

# THE CARILLON

DECEMBER 2013



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## Window of Love

Rick and Frances Johnston



The Emma Johnston Memorial Fund is donating this window in loving memory of Emma Rachel Natalie Johnston who passed away on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1998. Emma died suddenly in her sleep and leaves a rich legacy behind. Emma was a fun, loving and caring child. She adored her big sisters Kasia, Amanda and Melanie. Emma is remembered for the love she gave her

family and those around her. Her laughter and hugs contributed to her beautiful spirit.

Emma attended Kingsway-Lambton Nursery School, was enrolled in the pre-school program and attended school on her last day. Much of her short life revolved around the church and her community. There is a memorial bench near the east entrance to the church just outside her nursery classroom. At the time of her death, there was overwhelming support from the community, our church congregation and our friends and colleagues. It was decided to set up a fund in memory of Emma.

Some of the initial thinking was to use the fund to send children to camp that were not able to go because of financial circumstances. Over the years, the fund has supported children from the Etobicoke area and has sent children to YMCA Camp, Camp Hope and Camp Kirk for Children with ADHT. In more recent times, as Emma would be a young adult, young adults have received help with their education, including a person going into nursing, a worker at Light Patrol and a young adult with the Breaking the Cycle Program.

When the chance to create a memorial window in the chapel, where Emma used to sit with her family, became available, it seemed a great opportunity to thank the congregation of our church who had given us so much love and support.

As part of our research when choosing an image for the window, we looked at many church windows and we also reflected on the past and the symbols that we had used before.

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

It's true that Christmas parties can give us some precarious and some lasting lifelong memories.

A number of years ago I ran into my daughter's grade one teacher at a Christmas party and as we dipped our Nacho chips in salsa and sipped on punch, she shared what's been revealed to be quite the opposite. She shared a very reliable and trustworthy approach to living.

With purpose and conviction in her tone, Mrs. Davis said, "I want my grade one students to understand that they are lifelong learners."

I don't remember what my reply was – though I'm sure I looked at her with big eyes – because the impulsive response in my head was, "What are you talking about? My kid is only in grade one. Of course she'll be learning for a lifetime. Graduate School is a life time away from grade one. Right?"

My knee-jerk-wide-eyed reaction was soon groomed to appreciate the wisdom that I knew deep down, yet only a teacher could instill:

Learning doesn't stop just because school does.

Abraham Lincoln quipped, "I do not think much of a person who is not wiser today than he or she was yesterday."

Now, as you step into a new year, consider what God could be saying about newness and learning. I believe God is encouraging us not to cling to our old ways, but to walk a life of continual newness. It is as though God is saying, "Come to me with a teachable spirit, eager to be changed." In Romans 12: 2, Paul points out that truth and writes,

*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

You know that as Christians at Advent and Christmastime we risk being conformed to the commercial way of the day. So, we have to keep our eyes on Jesus with an open mind, remembering that our journey involves being transformed by the renewing of our mind.



REV. MARYANN SKINNER

Amongst many things, the message of the babe in the manger is such as this, "As you focus your thoughts on Me (God), be aware that I am fully attentive to you." The man of Jesus is God's in-breaking into a world that is tangible and finite, but God sees you only with a steady eye because God's attention span is infinite.

The book of Jeremiah 29:11 puts it this way,

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.*

And what could demand more attention than God's presence as a newborn baby in a manger?

At your next "chip and dip" chance, think of God as a grade one teacher who reminds us to grow as lifelong learners and give yourself fully to this adventure of increasing attentiveness to God's presence.

Glad to be students together in the name of Jesus! ■



# A Christmas Horizon for Our Children

.....  
REV. HUGH REID  
.....

*Peace I leave with you,  
my peace I give to you. John 14:27*

On a Sunday morning, after a hockey game, a boy asked his father why he *had* to go to church. He made his case by going to each of his teammates and asking, "Do you go to church?" Each said "No."

Now surveys are not the best way to guide behaviour. A survey can give information describing what "is" but not necessarily what should be. If he had asked each teammate if they had their homework done, he might have gotten the same answer. Still the question is valid and the answer vast.

I begin with the simple notion of Truth. The pursuit of Truth is worthwhile and Jesus Christ lovingly and redeemingly offers the Truth to children, adults, and the world. We are not alone and we are not intended to be alone in ways deeper than the fellowship of a hockey team. This offers something very practical. It offers a horizon.

What would it be like to live life without a horizon? To go through your day limited to your immediate surroundings and impressions, adrift on currents of taste and mood?

It is unconsciously the lived experience of many. We have impulse buyers; doubtless we have impulse livers. They are shaped and defined by their emotions or appetites of the moment and their identity is validated as they feed those emotions and appetites. It is not healthy living, individually or socially.

It's the kind of existence that led cultural historian, Christopher Lasch to name American culture at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as "the culture of narcissism." Philosopher Charles Taylor described it as the loss of moral space, "the loss of a spiritual contour, nothing is worth doing, the fear is of a terrifying emptiness, a kind of vertigo..." (p. 18 *Sources of the Self*, Harvard, 1989).

*What would it be like to  
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mood?*

The internet is a perfect response to this "terrifying emptiness." A filling of the emptiness with an avalanche of sensations that keep it at bay but at the cost of shallowing. Digitally, we find relationships in forums, blogs, and chat rooms; like minds, interests, and weaknesses, but they don't know us. These are not whole relationships engaging us as whole people over time. They engage us in a few lines of text, a chosen picture, for a short attention span. In *The Atlantic* (July 2008) technology writer Nicholas Carr posed the question, "Is Google Making Us Stupid?" followed in 2010 with the publication: *The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains*. Similar ground is covered by M.I.T. professor Sherry Turkle in her 2011 book, *Alone Together*. Technology is changing us; relationships with one another and life are broader but thinner. The lines between virtual and real have become blurred. Where once we dove in to a deep sea of meaning now we "zip along the surface like a guy on a Jet Ski" (Carr).

