



Canterbury Tales

To be a supportive Christian community allowing the Holy Spirit to grow within us so that we may become a living symbol for Christ's presence.



FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

PENTECOST 2009

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From the Rector's Desk – Pentecost 2009

"Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all." Romans 12:16-18

I am writing this following a very tiring, trying but very different Diocesan Synod. Some of it you would have heard from our Lay and Youth members on Sunday June 7th. However I feel the need to tell you something of my perspective as your spiritual leader. There were no big motions, no long discussions among the body as a whole and no discussing among our own circle the affairs of the church. The grouping of the tables was designated, forcing us often to face those very different from ourselves.



The majority of the time was spent, though, in what are known as 'indaba' or discussion groups following the example of Lambeth, when every ten years, the bishops from around the world come together to share and learn. The groupings of these 'indabas' were also predetermined. The main theme of the Synod and the subject of two of the three group discussions was that of moving away from a 'chaplancy' style church to a 'missional' church. This move is a major paradigm shift in our Anglican thinking because for most of our existence we have been the established church and mission has only been for those who are going to foreign lands to convert the 'heathen'.

It has become more and more evident that mission, referred to as a combination of evangelism and social justice, is needed in our own back yard. There is now coming up to two generations of unchurched in our own Anglican family without the new immigrants from other countries many of whom were discouraged from any belief in God.

There is a hunger among the young for spirituality and connection to a Supreme Being. Sometimes we hamper the message by getting hung up on the divisions of our generation and forget that basic hunger cried out for by so many.

The third 'indaba' group at the Synod addressed one such division – that of the performance of same sex blessings. Our bishops have come up with an agreed pastoral response to the many same sex couples who have been often rejected in our church – you may read this response on the diocesan website. This group was asked to discuss this pastoral response. It was sad for me to watch such anger and venom poured out. I wonder what Jesus would have said. Only one lone lay member spoke out at the end expressing her sadness that somehow we had forgotten Jesus' commandment to love and not judge. I did hear that other groups did not have this experience so there has been some movement towards living 'in harmony with one another'.

I ask for your prayers for the many who have become stuck in this issue on both sides of the argument to the point where the wonderful message of Jesus has been lost. I ask you to once more read the Gospels and pray, yet again, to discern the message of the Spirit. I ask you to listen to the young people in our midst and find out what they see as important issues and what they are seeking from their faith.

Perhaps, just perhaps, we might hear the cries of the lost, the ignored and the forgotten.

Maybe, just maybe, we will be able to 'live peaceably with all.'

May the power of God's love seep through to you through the knowledge of the message of Jesus and awareness of the voice of the Spirit in our day.

Blessings from your priest and pastor,

Rev. Claire+

Journeying with Christ through Holy Week



"You must die with Christ, to live with Christ." So speaks our rector the Rev. Claire Goodrich Dyer when she counsels an approach to the events of Holy Week. Without Good Friday there can be no Easter Sunday. You can't take the joy of the resurrection without the despair of the crucifixion. The journey begins on Palm Sunday, through the events of the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the scourging of the temple, the betrayal by Judas Iscariot, the Passover supper in the upper room and the institution of the Eucharist, the vigil in the garden, arrest, trial and crucifixion of Jesus. Only after these events does Christ rise. It's rather like reading the last page of a novel first. Satisfying perhaps, He Lives!! But why does he live, and how did it happen, and what does it all mean. You can't possibly know unless you have read the rest of the story.



So how did we, the people of the Parish of St. Theodore of Canterbury follow through on the Holy Week journey? Rather well, as it unfolded. On Palm Sunday, the day of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we celebrated by raising our new fiftieth anniversary flag, and walking around the building in procession led by the Reverend Mary Pataki. On Wednesday, the day that traditionally Jesus was anointed by the Woman and Judas went to the chief priests, we, at St. Theodore's held a "Way of the Cross" service and Eucharist. On Thursday, the evening of the last Supper or the Passover meal, we held an agape supper modeling the elements of the Passover meal. The service of foot washing followed, and once again we celebrated the Eucharist together.



Friday, of course, was the day of the crucifixion. Our Stations of the Cross walk was unique as we became the presence of the Christian community in the neighbourhood. Our ages ran the span from very young to Eileen Clarke (Clarkie) our 94 years young hiker.

Saturday at 8:00pm was the Easter Vigil, rekindling of the light, and first Eucharist of the Easter season. The Sunday of the Resurrection saw us in full festal mode as we celebrated Christ's victory over sin and death.

