

# THE LYCHGATE

## September 23, 2018

Parish Newsletter of  
The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields



### From the Rector's Desk

*Your life is an occasion, rise to it.*

I was struck by this sentence which was quoted by Paula Gooder in her book *Everyday God: the spirit of the ordinary*. The words were originally spoken by the lead character in the 2007 film *Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium*. I have never seen the film, but these words have stuck with me for some time after reading Paula Gooder's fine book in preparation for our September book study. (Copies of the book continue to be available from our parish library in the Guild Room.)

So often, I think, we approach life as an endless series of days, and months, and years. For those of us moving along in life, those days, months and years seem to be moving by us faster and faster. But I am not sure if we really see our life as an occasion, an occasion for celebration, an occasion that can make a real difference in the world, an occasion which seems to call us onward and upward to rise to the potential embodied in our life.

After all, we are, each one of us, that miracle of life that is shaped in the image of God. We have been made members of the family of God in baptism. At the altar, Christ invites us to share in his life so that as we abide in him and he in us, our two lives grow more and more together, opened to a new world of wonder and possibility.

I realize that for so many people, struggling with all sorts of challenges, it can be difficult enough to get from day to day. Life can become a contest, a matter of survival. However, Paula Gooder in her book reminds us to open our eyes and hearts, to take time to appreciate even in the midst of the daily grind some of those incredible moments that are part of everyone's life, moments that so often slip by unheralded and are quickly forgotten. Can you think of any of those moments from this past summer, in your encounters with other people, with God's creation, or in bursts of fun and creativity?

For us as Christians, the phrase "rise to it" also has connotations of the Resurrection, reminding us of Christ's rising from the dead on Easter morning, and of Christ's call to us to rise through God's grace into the new life of the Kingdom. Life is for us an occasion in which to encounter the Risen Christ in so many different ways in our day to day journey, an occasion in which the Spirit works in us to open us to a new way of living, a new experience of God's presence with us day by day. Let's celebrate and give thanks for the life that God has shared with us, and, through God's grace, rise with joy to share that miracle of life with all those around us.

Fr. Philip

## Church Directory



### The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields

151 Glenlake Ave.  
Toronto, Ontario M6P 1E8

[www.stmartininthefields.ca](http://www.stmartininthefields.ca)

Church: 416-767-7491  
Fax: 416-767-7065

#### Incumbent:

The Rev'd Canon  
Philip Hobson OGS

#### Area Chaplain:

The Rev'd Canon  
David Luxton

#### Honorary Assistants:

The Rev'd James  
Decker  
The Rev'd Canon  
Harold Nahabedian  
The Rev'd Canon  
Alyson Barnett-  
Cowan

#### Organist & Music Director:

Jack Hattey

#### Church Wardens:

Philip Savage  
Cindy Paget

#### Secretary:

Margaret Allen

#### Property Manager:

Mark Kolberg  
**Sunday School & Nursery**  
Grace Karram Stephenson

## Upcoming Events

**Sunday, September 30** – Blessing of Pets in the church garden, 3 p.m.

**Sunday, October 21** – Seating of Bishop Susan Bell as Bishop of Niagara at 4 p.m. in Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton

**Sunday, October 28** – Martin's Table

**Friday, November 9 – Saturday, November 10** – Diocesan Synod

**Sunday, November 11** – Patronal Festival

**Saturday, November 17** – Nutcracker Fair

**Saturday, December 8** – Advent Quiet Day

**Sunday, December 9** – Advent Carol Service, 7:30 p.m.

## About *The Lychgate* Newsletter

*The Lychgate* is published four times a year. Parishioners are encouraged to submit news and articles to the newsletter editors, Ian Greene and Eilonwy Morgan:

[iangreene0766@rogers.com](mailto:iangreene0766@rogers.com). For digital access to The Lychgate, including colour photos and click links to web sites, go to: <https://stmartininthefields.ca/>



Neighbourhood Fun Fair June 23

## Since June 17, 2018

Since the June 17 *Lychgate*, there have been four baptisms:

- Lisa Daniel and Charlotte Gallan — July 1, 2018.
- Abigail Colthrust and Zara DeCiantis — September 23, 2018

There has been one wedding:

- Kelly Shipman & Christopher Burrowes — September 8, 2018.