I am not a Luddite, opposed to technology. The internet, like science, is a wonderful tool but like many wonderful tools, a horrible master. Too many of our children have discovered it as a cowardly bully. I fear for my children and our children in a world that has normalized narcissism, made criticism anonymous and without accountability, set folk adrift in a sea of relativism where a person's value is always at question, and limits our horizon to the next technological toy or adrenalin rush.

I am thankful for a longer view. A moral and emotional space that is larger than me, where I can see the internet, my fluctuating moods and golf game, and my fallible self and football team, in the light that I and my neighbour are loved and called to love and serve one another. This is not based on feeling but on what God has done. Such a horizon is worth a Sunday morning and every day thereafter.

Love came down at Christmas. God came a living Word to share our lives, to change the way we see one another, and to walk with us to the divine horizon, the dawn of a new day.

*Merry Christmas,*  
Rev. Hugh Reid

FROM PAGE 1

## Window of Love



Left to right: *Judy Omelan, Ann Labentsch, Eugene Omelan, Kasia, Rick, Frances and Amanda Johnston James Grant and Steve Sharp*

We have included the words which are on Emma's gravestone, "Thank you for the love, laughter, joy and hugs", because these summarize the gifts she gave. The pansy flowers symbolize a fond memory of a beautiful church friend, Lillian Rose, whose favourite flowers were pansies. Lillian had lost a child but she continued to be a wonderful, caring person. The roses and a cherub angel symbolize love.

The words: "Faith, Hope and Love, these three, but the greatest of these is Love", from Corinthians 13:13, represent how we feel about Emma. The figure of a young woman represents Emma's loving, caring spirit. This young woman is looking after the smaller figures of the girl and boy. The boy is holding a book to represent education and the girl is holding three flowers to represent love. We wanted to have a cheerful window to reflect the beauty of a loving spirit. Our memorial window was dedicated at the Children's Sunday Service on November 17<sup>th</sup>. This date is significant because this would have been Emma's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. It is our hope that these symbols of love will give comfort to others at time of loss.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Jim Gallagher who guided us through the entire process and had many meetings with us, Don MacInnes who arranged the property side of the installation such as the necessary electrical changes, and the window artist and the people at McCausland who created the window.

Above all, we would like to thank Rev. Hugh Reid for his spiritual guidance through our journey

and Gail Teal who was there from the establishment of the Memorial Fund to the completion of the Memorial Window, and always listened with care and compassion.

Last but not least, a special thank-you hug to all the members of the congregation for their love and support. ■

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## Bill Collett Awarded Honorary Steward

Bill Collett has been a very active member of our congregation and is held in high esteem by the people he has worked with not only in Stewards but also on various committees.

Gord McIlwraith, who served as Chairman of the Stewards before Bill, recalls, "My recollection of Bill as Chair was that he always opened with a beautifully worded prayer".

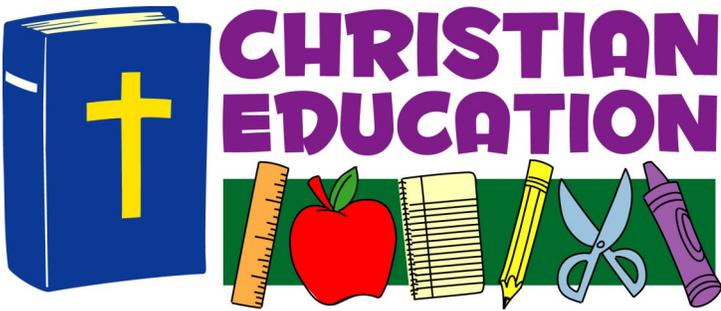
Bill was an active member of our church's Pastoral Care Team. David Winsor, our Pastoral Care Minister recalls that Bill was "gentle, thoughtful and quick to show appreciation, and was always anxious to be helpful."

Dorothy Foster, past Chairman of the Communication Committee, writes, "Bill served for several years on the Communications Committee under Al Drinkwalter. Recently, he helped in the kitchen in 2012 to prepare the Alpha dinners and over the past four years, he has been assisting in hand delivering *The Carillon* to Church members in and around the Kingsway. Bill is always cheerfully ready to help to the best of his ability."

Kingsway-Lambton has been blessed to have Bill Collett as a member of our congregation and happily bestows the designation of Honorary Steward on him in recognition of his numerous contributions. ■



Left to right: *Paul Walters, Chair of Stewards, Bill Collett, Honorary Steward, Roger Dawson, Presenter.*



The Sunday Morning Youth & Children's Ministry Program at **Grace Place** (aka Sunday School) has a rhythm that is intentional about modelling God's love for young people.

Youth in grades 6-11 gather in the Fireside Room where they engage in a video-based curriculum supported by lots of food and conversation.

Beginners aged 3-4 gather in the Beginners School Room (on the east end of the church building and the same level as the Sanctuary) for a program that teaches prayer and Bible truths through play and simple crafts.

Nursery care for infants and young toddlers is located directly below the Chancel.

Children aged 5-11 participate in a rotation-based curriculum. This group's time together begins and ends with a Worship Circle where an Offering is received, songs are sung, and the Bible-based theme is animated by an ordained minister. The crux of the program involves children dividing into three sections according to their age; each age group attends *one* of three activity centres running per week. In this manner, Bible lessons are learned through hands-on activities. Please watch the Sunday Order of Worship to learn more about the creative names of these groups and centres; and how they cycle weekly. (Pictured here are young people gathered for *Luke's Lab*, *Craft Corner*, *Faith In Motion*, and *The Worship Circle*.)

May we praise God and give thanks for all the leaders and teachers of Kingsway-Lambton's Bible-based Christian Community. It takes a village to nurture a sense of belonging to God's family in Jesus' name.

*Rev. Maryann Skinner* ■



## A Parent's Reflection

SUSAN O'REILLY

When Mary-Margaret asked me to write a little article about why our family belongs to Kingsway-Lambton, my first reaction was "What could I ever contribute?"

After all, our family is not in church very often. We are at the cottage in the summer and we ski in the winter. Gord and I have three busy children. The boys play hockey and one of them has Sunday morning games. Our daughter is often at out-of-town swim meets on the week-ends. Unfortunately, life gets in the way of regular church attendance!