You can view more photos of the Good Friday walk on our website

www.sttheodore.ca

Open Air Service in Moore Park Sunday, May 24



Rogation Sunday (held on May 17) has many of the traditions we carried during our Open Air service on May 34. Rogation? An interesting name from an old tradition. These are the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday

before Ascension Day, on which priests led processions round the fields, blessing crops and praying for good harvests. A secondary purpose was to bless the main boundary markers of each parish, in towns as well as rural areas. This walk is an ancient Anglican tradition known as "beating the bounds". On this day, the people, led by the wardens, walk the length and breadth of the Parish. A cross, relics, hand-bells, and banners were carried; those taking part were sometimes given a communal meal supplied from church funds, or received food at the houses they passed. In our case, even being a week late, we'd have a fair hike, as our parish extends to York University on the western perimeter. Our walk thankfully was symbolic only. We walked to Moore Park. And didn't we celebrate it well? The park rang to the accordion music of Greg and Paul as they accompanied the procession of Crucifer, Celebrant, Choir and People across Cactus Avenue and into the West end of the park where an altar and sixty chairs were ready for the Open Air Eucharist. In a beautiful surprise Olive invited and accompanied Safiyo and Abdullahi Hasan. You may remember that this is the family we have been assisting through the Don Valley Refugee Resettlers.

In keeping with Rogation tradition, the Rev. Claire blessed a magnolia, given in memory of Al Ward and a friendship garden planted by the Sunday

School. A white lilac given in memory of Anita Barber is to be blessed at a later date. And the communal meal? A wonderful barbeque. Truly a festival well celebrated



**In memory of
Anita Barber**



**In memory of
Al Ward**



Goodbye to Harmony Seventh Day Adventist Church

Pastor Frank Dell'Erba of Harmony Seventh day Adventist church called our parting "bitter sweet". In the ten years that harmony has worshipped in our space, we have built a cordial relationship and a mutual respect for the Christian outreach of each congregation. Friday evenings were shared as The Tunes, The Youth Group, and Harmony's Bible Study Group met. I distinctly remember calling up to the balcony where the Prayer Group met, "You guys are having entirely too much fun!", as laughter rang out. As the Tunes wrapped up their rehearsal, Harmony's musicians arrived for their service practise. There's nothing like musicians for getting on the same wavelength.

Harmony has the best possible problem. Their congregation, especially the little ones, has grown beyond our nursery space and facilities. And so, sadly, we say goodbye. I attended their final service on Saturday, May 30, presenting them with a going away gift of children's books on your behalf.

Thomas Roy Adolphus Francis (1937 - 2009)

"I have fought the good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith."



Thomas Roy Adolphus Francis passed away peacefully on 11th May, 2009 at York Central Hospital, Toronto, Ontario, Canada after a courageous battle with cancer.

Tommy, as he is affectionately called, was born to

Thomas George Francis and Sarah May Francis of St Paul's Village, St Kitts, West Indies on 31st January, 1937. He was the 3rd son of this couple and spent his childhood in the village. He attended the St Paul's Government School and on leaving school his father, who believed that every boy should have a trade, sent him to be apprenticed as a joiner with Mr Esbon Ross who had a joiner shop in Basseterre. He built furniture and coffins as he, Mr Ross, was an undertaker. Tommy became a skilled workman. In those days Morris chairs were fashionable. To prove his skill Tommy asked for materials and built a two person Morris Chair as well as, a one-seater, and a china cabinet. An old straw seated rocking chair which was past repair found new life in Tommy's hands. He cleaned that chair, removed the old straw plaiting and wove the new seat himself. It was a work of art. The Morris chairs and cabinet are still in the house at St Paul's Village.

Then came the trek to England in 1959 to join his brothers.. He left two children in St Kitts, William (King) and Joan. In England he worked as a bus driver for the Birmingham Corporation. In 1962, he married Myrtle Romney (Emma). Some time later he wrote home to say that he was going to migrate to Canada. His mother who always had a soft spot for Tom because of his slight limp worried as most of his relatives were in New York. He assured her and left for Canada on 18th April, 1967. He became

the father of 2 sons Thomas-Roy and Glenn-Roy. Tom's first job in Canada was with Long and MacQuade, a company that repaired musical instruments. Tommy displayed the joinery skill that he had learnt in St Kitts.

A change came in Tommy's life with the boys. He travelled several miles daily to their baby-sitter. He kept them clean and tidy and made sure that he combed every knot out of their hair even if they cried. He loved and cared for them. He wanted the best for them and did it without complaining. In 1988 he visited St Kitts with Flora and the children to see his father. On his return to Canada he and Flora married. Tommy visited St Kitts on two other occasions – the last being at Christmas, 2004. Tommy had a great sense of humour and did what he had to do in a quiet, unassuming manner. He did not complain. He was kind generous and patient. He minded his own business. In any dispute he set the record straight. He took pride in himself and was always well dressed to suit the occasion. He attended to the upkeep of his home with diligence and willingness. As the seasons changed he made sure that his home was prepared. He loved listening to music. His taste for music was as diverse as the people in his life. He was a lover of sports--baseball, cricket, and hockey. He was a member of the Trillium Bowling League. He had a fun-filled social life. For many years he and his wife, Flora, hosted an annual barbecue at his home where everyone was welcomed. There he showed off his excellent grilling skill.

