive communications—especially through times like these, where there’s a palpable and heightened sense of incivility “out there”—response choices to conflict interactions, whether large and small, boil down to: non-assertive, assertive or aggressive. Each of these styles has their right time and place. To each one (to borrow from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8) there’s a season (and a reason), depending on the circumstance.

Most people trigger and reply without acknowledgement or respect for that Frankl-identified *space* between stimulus and response. That space is anyone’s time to contemplate... to *respond* rather than *react*.

Remember biology class, looking under a microscope at a single-celled paramecium or amoeba, where the assignment was to poke at it or introduced a foreign substance and assess how the cell reacted and recoiled? When we allow ourselves to be externally provoked/when we let others steer our course, and then *react* rather than remember to draw strength from our Lord and *respond* with the highest value of personal decency, we become just like those single-celled creatures. Totally manipulated by external factors. As though we are being figuratively poked. It’s easy to forget to rise above for, as Daniel 2:31–33 reminds, we do have feet of clay. But it’s *so* worth working on one’s patience, for the sake of personal deep peace and community harmony.

Here are my three insights from this grocery store episode. What are yours? I hope that you can draw value from these reflections for the next time that you have one of your own day-in-the-life near-clashes with a fellow traveller, decent or otherwise:

1. If I actively choose to come from that space of serenity and grace (that we’re taught through scripture), I can *sit still* (or *stand still in a grocery store*, as the case may be, lol), and draw strength from “Pauseland” long enough to *respond* rather than *react*, to any one, in any situation, at any time.
2. “React” and “respond” are *not* synonyms. In fact, a good argument can be made that these terms are antonyms.
3. Given a conscious choice I suspect everyone would rather respond than react. With the grace and help of God.

Proverbs 29:11

A fool gives full vent to his spirit, but a wise man quietly holds it back.

Matthew 7:12

“So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

2 Timothy 1:7

For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Colossians 3:8

But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.

Ephesians 4:31-32

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.



Isaiah 6: 1-5

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory. The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!'"

Reflection

This year will be known by many as, 'the year that Queen Elizabeth died'. Whatever we think about the institution of the monarchy, the death of our Queen has a huge impact upon us.

Her face, her presence, her being there have been part of all our lives for so many years. For most of us, she has been the only monarch we can remember. She has been part of our lives, our imaginations, our sense of who we are.

The writer of this Bible passage from the book of Isaiah shared this experience of the death of a monarch, after a reign of many years. It is probably no co-incidence that it was in this year, the year that King Uzziah died, that he had an experience of the ground shaking beneath him, when the Temple shook and he felt lost.

Many of us now will also feel dislocated and shaken up, in ways we can't quite describe and perhaps hadn't expected.

But the monarch whose reign has just ended in our own land would be the first to say that the God whom she worshipped, and to whom she committed her life in service, the God in whose name she was anointed in a holy place, this holy God, is with us, and the whole earth is filled with God's glory.

There are those who would say that what she provided above all was a kind of stability and reassurance. When times were painful and difficult for us as a nation, she was there. She always sought to comfort the suffering and to steady the anxious.

Above all, her own faith in God was sure and strong. She spoke with increasing depth, in her many Christmas broadcasts, about her own reliance on God. In the face of her death, we can depend on the God who is always with us, filling not only the

REFLECTION - QUEEN ELIZABETH II



The Queen in Toronto - 1984, photo PRH

The **Rev'd Phillip Jones** is a retired United Reformed Church Minister having served pastorates in Banstead, Sanderstead, Weybridge and Guildford. For many years he has tuned into the Yorkminster Park Sunday services online. His retirement gift from Guildford was a trip to Toronto to visit Yorkminster Park, but because of the Pandemic (Covid-19) he was not been able to take this up until now. He looks forward to visiting us in person on Sunday October 16th.

He is now retired and living in Taunton, Somerset where he is an active member at Paul St. United Reformed Church and since their minister left in August 2021, he has been conducting worship twice a month. So much for retirement!

Phillip has become a contributor to our Walking Together online devotionals. He wrote the following reflection upon the death of Queen Elizabeth II. We share it with his permission.