Nevertheless, when we do attend, we are always made to feel welcome. We enjoy the serenity of Sunday morning worship and leave feeling inspired. Our church has excellent leadership.

Gord and I strive to set a good example and teach our children Christian values. We have become good friends with other families in the church who are similar to us. We feel it is important that our children feel loved, accepted, and accountable to God, our families and our church community. We hope our children learn to be charitable and good citizens of the world. We think the United Church of Canada is a good role model!

We are grateful that the Kingsway-Lambton church community is here for us. At the present time, we participate as much as we can. Hopefully, in the future we will have more time and will be able to give back in a bigger way!



## Grace Place Youth Group

STEVE PRIME



Back row: *Julianna Mal, Olivia D'Ippolito, Emilia Loewen, Alex D'Ippolito, Jason Ayer*  
Middle row: *Allie Brew, Amelia Cooper, Katie Mayhew*  
Front row: *Tegan Winsor, Joel Davis, me, Nathaniel Brew*

I am with the Youth Group Sunday mornings. The young people I teach are entering years of bristling intelligence, challenging curiosity and healthy doubt - all this combined with some insecurity about where they fit into the whole scheme of things. It's a true blessing and joy to spend time with them on Sunday mornings, to be able to get to know these great people with young and eager minds, to hear them share their stories, their very real dreams and struggles, their faith and their doubts.

I never thought I would end up in the classroom. It all came about because Cheryl Leonard, the Youth Minister at the time (This goes back quite a few years now.), was really struggling to find teachers, and especially male teachers (These things don't seem to change!). I undertook to help her and then got caught in my own web.

I discovered the most wonderful thing about the experience and about myself. I absolutely love being with young teens, talking about Jesus, the Bible and what it means to be a Christian in today's world. And it is a lot of fun. Who knew?

Oh yes, a blessing indeed. ■

## Reflections Continued

.....  
NORI AYER  
.....

It's been almost exactly six years since my son, Jason, was diagnosed with cancer. When we first found out he had a brain tumour at 7 years old, we were lost. Within hours of hearing this news, I called Rev. Hugh at the church and spoke with Gail Teal. Neither one of us will ever forget that call and the love and support that was transmitted through that phone line to our family from both Gail and Hugh.

Today, it's not only George and I that find comfort and support in our church family but Jason as well. There have been many ups and downs over the last six years. Jason has made many friends through the brain tumour community and the Oochigeas camp and each year he loses friends to this terrible disease. It's difficult for any parent to explain the death of a child. We are so grateful that Jason feels his first response is to go to Rev. Hugh for guidance. He goes now on his own and receives the counselling and prayer that helps him deal with the challenges he is faced with.

It's so important to our family that we are part of a community of love for Jesus Christ. It allows us to be part of something bigger – something difficult to explain unless you have experienced it. It is the unconditional love and support that we all need in our lives. ■

.....  
HEATHER WARREN TANTI  
.....

Kingsway-Lambton has been my church for most of my life. I was in the Christmas Pageant, went to Sunday School and was confirmed here. Then when the time came, Rev. Reid was kind enough to officiate alongside my grandfather, The Very Rev. Angus MacQueen, for our wedding at Kingsway-Lambton.

When we baptised each of our children at Kingsway-Lambton, we had every intention of bringing them to church but then life with children got in the way. We managed to come for the Christmas Eve service but that was it. Now here we are nine years later with four kids asking questions about Christmas, Easter, heaven, death and how we all got on the earth.

We are away each summer and find most Sundays busy with family commitments but we wanted to carve out some time to answer those questions and

spend time together. So we started with “baby steps”: the Flea Market and a few services a year. This year, we have added the NewSong choir with Anne Marie and the Christmas Pageant. We had great plans for Sunday School but scheduling has allowed us only one visit so far.

The staff and other families have made the children feel safe and welcome every time we are at Kingsway-Lambton. My children are enjoying their performances for our congregation and spending time with everyone in their “Sunday best”. As a parent, I am happy that they can have the opportunities to be surrounded by neighbours new and old, keeping values and traditions from years past alive and well. We hope that as the children grow, that Kingsway-Lambton will continue to be a place where they find comfort and answers. ■



**PUPPET TIME**  
**at a NewSong rehearsal**



## All Are Welcome!

ANNE MARIE PAGE, MINISTER OF MUSIC



*NewSong Choir under the direction of Anne Marie Page, accompanist, Kim Hanmer.*

*All are welcome, All are welcome, All are welcome in this place.*

~from 'Let Us Build a House', by Marty Haugen

The fact is, music is important to us all – some more than others, granted, but it is nonetheless significant in each of our lives. Be it the music in weekly worship, at a pageant, at our gym, in the shower, at a movie, at a wedding or a funeral, it is there, and it is a part of us.

Second observation, most of us can pinpoint some event or experience in our formative years that has impacted upon the way we view music in our adult life.

Third piece of this puzzle - all children sing, from a very young age, and there is much documented evidence that children respond to music even before birth. Our voice is a unique and personal part of who we are.

How do we encourage our children and youth to maintain their innate love of music? There is much research that links emotional well-being and higher academic achievement with the study of music; these in and of themselves are great incentives for musical study. Beyond these, within the church, music speaks the language of acceptance and inclusivity, of communal activity and particularly serves as an overt expression of our faith.

Working on the premise that 'All are welcome', we need to embrace a music programme that allows for involvement at all ages and ability levels. Expression of our faith through music is a continuum, allowing for limited or more intentional involvement by children and adults alike. Music programmes in the church need to be safe and welcoming, and at the same time substantial, well-balanced, and faith-based.