There have been four funerals:

- Gladys Johnson — June 21, 2018
- Peggy Phillips — July 28, 2018
- Shirley Laking — August 2, 2018
- Kate Graham — September 29, 2018

## Summer Church Visits

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By Eilonwy Morgan

Over the summer our parishioners posted 21 church bulletins from their travels. The favorite destination was, again, Canada, with churches visited across the country from British Columbia, in the West, to Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, in the East. Four of the nine Canadian churches were in Ontario. The remaining two were from Manitoba.

There were five bulletins from the U.K., including one from St. Kessog's in Loch Lomond, Scotland, and four from cities in "post-Brexit" Europe: Arras, Florence, Vienna, and Copenhagen. Rounding out the bulletin numbers were one each from Jerusalem, Basseterre in St. Kitts, and Cooperstown in New York State.

St. Martin's recognizes the value of the sense of community within our parish through our parish motto of "Two ships and a divided cloak": the divided cloak of our patron saint, Martin, and the two ships of worship and fellowship. We look for both worship and fellowship when we visit other churches, and several of our souvenir church bulletins welcomed visitors with memorable words.

From a small parish, the South Shore United Church in Tryon, Prince Edward Island:

*This is God's place,  
there are no entry fees or dress codes,  
no restrictions on age or height,  
no capability test, no exclusion zone,  
no right way to come.  
This is a place where we can kick off our shoes  
and settle on in.  
Here we find shelter, whatever the weather,  
Here we are family, whoever we are,  
Here we are home, wherever we've been,  
Here in God's house, God's grace is all we need.*

From Coventry Cathedral in England:

*We extend a special welcome to those who are  
single, married, divorced, widowed, straight,  
gay, confused, well-heeled or down at heel. We  
especially welcome wailing babies and excited  
toddlers.*

*We welcome you whether you can sing like  
Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself.  
You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing,'  
just woken up or just got out of prison. We  
don't care if you're more Christian than the  
Archbishop of Canterbury, or haven't been to  
church since Christmas ten years ago.*

*We extend a special welcome to those who are  
over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers  
who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-  
fit mums, football dads, starving artists, tree-  
huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food  
eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or  
still addicted. We welcome you if you're having  
problems, are down in the dumps or don't like  
'organized religion.' (We're not that keen on it  
either!)*

*We offer a welcome to those who think the  
earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't  
spell, or are here because granny is visiting and  
wanted to come to the Cathedral.*

*We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both  
or neither. We offer a special welcome to those  
who could use a prayer right now, had religion  
shoved down their throat as kids or got lost on  
the ring road and wound up here by mistake.  
We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers,  
doubters... and you!*

## Faithworks Walkathon

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By Judith Kidd

THANK YOU so much to the walkers and those who supported the walkers of the annual Faithworks Walkathon held in June.

The walk started in light rain but finished in sunshine. It was a wonderful way to spend a Sunday afternoon, and a satisfying



way to raise funds (slightly more than \$3,000) for the agencies supported by Faithworks.

Again, many thanks to all.

## Our New Organ Scholar

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By Jack Hattey

We welcome Esther-Ruth Teel to the music team. She is a second-year organ performance major at the University of Toronto, studying with John Tuttle. She hails from Victoria, B.C., and will be with us through the end of April. We are very fortunate to have her join Derek Hodges, our Junior Organ Scholar, who continues

his fine work. It is wonderful to see young people interested in learning to play the organ and the organ's place in the liturgy. There had been a drop in interest, especially in Toronto, over the last few years.

Montreal has been the centre for organ studies. Nonetheless, Toronto offers many interesting possibilities for those who are called-and we are most fortunate indeed. Esther-Ruth is a fine singer and a Celtic harpist as well.