Many hearts were saddened when they learnt of his illness and struggles with this deadly disease. Tommy knew the result of his illness and was contented. He gave his life fully to the Lord. He prayed fervently and sang praises to God. He was "on fire" for the Lord. Throughout this tumultuous period in his life, he was comforted with support from his wife, Flora, who not only looked after his physical needs but was also supportive of his spiritual needs. The work of a care-giver is not easy and though some may consider it to be the duty of a wife to take care of her husband', I must on behalf of the Francis family, thank Flora for the care and attention that she gave to Tommy during his

illness. Thank you, Flo.

When I came to Canada in March to see Tommy I knew then that the grim reaper was taking its toll. I spoke to Tommy and he would always say that he was comfortable; better today than yesterday without pain. He was so brave and patient at this time of declining abilities. I was happy, too that he had a great friend and relative, Austin Rouse who helped him spiritually. Thank you, Austin, the Lord will reward you for your care. You were a "ministering angel". I am happy that Tommy continued to worship in the Anglican Church. Many immigrants forget the church. Tommy was brought up in St Paul's Anglican Church in St Kitts and our parents made sure that we went to church and Sunday School every Sunday. The girls sang in the choir and the boys served at the altar. Tommy was a server and Boys Scout. I would like to thank the minister and congregation of this church for the Pastoral care given to Tommy during his illness. Tommy had the opportunity to receive Holy Communion just a few hours before his passing. He actively participated in the Communion Service and once again confirmed his acceptance of Christ as his Lord and Saviour. I would also like to thank those who visited him, prayed with him and gave him words of encouragement. Many thanks to all of you who have come here today to share with us in our bereavement.

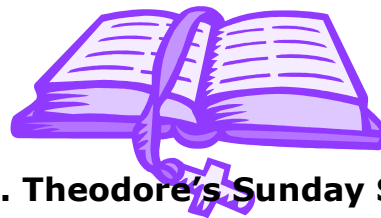


Joint Evensong Service Sunday, May 31

The joint Evening Song service between St. Theodore of Canterbury Anglican Church and St. Seraphim of Sarov Russian Orthodox Church was held on Sunday May 31 2009 (Pentecost) commencing at 7pm. The service was conducted in English and Russian by Rev Claire Incumbent at St. Theodore and Father Nestor of St. Seraphim. Deacon Victor (St Seraphim) Explained the symbolism of some of the icons used in the Russian Orthodox Church. He stated that the heads on the icons were never in exact proportion to the bodies and that they were all made to look as if they were emitting light due to the gold coloured background. He pointed out the icon which showed the Trinity

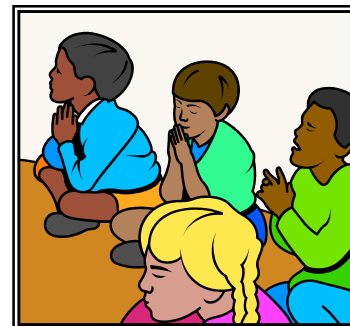
which also featured the common cup. The other icon specially pointed out was Jesus' Ascension into heaven. The hymns selected for the service were all well-known ones. The Lords Prayer was said simultaneously in Russian and English and the service concluded with the blessing said in English by Rev Claire and in Russian by Father Nestor.

Ena Harrison



St. Theodore's Sunday School

We would like to thank the children, families and congregation for a wonderful year with our young people. You helped us to carry out our small projects and assisted us in contributing our efforts to the Friendship Garden for the 50th anniversary of St. Theodores. Our last class for Sunday School will be on: Sunday June 21st. Although our classes will be over until September we pray that the children will know that God is in their hearts each day. Church will continue throughout the summer and we hope that our young people will attend when they can. A table will always be set up in the back for colouring and we welcome the smiling faces to brighten our Sundays. Special thanks to our teachers: Hillary, Sandy and Mary. We would also like to recognize Bonny for her beautiful home made ornaments, story telling for advent and all the special things that she does for our young people. Keep learning and growing with God's love. Ruth



Report from The Anglican Diocesan Synod in Oshawa, Ontario – May 29 & 30, 2009

Prepared by Violet F. Lambert

Being at the 153rd. Regular Session of Synod on May 29 & 30 in Oshawa, Ontario, brought back memories of previous Synods when I was a representative –the memories of being attentive to what the various churches were doing, attending the various group meetings and seeing how far the churches have come – - or not ---

As Bishop Johnson stated in his opening remarks and his reflection on a reading from St. John's Gospel – 'God calls us to open up into a mission', which was one of the theme of this year's Synod – How to become a missional church.