NewSong, for ages 6 through 14, meets each Thursday afternoon, singing, playing, clapping, eating,

and learning the terminology and structure of worship. Each Sunday, a section lead from Chancel Choir guides singing with all the children at Grace Place. Newly-purchased binders with Gathering, Anthem, and Sending music encourage continuity of programming week to week, and support preparation for presentations in worship services. On Fridays, Mosaic meets to develop music for Wednesday Come as You Are Worship. Our youth and adults are invited to plan, sing, play, share repertoire, and participate as part of the tech crew. As well, youth are welcome to join Chancel Choir either by the term, or as schedule allows. Next steps? Watch for the beginning of the Kingsway Lambkins (ages 4 to 6).

We are fortunate at Kingsway-Lambton to have a very fine Chancel Choir, dedicated to presenting quality and varied music to uphold the message in worship. As part of this wonderful ensemble, we have professional and student section leads. These student section leads, already well on the way toward their professional careers, represent the upper end of the youth music continuum.

How do we encourage our children and youth to maintain their innate love of music? *'Point your kids in the right direction - when they're old they won't be lost'*. (Proverbs 22:6, The Message)

*Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
A place where saints and children tell how  
hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock  
of faith and vault of grace;  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are  
welcome in this place.* ■



*Emily Crump, Katie Mowat, and Anne Marie Page preparing for Come as You Are Worship.*

## Who Am I to Jesus?

TARA LEITHEAD



When I was asked this question at the beginning of Confirmation Class, I wasn't very sure of my answer. I knew I was important to Jesus and was loved just like everyone else. However, over time, the classes and discussions taught me that the answer is more than just importance and love. It's the kind of relationship each of us as individuals has with

Jesus and how that relationship progresses over the years. Jesus is my God, my rock, my spirit, and I see my life inside Him evolving day by day, guiding me to where I am destined to be.

To come to a conclusion for my answer, I first had to ask myself how I thought of Jesus Himself and the importance He has for me. We all get mad at Him for not overcoming tough walls and obstacles that face us quite often. There have been a few times when I was very angry at God because He had taken away people whom I loved dearly. They were so close to me and instead of taking away bad people, He took away my loved ones. Why? These classes gave me a different view on this situation. He doesn't do this to make us angry, to make us depressed or sad. He does this because He knows it's their time to leave, but they never do leave us. They stay with us forever and forever. Even though we can't see or hug them physically, this doesn't mean their spirit is lost or gone. They look down on us like guardian angels. Just as they guided us along our path on earth, so in heaven, they guide us along our path as well.

He is a man who has power to make a world that's so great, but what would we learn if we lived in a perfect world? We wouldn't learn that overcoming obstacles is so empowering and that it pushes us even closer to accomplishing our goals. His hands are always on our shoulders showing us that it's okay to fail, it's okay to make mistakes, it's okay to cry or laugh, and it's okay to be just you.

He is another spirit that is very much part of my heart, emotions and life. I am very hard on myself as a person but asking myself who I think I am to Jesus or God made me realize that I am Tara to him and that's all he wants. Tara is a girl who is smart, pretty, talented at sports, loves being around children and

seeing them improve day by day. I am a unique person in my own way and He loves me regardless of the mistakes I make at my volleyball practice or what my mark is on a test. He knows that I am capable of great things and each day He is at the back of my head, along with my family, supporting me in my decisions to get me to where I want to be. My covenant with God is so strong and powerful that no one can ruin it or break it. I have gone on a journey during this short course of classes and have discovered a new me, and have realized that I need to be just me, because just like my family, GOD loves me for who I am. ■

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## Life Long Memories

DUNCAN MacKENZIE

I was very fortunate to become active in Kingsway-Lambton before my family joined in 1976.

I participated in the Christmas Pageant throughout my high school years. Many friends from the community also joined the Pageant even though their families were not church members. I have wonderful memories from those years. The Pageant was, and continues to be, a tremendous event that touches the entire community. I was honored to play Joseph for a number of years.

In spite of some practical jokes, I was always moved listening to Mary sing while holding the baby Jesus and the significance of that moment. Kathy Kearns (Anderson), a great pageant director for years, only got mad at me a couple of times for our hijinks.

Peter Muller from the Toronto Argonauts and a member of Christian Athletes in Action spoke at Kingsway-Lambton one Sunday. At the time, I was injured playing football in Grade 13 and was not well enough to attend. Peter was one of my instructors at football camp the previous spring and he stopped by the house to visit with me after Church. I looked up to him as a role model and it was a thrill to talk football with him.

My hope is that the youth of today may become active in the many activities at Kingsway-Lambton that are available to them and which create life-long memories.

Having been a youth in this Church and continuing on as an adult, I now find Kingsway-Lambton is the perfect place to feel peace and comfort, know God's presence, help the community when able, and "recharge". ■

## Youth Group Sleepover

REV. MARYANN SKINNER



These photos show some of the youth who attended a recent church sleepover. The highlight of the night (other than late-night talking) was a huge game of hide-and-go-seek flashlight tag. The youth usually meet on Friday nights. Youth Ministry involves volunteer community service and outreach projects, sports and games nights, silent library, drama, music, sleepovers, field trips and more: all with a Biblical and prayer-based Christian rootedness. It's about belonging to a safe community. Join anytime! Friends are always welcome. ■



## Paul Fleet's Testimonial

*Kingsway-Lambton,  
September 23, 1979*

### Introduction

REV. DAVID OWEN JONES

In the late 1970's Kingsway-Lambton's Youth Group included many teenagers who were exceptional in their personal character, leadership ability and sincerity of faith. How exceptional were they?

Imagine a weekend retreat, with forty to fifty teens, going out of town. Aside from a guest speaker, I was typically the only adult attending from Kingsway-Lambton. I was the "leader", but it was those older students who ensured that everyone was responsible, had fun, took the opportunity to grow in Christian faith and would discover friendship and respect within the group.

Imagine a charity fund-raising floor hockey marathon, c. 24 hours. No trouble was allowed from outsiders who dropped by on the Friday evening. And, with the help of a few parents at its conclusion, everyone had the rooms so tidy and clean that the custodian remarked the church building was in better shape after the marathon than before it.

In welcoming younger teens into their activities, the older ones saw themselves as big brothers and sisters. The spirit of their group was that of a family, not an exclusive club.