St. Martin's plays an important role in giving young organists a hands-on opportunity to learn how to grow into the role of a church musician. The diocese has had trouble in finding organists, and if we don't train a new generation of musicians, how will the church grow without this important tool of evangelism? Thanks to the support of our congregation, St. Martin's plays another vital part in outreach.

## How I Came to St. Martin's

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By Esther-Ruth Teel

I am very excited to be part of the music at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. I grew up on the west coast, and moved here in 2017 for the organ program at the University of Toronto. Since about the time I was seventeen, I have been involved with music at St. Barnabas in Victoria, B.C. – another church with smells and bells! I realized through that experience that I wanted to become a church musician, so I'm thrilled to be learning from Jack Hattey, the choir, and the congregation of St. Martin's. I love how music can open people to themselves, to each other, and to God. When I'm not making music, I enjoy seeking out nature, and cooking.

## Parish Profile: Roberta, Robert and Emanuele

By Roberta, Robert and Emanuele



Roberta Laking is a child of Canadian prairie parents, part of a proud Royal Canadian Air Force family. A Cold War "service brat," she spent her childhood moving from place to place within Canada and abroad. In Belgium she attended the local school, learning to read and write in French while speaking English at home. To her parents' surprise, Roberta picked up written English on her own – though she was often perplexed by English spelling and phonetics.

Living in Europe, the concept of many languages and cultures and ways of doing things was a given. It was natural for older buildings to have bullet holes in the walls, for unexploded munitions from previous wars to be found in odd places, for roads to pass police checkpoints where the car could be stopped at gunpoint. Like other Canadian military children, she was taught her father's name, rank and serial number as well as their home address in case she was ever separated from her family.

Back in Canada, Roberta attended high school in Ottawa. Encouraged by her parents to choose a profession, she studied pharmacy at the University of Toronto, setting aside her beloved arts and languages for later.

Offered jobs at St. Joseph's Health Centre's and later Toronto General Hospital's pharmacy departments, Toronto became

Roberta's home. Long-neglected artistic inclinations revived with choral music at St. Martin's. Soon after, she started private singing lessons, which eventually led to stage management for opera workshop productions. Roberta's interest in fine art produced a growing collection of paintings and drawings. She developed a keen eye as an amateur photographer.

Roberta met Robert Kananaj when they were introduced by chance at a Toronto gallery reception where Robert had exhibited artwork. They found each other congenial company with many shared interests, and eventually married.

Robert has been a practicing artist for thirty years. He studied art and received his Diploma in Monumental Sculpture in Albania. He taught school art classes while he was director and curator of the municipal art gallery in his hometown of Fier, Albania. He later lived and worked as an artist in Greece before moving to Toronto in the late 1990s. His drawing and composition skills proved valuable when he started working with computer graphics.

After they married, their house was filling up with artwork, so Robert and Roberta started looking for a studio where both would have space to express their artistic yearnings. They came across a store for rent near Bloor and Lansdowne. The concept of *art gallery as extension of the artist's studio* initiated the Robert Kananaj Gallery. The Robert Kananaj Gallery (RKG) soon became known for innovative exhibitions featuring diverse local and international artists. Robert has directed and run RKG, with

Roberta as co-director, for the last seven years. RKG eventually relocated to 172 St. Helen's Avenue, a space better suited to large-scale artwork and project installations.

Since arriving in Canada nearly four years ago to attend school full-time, Emanuele Kananaj has become an integral part of the family. He has developed from bright child to promising teen, at ease with school and friends of all ages. A good-looking young man, he is a soccer and basketball enthusiast. During summers as a Leader-in-Training at Camp Nokomis, through connections at St. Martin's, he has developed a passion for canoeing. Now in Grade 11 at Bloor Collegiate and with many interests to choose from, Emanuele is starting to think about university.

Roberta has served in many capacities at St. Martin's, including choir member, concert publicist, Warden and Chair of Parish Council, head of Altar Guild, and reader. She helped the church acquire the grand piano, launched the Easter Resurrection party, and forged a strong parish outreach program. Roberta has brought Robert and Emanuele to St. Martin's. Robert's form of portrait-making for parishioners is his flower arrangements on Sundays. Emanuele has found a welcoming environment to develop his leadership skills, and he is discovering along the way the gift of working with children as a volunteer in the church school.