Our guest preacher was The Rev. Canon Phil Potter, Director of Pioneer Ministries for the Diocese of Liverpool, England. He spoke about the re-designing of the church – that there were difficulties in connecting; he said the patterns of church's attendance have changed. However, people are still hungry for the word of God, but no longer equate their hunger with attending church. The term he used was 'De-churched' – he reported that approximately 40% of the population does not attend a church.

From his presentation on missional church, he made the following points:

- It is the people who shape the church; not the building
- Mission should be in the church as well as outside the church
- Start small, operate simple; develop things in stages;
- Get passionate; get excited; look for a connection; (that is, culturally and musically).
- Compliment each other for work and participation around the church and in the community.

His presentation was in two parts – Friday & Saturday, and out of this came the 'Indaba' Process. It was the first time I've heard the word 'Indaba'. The word was introduced at the 2008 Lambeth Conference, where Archbishop Williams formed these groups as an alternative to voting on formal resolutions. 'Indaba' is a Zulu word

meaning 'gathering for purposeful discussion'. Each of the breakout Indaba groups (with a moderator) was given the same questions to answer, as follows: **what excited you about what you have experienced at the Synod?**

- I was excited to be there among all the different clergies, lay delegates with varied ideas and solutions.
- I was excited by Canon Potter's words to the gathering on how to become a missional church.
- I was excited to be participating in such an important group.

What challenged you?

The Canon spoke about 'growing the church'. He emphasized that there has to be an attitude and spiritual renewal before we could engage in any kind of mission.

- My response to the group was - how do I -- as a Christian, go out and mission? Will I find the people to whom I could mission and not appear to them as a 'bible-thumping' individual.
- Would they want to listen to me? Did I have any new ideas besides those with which others have previously approached them?
- What challenged me is that our church is not meeting the needs of those 40% 'Unchurched'. We should go in another direction – that is, focusing on God's work outside the church.

I reminded the group of The Rev. Potter's words - that the challenge of mission can be exhausting, but if it's done in the power of God, he said - it actually becomes energizing and renewing.

What do we need to go forward?

The Canon in his presentation pointed out some hard issues which confront the church. One of them is humility. We need to try new things.

Sometimes, he said -- we come up with lots of excuses not to try new things or make changes.

Here are some of them:

- We've always done it this way in our church.
- We've tried that before.
- We haven't the time or resources.
- It will cost too much...

and this one...

- Who do you think you are?

What do we need to go forward?

We need to be positive – get rid of the excuses.

We need to learn to work together; we need to accept ideas from each other; we need to give new ideas. We need to say, 'it can be done'.

What do we need to go forward? Lots more people becoming involved.

Where do I see this happening already at St. Theodore?

In our indaba group, one of the lay delegates told us that church members approached their rector and suggested a service in the nearby park. He said the rector just about fell off his chair on hearing this request.

'No, no', said the rector, 'we can't do that!'

However, the members bonded together, met again with the, rector setting out the advantages of such a new venture. The rector listened – and they had their service in the park. (See what can be done from a collective lay involvement?)

I mentioned to the group that it was our own Rev. Claire who suggested a park service, and it went off quite well. Of course, some eyebrows shot up as I mentioned this. What we did, I told them, was take the church out to the people. This was a mission – our mission – and that we will do this again.

Finally, what do I see as a new possibility?

There were several humorous stories and anecdotes told by the Synod's guest preacher and I would like to share one of them with you:

"A vicar spent hours looking out of his study window at the trains going by. When he was asked why he did this, he said, 'it's the only thing in my parish that moves without having to push it'".

Some time ago, Rev. Claire mentioned that here in our area of North York – in many of the high rises there are new (and long time) immigrants who are in need of our services – a missional church. We should go out to assist and minister to their needs. This is where some of that 40% of 'De-churched' are.

We, as a congregation have the possibility of making sacrifices in order to make our church more missional and to make things happen.

We have the possibility to form a special outreach group to do this. We have done the service in the park; we continue to minister to several senior homes, including Thorne Mills on Steeles.

There are people outside the church who are 'spiritually hungry'. Let us do our best to feed them.