We were indebted to the Rev. Harry Denning, minister at the time, and the lay leaders. We had full support for our leadership and the program we offered. I would also mention Rev. Vic Shepherd, who not only was the fine speaker at a retreat but also gave himself, body and spirit, as a player in one of the floor hockey 'challenge' matches. It proved to be quite a lesson in how rough it is to play against 17-year olds.

I first met Paul Fleet when we taught the two Grade 5 Sunday School classes. We were assigned space in the gym at opposite corners. Then I got to know him in the Youth Group. He became one of those exceptional teen leaders, and a personal friend for the 37 years since then. Likewise, I have enjoyed the fellowship of the Fleet family, including Paul's wife and daughter, for so many years. Paul's death has hurt us deeply, but who he was, and the fun times we shared, will bring many a smile.

In 1979 I asked Harry Denning if three members of the Youth Group could offer their faith testimonies at a Sunday service. He quickly agreed. The three were Paul Fleet, Sue Rooks and Jan Box. Here is Paul Fleet's Testimonial:



My coming to the Christian faith was a long drive which was assisted by the people and teachings of the Church School, the Church Youth group, and my home.

I asked Jesus Christ into my heart out of a desire for change - a change for what I saw in other Christians as a better life. That change has been taking place for a period of years.

I'm not here to tell you that I was a long-haired hippie strung out on drugs and that Christ has cured me of all my nasty habits, because that's just not a realistic picture of what happened to me. My faith took a while to gain firm roots. However, my gradual spiritual growth has brought me quite a distance and through quite a few problems. I have grown through Christian fellowship, through an awareness and communication with God, and through the reading and studying of His word. In working on these aspects of my Christian faith, I have found that the more I put into them, the more I grew and reinforced my faith.

In the youth activities particularly, I have seen an outstanding feeling of togetherness which I find it difficult to choose words for but can best describe as the closeness of a family.

I see the Christian faith as being as valid on Saturday night as on Sunday mornings because following Jesus is a whole way of life - a complete lifestyle, not just a once-a-week practice. With my faith I can face a whole bunch of tomorrows because I know who's helping me along the way and who's waiting at the end of the line.

I would like to leave with you two verses which are meaningful to me. The first is my grandmother's favorite verse and the basis of Christian faith. It is John 3:16 and if you don't know it you should look it up. The second is Romans 8:28 which reads: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God." (KJV)

I hope you have gained something from these testimonies this morning and it is my wish that some of the adult members of the congregation would be able to address you likewise.

Thank you very much and God Bless you all. ■

## The Pageant's Master Builder

SANDRA LINSDELL

It is Pageant time again. The church has been buzzing with activity on Thursdays and Sundays as the children of the community prepare to stage the 77<sup>th</sup> annual showing of *A Child is Born*. It goes without saying that the executive committee, Linda Klapwyk, Susan O'Reilly, Susan Pepper, and Nori Ayer are well in control of this great undertaking and much appreciated by all those involved. But the Pageant wouldn't run without some very important behind-the-scenes characters. So I am going to tell you about Brett Knowles.

Brett is the Stage Set-Up guy. He seems to come out of nowhere on set-up Sunday, wave his magic wand, and have that stage assembled in a flash. Then after the final performance, he reappears, and the staging is methodically tucked away into the crevices of the church ready for its reappearance in another year. For the pageant organizers, his role is essential!

Brett has been helping with set-up since 1990 (when shoulder pads were in and cell phones were not). That's 23 years, although he claims it only feels like a few. For many years he was just a worker, but one year he suddenly found out he was the most experienced person there. He took the lead around 2000.

Since then, every year Brett works with a small team on the Saturday prior to set-up to make the staging safer, easier to set-up, and less dangerous to assemble. Then he leads the group of Sunday volunteers who begin to assemble the Rubik's cube of a stage. He does the same thing in reverse following the Friday performance.

The original sketches and set-up instructions date back to the early days of the church. They are truly works of art and should perhaps be framed for all to see. The stage pieces are carefully designed not only to fit the chancel exactly, but they also JUST fit into the various storage areas. During the year they are scattered across three different storage rooms. There are about 20 pulleys and ropes which remain in place all year long. Only people who have done the set up know where to see them, but they are there.

Why did Brett get involved? All four of his boys were in the Pageant, and for quite a few years they were all in it at the same time. Timothy was the ground breaker for the family, Graeme was the first boy to sing "Ring a Bell", Scott was the first boy to be in the Angel Choir, and Wesley played Jesus. On principle, Graeme thought he should play Mary since

so many girls had a turn at Joseph, but that never came to pass! Brett's wife Jennifer was also involved in many roles over those years, and her legacy of sewing is still centre stage with the kings' costumes.

There have been some notable highlights in Brett's career in Stage Set-Up. About ten years ago, during take-down, a small group of kids came up and took over the stage. In about ten minutes they ad-libbed their way through the entire pageant, speed-acting with each person playing about five roles, and speaking only the key lines. It was hilarious and had the entire take-down crew in stitches.

Perhaps the most memorable thing was when Harold Ballard passed away. Unfortunately his funeral was in the middle of Pageant week – the staging crew from Maple Leaf Gardens came to the church in the morning, took everything down and reassembled it after the funeral, as good as new!

Certainly the most entertaining part of set-up is the annual guessing game about how the front drapes should look and what the garland and stage-edging should look like. Hugh normally makes the final call – probably the safest option for the rest of the team.