St. Martin's fosters a community of sharing. Prayer and fellowship have become part of the lives of Roberta, Robert and Emanuele.

## **Daisy Dunlop**

By Adrienne Beecker

I would be remiss not to write about Daisy Dunlop, the original founder of The Bridge.

It is a recipient of one of our FaithWorks initiatives and had firm beginnings in a woman's heart and mind.



In the early 1970s, Daisy Dunlop gave a talk about her work with young offenders to a local church in Georgetown. Daisy was recruiting volunteers to visit inmates in the Vanier Correctional Institute in Brampton. She was a petite, feisty woman with a ready smile. She spoke about her work to connect the inmates inside to the outside world.

Daisy motivated many people that day. She had brought one of the former inmates with her to join in the discussion with us. I was struck by Daisy's enthusiasm and commitment. This was a woman with a goal!

At the end of the discussion, I quickly wrote down my phone number and gave it to Daisy. I was "on the bus." A little later that week, I received a call to ask me to train as a volunteer at Vanier. For one year, every Thursday night, a friend and I drove to Vanier to learn how to interact with male inmates, most of whom were first-time

offenders and just 16 years old.<sup>1</sup> Active listening was the key to meaningful dialogue, I learned. Volunteers were prepared to visit and share with inmates on topics that the inmates introduced.

One evening per month, well-behaved inmates were permitted to attend an evening of entertainment after a Bible reading and prayer. Inmates had their behavior monitored by the guards, and often one small misdemeanor would mean no free night. The entertainment was usually a movie with refreshments that included treats from the “outside.” This was a big event in the lives of those attendees. Afterwards, we spent time talking with the inmates and sharing our lives. The evening lasted for up to three hours.

Our visits with individual inmates were scheduled for once a month also. In these visits, we learned about life inside the prison and the main concerns of the inmates. Most concerns involved their families and their own medical problems.

Daisy attended to the many emotional and personal needs of inmates in the Brampton facility through her volunteers. As volunteers, we followed through with her suggestions. I recall that these young men were appreciative to have some time with us on the “outside.” Daisy worked with the Salvation Army contact person inside the prison to keep this ongoing. She also worked hard within Vanier’s administration to get them to agree and maintain the bridging of the community with the incarcerated. Daisy proved to be a force to be reckoned with when standing up for inmates and their rights. She presented

well. (In fact, when I was listening to her, I thought that she would have been an excellent lawyer.)

At first, the work of The Bridge involved taking newly released inmates into available homes to help them get readjusted to everyday life outside. It was difficult to find rentals for these men. Eventually, halfway houses were created. Sometimes, the volunteers were asked to visit the men and their families in their new environments.

Daisy told us to be especially attentive when an inmate was just about to be released. Tensions became very high at this time. As you can imagine, some men did not want to face the outside. We worked to be there at that time, just as we tried to be there for them when they were setting up new lives.

Life was not all rosy for Daisy. She owned a big, lovely home in Georgetown’s older section and often housed five or six newly released men until they found a job, returned to school, or decided to move out. One time, though, a former inmate, an arsonist, burned her home to the ground. Daisy forgave him, rebuilt her home, and carried on with her work in her usual upbeat spirit. True forgiveness here.

Daisy worked tirelessly to help these released men make a new life, mainly, because she was a Christian. She connected with God and her volunteers in such a way that it was easy for us to try to help. Sometimes, I did laundry for a family living in rooms without laundry facilities. It was difficult for me to fit it all in, at times, because I had my own family with three children at that time.