Calendar of Events

JUNE

Sat 13 10:30 Spring Sale/Open House

Sun. 14 Pentecost 2

8am Holy Communion

10:30 Contemporary Eucharist
YCC parking begins

Thu. 18 8pm choir practice

Fri. 19 4:30 last Tunes rehearsal

Sat. 20 Islanders boat cruise
Tunes in Guelph

Sun. 21 Pentecost 3

8am Holy Communion

10:30 Sung Eucharist
last church school for year

Thu. 25 8pm last choir practice

Sun. 28 Pentecost 4

8am Holy Communion

last 8am service 'till fall
10:30 Sung Eucharist

JULY

Thu. 2 7:30 choir at Thorne Mill

Sun. 5 Pentecost 5

10:am Eucharist p. 185 BAS

Sun. 12 Pentecost 6

10am Eucharist p. 230 BAS

Sun. 19 Pentecost 7

10:am Eucharist p. 185 BAS

Sun. 26 Pentecost 8

10am Eucharist p. 230 BAS

AUGUST

Sun. 2 Pentecost 9

10:am Eucharist p. 185 BAS

Thu.6 7:30 Choir at Thorne Mill

Sun. 9 Pentecost 10

10am Eucharist p. 230 BAS

Sun. 16 Pentecost 11

10:am Eucharist p. 185 BAS

Sun. 23 Pentecost 12

10am Eucharist p. 230 BAS

Sun. 30 Pentecost 13

10am Morning Prayer
last 10am service of summer

The Broken Pot

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on an end of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the masters house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water in his masters house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream.

"I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you."

Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?"

"I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your masters house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts." the pot said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the masters house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again the Pot apologized to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path, but not on the other pots side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I

have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my masters table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

Each of us has our own unique flaws. We're all cracked pots. But if we will allow it, the Lord will use our flaws to grace His Father's table. In Gods great economy, nothing goes to waste. Don't be afraid of your flaws. Acknowledge them, and you too can be the cause of beauty.



Know that in our weakness your strength is made perfect. (2 Corinthians 12:9)



Parking Lot News

Have you noticed the parking lot? It's a step on the way to welcoming some tenants of the townhouses to the north of us . The York Condominium Corporation has scheduled work on the underground parking garage this summer. Thirty car owners were left to find alternative parking. We offered our parking space at the same rental and YCC agreed. So starting Sunday, June 14, the back of our lot will be home to thirty YCC cars. It was a great opportunity to lay a parking grid, which benefits all. Thanks go to George Darlington for his straight eye.

It is also another opportunity to plead for considerate parking by the rest of us. The laneway on the north side of the church is a tempting parking spot because of its shade. It is, however, a fire route, and although it has never happened, open to inspection by parking authorities and subject to fines as we are a public building

By the way, Claire says, "You park in my spot, you preach the next sermon!"

Founders and Newcomers



In this issue I would like you to meet one of St. Theodore's oldest members, Mr. Bob Lambert.

Bob was born in Gravenhurst, Muskoka, Ontario in 1925. He attended Northward Public School. Bob moved to Toronto when he was 17 years of age. While at this school in Grade 5, his teacher was Mrs. Kirk, the

mother of Rev. Allan Kirk, one of our former rectors. *Small world.*

Bob met and married Eileen; they were married for 43yrs. prior to her passing. Eileen taught Sunday school and attended bible study classes. They had three daughters Gayle, Gwen, and Christine.

He worked for McLean and Hunter Printing for 30 years; afterwards, he decided to pack it in and start his own painting and decorating business.

When he was younger he liked to play tennis and really enjoys watching baseball and hockey today.

In the early years finding a Church was important to him and his family. They first started to go to the little United Church at Church and Yonge which, sadly, no longer exists. However Bob being Bob, noticed one day while doing chores around his house a lady who needed help pushing her children in a carriage. The streets at that time were mud tracks and difficult to operate. The lady was Julia Currie, one of our past members. She asked him if he knew where there was an Anglican Church in the area. He remembered someone telling him there was a church starting up in the local school and they both decided to go the next Sunday. From then on they were both dedicated members and friends.

Bob has certainly been a caregiver for St. Theodore's. He attended when St. Theodore's was

first held in the Gym at Pleasant Public School and then onto the portable on the Church property.

When the building of the Church was started Bob was there helping lay the first corner stone. It's a day he will never forget; it was such a bitterly cold day. He has been always been dedicated to our Church. He has been a member of the Advisory Board, held the post of Property Manager, organized the sides teams, sang in the choir along with a lot of other jobs - long forgotten.

Bob met Violet and they were married in 1991 and have just celebrated their 18th year of marriage. They have enjoyed many vacations and trips together. Now that they are both retired they hope to enjoy many more.

After retirement, and wanting to keep busy Bob volunteered at St. John's Rehabilitation Hospital for a time, helping out with the patients.

Bobs favorite pass time is painting. He paints with a class at Holy Trinity Church in Thornhill, and has done some great art shows and sold quite a few of his paintings. He paints every day. Bob would really like us to support his art shows when he has them.