Peter

temples of this world, but also our families and communities, with love and hope.

In the year that Queen Elizabeth died, we give thanks for a life of dedicated service to our nations and commonwealth. We give thanks for God's faithful servant, Elizabeth. We pray for her family and closest friends, for those who will mourn and miss her most.

We grieve for what we have all lost. And we also take heart and hope from the faith that we shared with her and that she shared with us, remembering that death is defeated and that God reigns above all.

Prayer

O God, our rock and our redeemer, we worship you and give thanks for your servant Queen Elizabeth.

We thank you for her long life and her dedicated service to commonwealth and nations.

We thank you for what she has meant to each one of us...

We treasure memories of meeting her ...of celebrating and marking moments in her life, of her presence at significant times in our history, and of her speaking to us on radio and television.

We rejoice that she lived and shared the faith we hold and that she followed her vocation, hearing a call to serve.

We pray for those who will miss her most deeply, that they may find comfort and hope.

We celebrate and affirm our faith that death is defeated, that new life awaits your children, and that creation is renewed in Christ.

We pray for our nations at a time of change and for our new King.

May he follow his mother in faithful service and may your blessing rest on him.

And as we are always be glad to pray, may your Kingdom come. Amen.

THE LESTER RANDALL PREACHING FELLOWSHIP

THE WOUNDED HEALER

OCTOBER 23RD TO OCTOBER 25TH, 2022
Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, Toronto

- KEYNOTES
- WORKSHOPS
- LECTURES
- PRIVATE & PUBLIC PREACHING EVENTS
- SPECIAL EVENTS
- SHARING MEALS
- NETWORKING
- FELLOWSHIP

An outstanding line-up for 2022

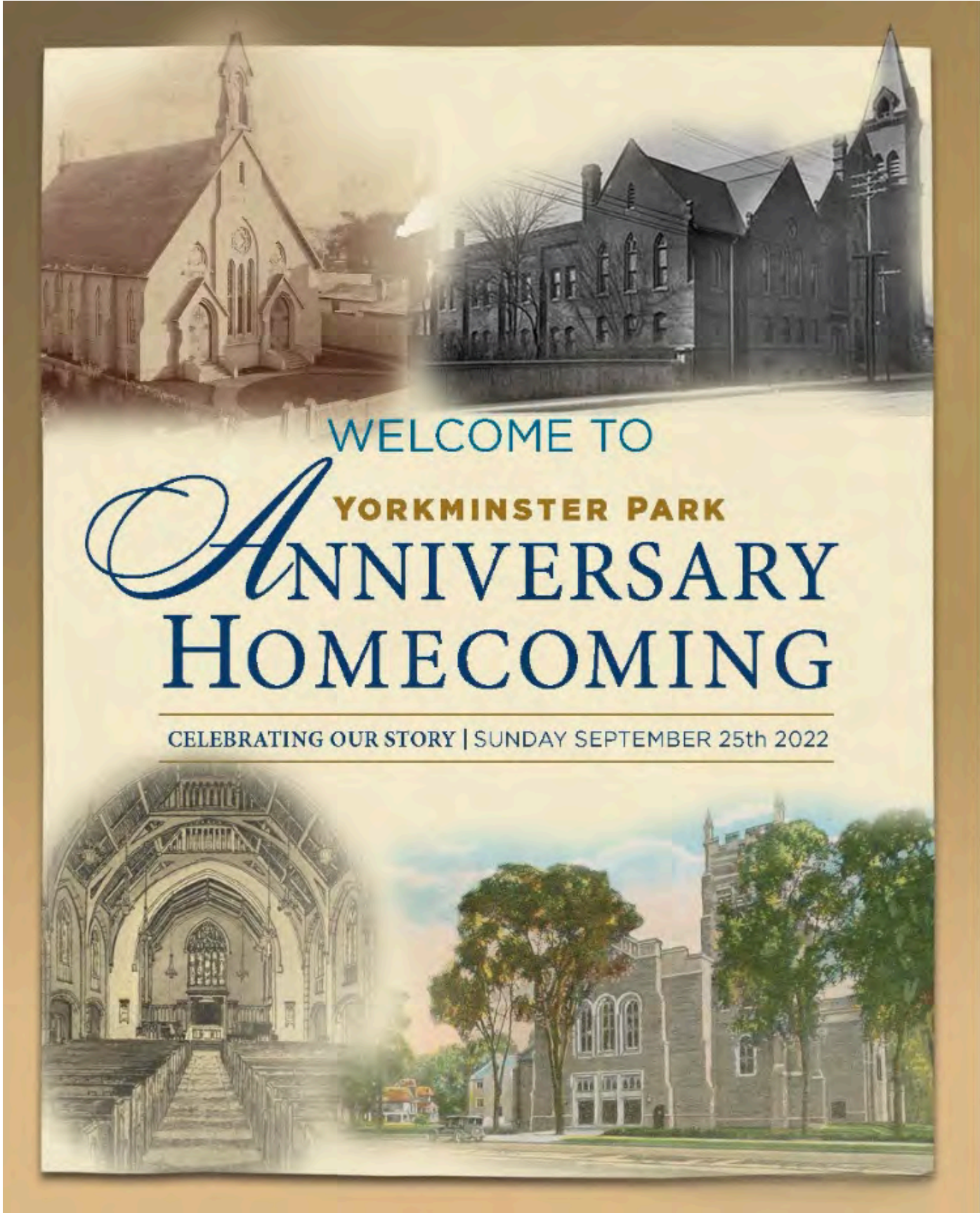
Stellar keynote speakers, and workshop leaders!
This year's keynotes:

	The Rev. Dr. Ray Aldred Director, Indigenous Studies Program, Vancouver School of Theology		The Rev. Becca Stevens Episcopalian Chaplain, Vanderbilt University
	The Rev. Dr. Nicole Martin Senior Vice President, Ministry Impact, American Bible Society		The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright Bishop, Episcopal Diocese, Atlanta, Georgia

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ANNIVERSARY HOMECOMING

Additional coverage with photos will be included in the next newsletter.



WELCOME TO

YORKMINSTER PARK

**ANNIVERSARY
HOMECOMING**

CELEBRATING OUR STORY | SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25th 2022

YORKMINSTER PARK GALLERY

Rob Mee - September 25 to October 31 2022

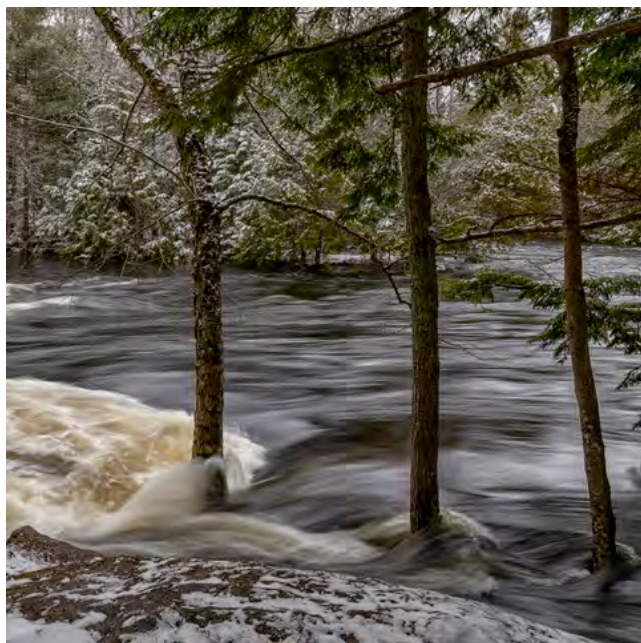
Waterscapes - From Algonquin to Antarctica

Temporary Gallery Hours:

Sundays only – 10 am-11 am and 12 noon-1 pm
or by appointment with the artist, Oct 22 - Oct 30.

An avid paddler and outdoors enthusiast, Mee's photographs explore various waterscapes, both natural and man-made such as ponds, lakes, rivers, waterfalls, icefalls, fountains and icebergs in all four seasons.

Oxtongue River above Ragged Falls



Sunrise on Craig Lake - Algonquin
Provincial Park

Solitude on Sunday - Little Burleigh
Lake - Kawartha Lakes Provincial Park