The Pageant runs on the energy and love of a lot of different people, and we are clearly blessed to have people like Brett be a part of it. ■

## Christmas Services

### Monday, December 9

*St. Nicholas Soiree*

6:30 pm - Punch and turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

### Wednesday, December 11

7:30 pm - *Service for those Grieving at Christmas*, West Reception Room

### Sunday, December 15

10:00 am - *White Gift Sunday*

7:30 pm - *Lessons and Carols Service*

### Wednesday, December 18

7:30 pm - *Family Carol Sing*, Sanctuary

### Sunday, December 22

9:00 am, 11:00 am - *Christmas Services*

### Monday, December 23

4:00 pm - *Family Skate & Christmas Party*, Lambton Arena

### Tuesday, December 24

4:00 pm - *Service for the Little Ones*

5:30 pm - *Family Service*

10:30 pm - *Candlelight Communion Service*



## Treasurer's Report

BILL WINTERBURN

At this time of the year, we turn our attention to the annual operating budget, both this year's and next year's. The operating budget is a forecast of what revenues we expect to receive from various sources, balanced against the expenses that it takes to run the Church on an annual basis. This year's budget, which was approved at the Official Board meeting last February, is based on 4 main policy objectives:

- 1)Compensate our staff competitively.
- 2)Maintain our building and facilities.
- 3)Maximize the return on our investments.
- 4)Fund new programs to sustain and grow our membership base.

In planning for next year's budget, we start by looking at the results for this year to the end of October. We send out worksheets to 8 committee chairs, asking them to review the results of their respective areas to the end of October and make realistic projections where they expect to end this year. From there, they are asked to forecast as best they can what they will be looking for next year. As of the date of this writing, these results are being consolidated and will be presented to the Committee of Stewards in late November as Draft 1 of next year's budget. The numbers will be debated over the next few months with a final budget to be presented to the Official Board for approval in February, 2014.

In reviewing 2013, two major accomplishments stand out. First, working with the Board of Trustees, we were able to come up with a plan to invest some of our surplus cash with the investment firm CGOV. The interest earned on this investment will be channeled back into the day to day operations of the Church, helping to reduce our costs.

Secondly, at its February 2013 meeting, the Official Board approved the implementation of an On Line Giving program on a 1 year trial basis. This move is designed to broaden our sources of givings, increasing the ease with which members and non members of the congregation can make donations to the Church. While progress on this important initiative was slower than expected, we now have a fully functioning on line donation website. Members are encouraged to go to the Church website, click on the "How to Give Tab", and then scroll about half way down the page to where the donation web site is prominently shown.

The website address is [donate.kingswaylambton.ca](http://donate.kingswaylambton.ca). ■

## Not Only at Buckingham Palace, Eh?

DON MACINNES

You may have read recently that the 60 year old boiler which makes the steam to heat Buckingham Palace is failing and needs to be replaced within the next several years. There are 775 rooms in the Palace and the cost to heat it last year was £3.1 million. When you add in the additional piping, fittings, and controls which are necessary parts to the replacement, the bill is going to run to at least £1,000,000.

Our heating system has been performing well since the new thermostats and zone controls were introduced in the early 90's. Nevertheless, it is necessary to budget around \$10,000 to do the necessary steam trap analysis and steam trap replacements, along with general maintenance of the burners, piping and leaks. The cost of gas to heat the building is around \$20,000 a year. We have a contract with a large development company to purchase our energy through Enbridge at the developer's price and we received a rebate at the end of the year, based on the fluctuations in the price of natural gas.

Here at Kingsway-Lambton we recently discovered that there is a leak in one of our two boilers. Our service people say it will be extremely difficult to repair. This came as quite a surprise as it is the newer of our boilers. It is our hope to nurse it along for a year or more if we can, relying more on our other boiler as the primary source of steam. We have our consulting engineering firm studying the situation and await their report on the best course of action for us to follow. We do not have any estimates as yet as to what this might cost, but members can rest assured that it will be considerably less than that of the Palace. ■

## 2014 Honduras Mission

Planning has begun for the 2014 Honduras Service Team with an initial information meeting to take place on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am in the West Reception Room. A team from Kingsway-Lambton will visit Tegucigalpa, Honduras to live, work, and play with the children of El Hogar Projects during the week of August 23<sup>rd</sup> to August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014. To learn more about the Honduras Mission, the work being done for the 250 boys and girls who live and learn at El Hogar, and the team visit, please attend. More information available by contacting Susan Franklin at 416-231-8113 or [sfranklin@sympatico.ca](mailto:sfranklin@sympatico.ca). ■

## How large is your church circle of friends?

PETER RESTIVO

Often we hear about our Kingsway - Lambton Church community or family and I sometimes wonder what does our composition comprise? Who really are we – a family of sorts, a disparate community?

This faith community may be deemed a family of sorts. For certain a group of people with somewhat similar beliefs and shared Christian understandings and values congregating at the same time, in the same place, constitutes a community and/or family of sorts. Within this faith community there are gradations that move from acquaintances to friends. But, are we a family? Even that word in our society today is loaded with ramifications – blended family, sole-parent family, multi-ethnic family, extended family, etc.

Historically, the church has been variously called the family of God, the household of God. The Scriptures call Jesus our elder brother, a familial relationship; and God, our heavenly Father. And our Lord called us friends. *You are my friends if you do what I command you.* (John 15:14)

But are we friends or merely acquaintances?

For me, a friend is more than an acquaintance – a person deserving more than a brief weekly greeting and handshake. How many of our church community remain only acquaintances after years, decades even? For too many of us, the answer is too many.

Recently, one observer suggested that too often we meet and greet newcomers, making their acquaintance, with little thought to drawing them into friendship relationships, hoping committee work or church social activities will work their magic as they always have. This strategy doesn't appear to work nearly as well as it has in years past.

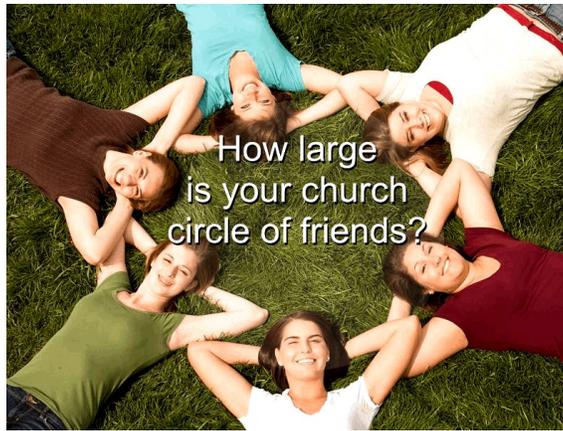
A senior told me that after decades, she finds herself marginalized by a congregation's reach for younger families to fill the ranks. There she is – moving a bit slower, seeing long-time church friends passing away. It's a particularly tough time of life.