Bob stated that St. Theodore's has always been a very friendly church through the years and a lot of members have become great friends and acquaintances. St. Theodore's has been a big part of Bob's life. As he said and I quote, "St. Theodore's will always be my Church".

Thanks Bob for all your years of time and dedication. If anyone wants to know any past history and stories about St. Theodore's, Bob is the person to ask. Ruth Darlington



50th Anniversary Patronal Festival



Sunday, September 27
At
10:30 a.m.
with
The Right Reverend
Patrick Yu
Bishop of York Scarborough

The Tunes and Choir, Reaching out to the Elderly

Both these small but mighty organizations continue to be the living presence of St. Theodore’s among those in retirement homes, eldercare and hospitals. The Tunes latest performance at The North York Seniors centre proved once again that music transcends youth and age. With eleven years of experience behind them, The Tunes have a well-honed repertoire of classical pleasers and jazz standards. The highlight of any performance is the joy with which our audiences join in when we play “Moonglow”, or “On the Sunnyside of the Street”. As always, we invite you to join us for any of these performances. They are always advertised in the Sunday Bulletin. This year, for the first time, the Annual concert will not be at St. Theodore’s but in Guelph where Chris Mitchell, our long term patron lives.



The choir has its own regular outreach project too. On the first Thursday in the month we descend in full voice to Thorne Mill Retirement Residence just up the road on Steeles Avenue. The half hour hymn sing is really popular among the residents, and not just the Christian residents either. What especially emphasizes the need and the joy in this evening is the fact that the regular Thursday bingo evening takes place at the same time, and still we draw a large and enthusiastic singing audience. The event usually starts out with a set number of hymns, but very soon, thanks to our collections of large print hymnals, it becomes a “by request” event. As always we have Greg to thank for his inspired musicianship.

A Summer Reminder

Have a wonderful summer, but remember your Church, and keep up your weekly givings. Your acts of stewardship do more than keep the taxes and synod bills paid, they ensure the programmes of worship, outreach and community support such as the Choir and the Tunes outreach to the elderly continue throughout the summer. The downturn in the economy has produced an interesting phenomenon in the charitable sector. In many instances, donations and pledges are actually increasing. There are several ways you can keep St. Theodore’s in mind during June, July and August:

- Attend services whenever you are in town
- Join the pre-authorized chequing programme. A form is included in this issue. Fill in the form and attach a blank cheque marked “void”. Give the form and voided cheque to any member of the corporation, Hillary, Bonny, Ena, Dan, Patrick or put it in an envelope and place on the offertory plate.
- Give post dated cheques for the summer months made out to St. Theodore of Canterbury
- Write one cheque to cover the summer months made out to St. Theodore of Canterbury.

The Bottom Line

2009 Financial Position (to May 31, 2009)
General Account only

Cash Inflows	\$65,000
Cash Outflows	<u>\$64,000</u>
Net cash inflows	\$1,000
Opening cash	<u>\$1,000</u>
Cash balance, at May 31, 2009	\$2,000
Outstanding invoices (est.)	<u>\$8,000</u>
Net deficit, May 31, 2009	<u>(\$6,000)</u>



The Warden's Wand

A life without love is like a year without summer.- Swedish Proverb
God is love...- 1 John 4:16

After a long and difficult winter, spring has arrived and summer is preparing to make its glorious return. The return of summer brings with it thoughts of warmth, rest and relaxation. The return of summer also means that we are midway through the year. This half way point also presents an opportunity to reflect on what we've accomplished and what we have yet to accomplish.

Since assuming the role of People's Warden, I have gained a greater understanding of church administration. I've come to learn that it takes a lot of financial as well as human resources to keep St. Theodore's running smoothly. This report highlights some of the key achievements and challenges that we are facing in 2009.

For a small church we have been very busy this year. We had several successful 50th Anniversary events (e.g. Mardi Gras – Mystery Dinner, Open Air Service and BBQ) and the Monks' Cell was a terrific success. We launched our Russian Outreach Ministry. The Open House and Sale and our participation in the Newtonbrook Information Fair are examples of how St. Theodore's is continuing to find ways to reach out to the community around it. We indeed have much to celebrate and be proud of however we also have some challenges to address. One of the key challenges, like for the world around us, is economic in nature. The good news is that the Church is not in financial crisis. However, we are also not exactly the picture of financial health. We are currently running 1 month behind in Synod Bill payments. The Church building is in need of repair. Our boiler is on its last legs and the roof is in rough shape.