Funny thing though, our seniors so love contact with younger families. There's nothing the over-70s and

over-80s appreciate more than friendship with younger people.

"Is this some sort of pastoral care you're talking about, Peter," a puzzled acquaintance asked. No. It is not. It's about building bridges, relationships, friendships - widening our circle of friends to include one or two more people who have a life experience that may be interesting, that may complement reminiscences of events or people in our long-time circle of friends. It's not pastoral care; it's engagement and love.

Some younger parents and their children attended our recent Remembrance Day Canadian aviation movie. Guess what. Kingsway-Lambton has seniors who actually flew airplanes! Flew them in war and peace! Whoa! I'd sure want to know more about that! I'm betting some kids wouldn't mind hearing some real flight stories and looking at some real aircraft photos. All it takes is a very simple, "So, what's your interest in planes?" At this event I discovered a senior who flew float planes and two much younger guys whose dads flew planes or worked early radar. These three need to get together, make acquaintances and share some



friendship-like moments on the way to real friendship.

I'll date myself here. One of my favourite songs was written by Carole King. It was the 1971 GRAMMY-winning, Best Song of the Year: "You've Got A Friend." I think of the lyrics as a call from the Lord.

*You just call out my name  
And you know wherever I am  
I'll come runnin' to see you again  
Winter, spring, summer or fall  
All you have to do is call  
And I'll be there  
You've got a friend*

It takes effort and acknowledgement that much of the most important Kingsway-Lambton congregational work starts after the Sunday worship.

Let's all consider adding someone new to our circle of friends.

*"Just call my name and I'll come running."* ■

## Stewardship Campaign

PAULA ROBERTS

*Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. 2 Cor 9:7-8*

Thanks to everyone who has been part of the 2014 Stewardship Campaign which ran from mid-October until the end of November. At time of writing, the campaign has already achieved 93% of our target for this year with two more weeks to go! During these last months, we have had a chance to reflect on all that makes Kingsway-Lambton a truly special church family and in turn, all that we can accomplish together as we work to extend the mission of Jesus Christ.

This year's Campaign theme **Gather Give Grow** has been brought to life through wonderful sermons, Biblical text and inspiring music reminding us week after week of the opportunity we all have as Christians to give thanks for the abundance in our lives. Indeed we are an ever-expanding Circle of Friends!

Regardless of what your pledge for the next year might be – thank you for your prayerful consideration of what you will give. The intention to stretch to enable another year of discovery, praise and celebration is a wonderful welcome as we ring in the New Year! ■

## So you wish to leave a legacy!!

JIM GALLAGHER

Over the years, Kingsway-Lambton United Church has been blessed to receive many bequest and legacy gifts. Of course these gifts are, in many cases, recognition of the role that the church has played in the lives of the donors.

This year the Gifts and Giving Committee (G&G) has celebrated the receipt of three bequests. We sincerely thank the individuals and their families for recognizing Kingsway-Lambton in their wills.

Gifts such as these are very important in assisting the church in undertaking capital projects that will keep the church physically sound and functionally

up-to-date. Certainly it is important to make provisions in your will for the church, but equally rewarding might be the opportunity to make a legacy gift to the church for a special project or in recognition of a group or individual. The addition of the church's two new stained glass windows in the west chapel started two and half years ago, as an inquiry into whether this type of gift was something that would be available. These two new windows will be a positive legacy for years to come at the church.

As Co-Chair of G&G, I am available to discuss legacy gifts and directions of all types. It is through these conversations that wonderful new projects at the church are created or that Kingsway-Lambton's financial foundations are secured for years to come.

Contact Jim at [jazzgallagher@rogers.com](mailto:jazzgallagher@rogers.com). ■

## Worship

STEVE PRIME

We learned quite a lot from the Congregational Surveys about our collective attitudes to the Sunday worship service. First of all, we learned that quite a significant **majority** is very satisfied with the worship service – the preaching, the music, the liturgy and the inclusion of the children.

We also learned that there is a significant **minority** who are less happy; some have even stopped attending because of this. For these folks, the service is too formal, too predictable and the music is too old-fashioned. Many consider the length of the service to be too long.

This doesn't even address the fact that there are many in our community who have not engaged with us at all. For this group, the issue is often larger than just the style of worship, but it would be helpful if we knew what sort of worship would speak to them in a meaningful and inspiring way.

We know that we must find ways to communicate and worship with all who would like to participate in our faith community. During the next number of months we will be wrestling with how to respond to the feedback we have received. We will continue to engage you, our members, as we explore different options. We may try some new things – we welcome your input and your feedback as we go.

Through all of this, it is our intent to be very respectful of the fact that so many appreciate the way things are today. ■

## Close Knit-ers

SUE FRANKLIN



The Kingsway-Lambton Close Knit-ers began their outreach program in November 2009. With financial assistance from the UCW, the Men's Group, Pastoral Care and an outside Family Foundation, the knitters began purchasing yarn and other supplies, amassing patterns and ideas. Phone calls were made to hospitals, community centres, and other churches to learn about their community and their needs.

During the past four years, knitters from Kingsway-Lambton and our community have come together twice each month to share patterns and produce some truly beautiful garments and blankets. Our knitted and crocheted items are distributed widely. Our Pastoral Care team has distributed shawls, shrugs and lap rags to our own infirmed. Stonegate Community Centre uses knitted teddy bears in their toddler and baby programs to help new Mothers and new-to-Canada mothers assimilate, with their wee ones, into the Canadian fabric. The Hospital for Sick Children has been the recipient of dozens of

baby blankets for their Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit. Sunnybrook Health Care Centre receives knitted caps for their chemo patients and other knitted items that they sell in their lovely gift shop, raising money for the hospital's needs. Street Knit sews together hundreds of knitted squares into blankets for the homeless. Whitehorse United Church receives and distributes warm sweaters, hats, and scarves to those in need in their community. Mount Sinai Hospital uses shawls, lap rugs, and shrugs for their elderly, infirmed patients. Our most special item, knitted with love, is tiny white gowns for the premature babies called home too soon.

Our knitters are pleased to be in service to our community, far and wide. And in service to others, we share a special bond in our individual skills and talents. We just plain love to get together, share a cup of tea and chat while our fingers fly and knitting needles clatter. It's fun, join us. ■



Top left: Jean Adare, Margaret Fisher, Ashley Nelson, Mary Forbes.

Middle right: Mary Forbes and her Teddy Bear.

Bottom left: Helen Brukner, Eileen Goodin, Lina Belli.



## Run for the Cure in Memory of Diana Currie

ALASTAIR CURRIE

It was a cold, blustery October Sunday as 33 friends and family celebrated the warm, loving nature of Diana Currie at the CIBC Run For The Cure.

The team was named Team Didi after the affectionate family name for Diana's kitchen, Didi's Diner. Joining them was "Kingsway-Lambton's Unit 6 With Love", a UCW team, walking in memory of Diana and in honour of women at Kingsway-Lambton who are facing a breast cancer diagnosis.

The two teams combined raised over \$8,000.

Andrew, Sarah, and Victoria, with their friends, ran the 5 km route in just under 30 minutes, and were at the finish line to cheer on their dad, Alastair and the others who walked the route in just under an hour.

In the spirit of Diana's love of cooking and entertaining, Alastair hosted a luncheon at his home that featured homemade soup prepared by Diana's sister, Anne.

Alastair and his family graciously acknowledge the generous donations to this worthy cause and for the ongoing loving support received from their Kingsway-Lambton family. ■



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## The Resilient Life: Moving Through Crisis With Strength

BARBARA MANNERS

The Pastoral Care Committee, with the generous support of Turner and Porter Funeral Directors Ltd., hosted a community event on October 18th and 19th.

Clinical psychologist Dr. Maria Sirois presented a keynote address and a full-day workshop on resilience, happiness, and well-being. The event has been consistently described as 'outstanding'. Maria was lauded for her entertaining, inspiring teaching style, and for the breadth and depth of her knowledge.

Participants actively explored how, for example, accepting change, finding meaning, and taking decisive action strengthens resilience in the face of stress and crisis. Participants learned that expressing gratitude, practicing acts of kindness, and nurturing social relationships are but a few ways in which to boost happiness, and that goal setting, savouring the moment, and practicing forgiveness contribute to well-being.

Perhaps the easiest and most immediately accessible of Maria's teachings to boost happiness is simply to 'follow your joy'.

Maria invited the workshop participants to name one thing they already enjoy doing that would make them happier if they were to do it daily.

She explained that by consistently practicing the named activity for just 30 days new 'happy' neural pathways are created in the brain. After 60 days the activity is incorporated as habit, and after six months, once the activity is undertaken unconsciously and automatically, the 'happier' neural pathways are fully formed and solid.

It is best to choose something that is doable and sustainable over the course of time. To avoid becoming overwhelmed, it is important to think in terms of small steps taken one day at a time.

Contemporary English poet David Whyte muses, "You are the ancestor of your own future happiness. What would it be like to live into that?"

Are YOU inspired to name that one thing that you know would assure more personal happiness if you were to do it consistently? Are you willing to commit to your future happiness now, one step at a time, day by day? ■

# Baptism

September 22, 2013



## Xavier Scott Mantis

Back row (left to right): Ryan\* & Jeannie\* McWhirter, Erin & Louis Mantis, Susan & Rennie Bugeja.

Front row (left to right): Savannah and Alexandra Mantis (*sisters*).



## Che Georgito Ruiz

Left to right: Jennifer Iannuzzi\*, Donald & Katherine Ruiz, Scott Manicom\*, Susan Lewis (*grandmother*).



## Paige Helen Flannagan

Back row (left to right): Steve Flannagan\*, Colleen Douglas\*, Elizabeth Flannagan (*sister*), Craig Flannagan, Jennifer Stahlke, Darryl Stahlke\*, Barb & Ken Stahlke (*grandparents*), Georgia & William Flannagan (*grandparents*).

Front row: Alex and Bryanna Flannagan, Jacqueline Flannagan.

October 13, 2013

## Whitney Elizabeth Milne Vyge

Back row (left to right): John Milne\*, John Vyge and Sandra Milne-Vyge, Sheilah & John Milne (*grandparents*).

Front row: Trinity (*sister*) and Whitney.



\*godparent



In our house there are many rooms.  
Contact **Gail Teal** for bookings:  
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#### In Memoriam

James Reid                      Mel Hodgins  
*September 19, 2013*      *November 20, 2013*

Ross Lennox                      Kenneth MacGray  
*November 1, 2013*      *November 26, 2013*

Robert Hines  
*November 3, 2013*

#### Marriages

*September 28*

Christopher Spiering and Brinlee Brown

#### New Members

*November 3, 2013*

Barry and Beth Street

## An Advent Prayer

*Slow us down, O Lord, this Advent,  
So we may understand the darkness we are in,  
The darkness of fear that comes with wanting more,  
And the fear of having less.  
Grant us the light of transformation,  
As we wait for your true abundance,  
The love of the Incarnation,  
A love that brings us true dignity and security,  
A love that embraces all, that enriches all,  
That calls us all to share justly and celebrate  
joyfully.*

- Advent Prayer on Consumerism, Education for  
Justice, Centre of Concern

This prayer came to Barbara Sheffield from her  
social justice network in the GTA. It is from the  
Toronto Diocese of the Anglican Church.

## Message From the Editor

I hope you enjoyed this issue of *The Carillon*. Your  
comments and suggestions are welcome.

Sincere thanks to all who contributed articles and  
helped with the proofreading, printing, sorting,  
mailing, delivering, and distribution.

If you would like to receive this issue in the  
electronic version which is in colour, please contact  
Mary-Margaret MacInnes at [mmm@macinnes.com](mailto:mmm@macinnes.com).