St. Theodore's for a long time has enjoyed the rental income from tenants who have helped to pay the bills. The departure of the Harmony Church presents reminds us that it is primarily our offerings that help to keep the lights on, the church maintained and Synod bills paid. For those of you,

who may be taking extended absences over the summer, please remember that the Church still needs funds to cover monthly expenses. We have tools such as Pre-authorized Givings (PAG) to help make giving more convenient for you. The Corporation is also looking at launching a building fund campaign to tie in with the 50th Anniversary celebrations. If you would like to assist or better yet spearhead the campaign, please speak to one of the warden's in the next few weeks. You will read more about church finances in this issue of Canterbury Tales.

Though like winter at times, the picture seems bleak, we are comforted by the fact that spring will arrive and summer will follow and God's love will bless us. We lost a tenant in Harmony but God provided and York Condominium Corporation #5 will be renting parking spaces from us for the summer. We are also blessed in the people we have that have volunteered their service. I'd like to thank Rev. Claire, my fellow Wardens Bonny, Ena and Dan, the Treasurer, Patrick Stewart, all the members of the Advisory Board and those who contribute by serving with our various ministries, for all they do in making St. Theodore a light in our community.

Happy Summer!

Hillary Niles

People's Warden



**Worshipping in Moore Park
 Sunday, May 24**

Visualizing Geologic Time

In 1950 James C. Rettie, an economist with the U.S. Forest Service wrote an essay in which he visualized the history of the earth as a time-lapse film. The film is projected at 24 frames per second and runs continuously day and night for one year. Let's assume it begins running at midnight on New Year's Eve of the year 2000. As we watch, time unfolds at the rate of 24 years every second, roughly 2 million years per day. A human life span takes up less than 3 seconds of the film. The full show covers the last 757 million years of Earth history, beginning approximately 3.8 billion years. Throughout January, February and March the scene is desolate and dreary. Continents and oceans bear no resemblance to what we know today: violent erosion by torrential rains melts mountains and washes them into the sea, later to be thrust up again as new mountains. The Precambrian rock of the Canadian Shield, most of which was pushed up long before the beginning of our film, remains largely untouched. There are no signs of life. In early April single-celled organisms appear, multi-celled ones later in the month. The first vertebrates arrive in late May as creatures of the sea. Of what we now know as North America, 60% lies under water. Oil and gas deposits are beginning to form under shallow seas in the centre of the continent. Not until the middle of July do the first land plants begin to grow and lay down a bed of soil. A mat of vegetation spreads slowly paving the way for animal life on land. By early August the seas are teeming with fish. Some of those have developed lung tissue and before the end of the month will go ashore as the first amphibians. Insects appear in early September. Later in the month some amphibians will begin to lay hard-shelled eggs to become reptiles capable of living entirely on land. Before the end of September the dinosaurs arrive, destined to dominate the animal kingdom for the next 70 days. In October we see a series of mountains lift up along the eastern coast of what will be the United States. A feathered reptile takes flight to become a bird. Some unpretentious small animals give birth to miniature forms of themselves that will feed on

milk secreted by their female parent. Meanwhile, the dinosaurs are at their peak. In November we begin to recognize quite modern-looking trees, flowers and insects. Near the end of the month, the Rocky Mountains rise from the sea and the dinosaurs disappear.

As December arrives, mammals begin to assert their primacy among animals. Vegetation covers all except newly raised areas of land. The film runs right through to the end of December with no sign of anything even vaguely human, until about noon on the last day of the year. Then we see Pithecanthropus, the Java ape-man, eking out a precarious existence in the face of hostile animals and tremendous climate change. Sheets of ice up to 4000 feet thick which have been laid down in the northern regions, push south to cover half of North America and Eurasia and retreat again, four times altogether.

Neanderthal man appears around 11 pm on December 31st, and a half-hour later the cave-dwelling Cro-Magnon man. At a quarter to twelve Neolithic man learns to chip stone in order to make sharp tools and weapons. A few minutes later he has learned to domesticate animals, cultivate the soil, make pottery and weave baskets.

The dawn of civilization arrives 5 or 6 minutes before the end of the film. The Egyptians, Babylonians, Greeks and Romans take stage between 11:56 and 11:58 and the Christian Era begins at 11:58:37. Europeans arrive in North America with 21 seconds left to go.

This imaginary film provides a wonderful perspective on human history. Although life on earth in one form or other has existed for 8 months of the film, humans have been here for barely 12 hours of it. Civilization as we know it is only 5 minutes old. Yet, in the last few seconds we have brought radical changes to the earth at a rate that makes your head spin when measured against the geological time scale. Makes a thinking Christian even more awed at the works of God and His Son's sacrifice.

The full text of Rettie's essay can be found at <http://www.clis.com/tarwathie/Essay.htm> .

Children's Corner



Summer is here, and all of us at St. Theodore's, teacher and adults, wish you a wonderful holiday, full of outside play. The last hidden picture is a peaceful one, just like the peace of God. Remember you are special to Jesus. Remember to give Him thanks during your summer holiday. Hidden in this picture you will find another deer, a famous tree chopper, an axe, a bear cub, a toad, a raccoon, a skunk and a chipmunk and some other animals.

Sharpen your mind *by Paul Hietala*

So, rumor has it that spring has arrived. Now, spring also marks the return of baseball season, so let's begin with some easy warm-up pitches for all you sports fans. Those of you who have organized these things will know the answer to the first one right away.

1. A number of baseball teams participate in a tournament. The overall champion is chosen by a sudden-death elimination scheme. Teams are paired off to play against each other and the loser of each pair is eliminated. The remaining teams are paired up again, and so on. With an odd number of teams, one team gets a by into the next round. If 47 teams register for the tournament, how many games must be played to determine a champion?
2. By the way, how many outs are there in an inning?
3. A man leaves home and makes three consecutive left turns. He arrives back home and comes across two men wearing masks. Who are these men?
4. Late one evening John and Mary are sitting in the family room. John is watching TV and his wife Mary is reading when suddenly there is a power failure. The TV goes black so John decides to go to bed. Mary, however, keeps on reading even though the lights are out. How?
5. Isaac and Newton were excitedly describing the results of the recent International Science Fair. The three finalists had been Lawrence, Matt and Jerry. Isaac reported that Lawrence won first prize, while Matt came in second. Newton, on the other hand, reported that Jerry had won and it was Lawrence who came in second. In fact, neither Isaac nor Newton got it right. Each of them had made one correct and one incorrect statement. What was the actual placing of the three contestants?
6. What's the largest amount of money you can have in change and still not be able to make exact change for a dollar?
7. You have three sealed boxes of fruit. One contains just apples, one contains just

oranges, and one contains a mixture of both. The boxes are labeled -- one says "apples," one says "oranges," and one says "apples and oranges." However, it is known that all three boxes are labeled incorrectly. How can you re-label the boxes correctly if you are allowed to inspect exactly one piece of fruit from just one of the boxes?

Answers to Puzzles #6 – Easter 2009

1. Here's a list of 36. (You can probably find at least a dozen more with the help of a dictionary.)
MOW, MOWN, MOWS, NOW, OWN, OWNS, ROW, ROWS, SNOW, SNOWS, SOW, SOWN, SOWS, STOW, STOWS, SWOON, SWOONS, SWORN, SWOT, SWOTS, TOW, TOWN, TOWNS, TOWS, TWO, TWOS, WON, WONT, WOO, WOOS, WORM, WORMS, WORN, WORST, WORT, WORTS.
2. BHO. (The Initials of successive Democrats in the White House.)
3. The Maid because she was obviously lying: there is no mail delivery on Sunday.
4. A chess board.
5. Take the goose over first and come back alone. Then take the fox over and bring the goose back. Now take the corn over. Finally, come back alone to fetch the goose.
6. I have 4 cages and 9 parrots.
7. Tilt the barrel until the wine barely touches the lip of the barrel. If the bottom of the barrel is visible then it is less than half full. If the barrel bottom is still completely covered by the wine, then it is more than half full.
8. The distance covered in 4 hours at 90 km/h was 360 km. At 10 L per 100km, this would have burned 36 L of fuel. So, I must have lost $60 - 36 = 24$ litres.



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Credits and Thank-yous

This issue of Canterbury Tales has been made easy by the work of many.

Mario Angers	Photography
Ruth Barber	Church School
Ruth Darlingtton	Founders
Maxwell Deguire	Tom's Eulogy
Claire Goodrich Dyer	Editing, report, Broken Pot article
Ena Harrison	Evensong report
Paul Hietala	Puzzles, Time
Sandy Khan	Islanders
Vi Lambert	Synod Report
Aba Newton	Photography
Hillary Niles	Warden's Report
Patrick Stewart	Financials

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Thu. 3	7:30 Choir at Thorne Mill 8:30 Choir practice
Sun. 6	Pentecost 14 8am Holy Communion 10:30 Sung Eucharist/church school
Thu. 10	8pm Choir Practice
Fri. 11	4:30 First Tunes rehearsal
Sun. 13	Pentecost 15 8am Holy Communion 10:30 Contemporary sung Eucharist church school
Thu. 17	8pm Choir Practice
Fri. 18	4:30 Tunes rehearsal
Sun. 20	Pentecost 16 8am Holy Communion 10:30 Sung Eucharist /church school
Thu. 24	8pm Choir Practice
Fri. 25	4:30 First Tunes rehearsal
Sun. 27	Patronal Festival Back to Church Sunday 8am Holy Communion 10:30 Festal sung Eucharist church school Bishop Patrick Yu Reception