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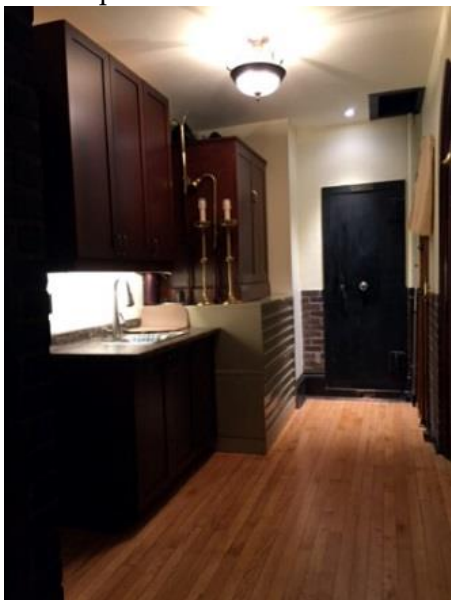
<sup>1</sup> Later, the Young Offenders Act offered more flexibility in the sentencing of offenders under the age of 18

Many of those men that Daisy helped are working in society today, including Garry Glowaki, the executive director of The Bridge in Brampton. He spoke in our church on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013, and told us about his connection with Daisy. As you may recall, some of our church people visited The Bridge a few years ago to see the art work. The Bridge ministry continues to this day, now holding weekly spiritual support meetings at the Brampton prison and operating extended reintegration, employment readiness, housing, and restorative justice assistance through a downtown Brampton community center.

The Anglican Journal published Daisy's death announcement some years ago with a short summary of her work. I wanted to honor her again with this small remembrance and give thanks to God for Daisy Dunlop and her work. She never gave up and she succeeded. On looking back, I feel privileged to have worked with her.

## **Vestry Renovation Project**

By Fr. Philip



The vestry area of the church was renovated this summer to make improvements to ease the duties of the Altar Guild and Servers before and after services. The project involved moving closets to consolidate hanging vestment storage and building a new wall closet to hold altar linens and other items needed during the liturgy. A four-foot counter with lower and upper cupboards and a sink with tall faucet was installed in the corridor area near the vault.



As well, the wood floors in the vestry, upper corridor, and down the east stairs were stripped and refinished. The ceiling in the corridor was repaired and the vestry and corridor were freshened up with a new coat of paint, plus repairs to the windows and improved lighting. During the course of the renovation, the organ was shut down to protect it from dust and we used the grand piano in the church during many of our summer services.

We are very grateful for a generous donation from the estate of Anita Li which

made all this work possible. Anita loved the community here at St. Martin's and wanted to ensure with her gift that a project that would make an important contribution in the life of the parish could go forward. Her generosity has made a real difference for Altar Guild members, Servers, Clergy and so many others involved in the conduct of services in the parish.

We are also very grateful to all those parishioners who helped to make this project possible, especially Lynn McKnight. Lynn's great efforts in design and project management, in construction, and oversight of outside tradespeople made all the difference. Without her many hours of work and her careful attention to all that was going on, this project would not have been completed. Thank you, Lynn, for the generous gift of your time, skills and labour.

## Samsom Gidey

By Tim Stephenson



**Gdey, Samsom and Meron at Meron's baptism at St. Martin's. Photo courtesy Tim Stephenson**

In the spring Lychgate, we provided an update on Samsom Gidey, whom St. Martin's sponsored four years ago. Samsom came to St. Martin's in Dec. 2014 as an orphan from an Eritrean refugee camp. He was a ray of light in our dark cold winter and worked hard to resettle in Canada. Later he became a loving partner and father to Gdey (his wife) and Meron and Efrem.

This past spring, a lot of early childhood trauma re surfaced. He had been separated from his parents from the age of ten. Sadly, Samsom succumbed to his mental health issues and died on June 9<sup>th</sup>. A formal burial was conducted by the Eritrean Orthodox community at the Beechwood Cemetery. A requiem memorial mass was held at St. Martins. The family has benefitted from the generosity of people associated with St. Martin's, who have made contributions for them. His widow (Gdey) and their two sons have since been in a shelter waiting for alternate accommodation.

Gdey has the boys in daycare at St. Michael and all Angels at St. Clair and Christie, and she is attending ESL classes at Christie and Bloor. Her English has improved remarkably in a few months. We are working closely with her friends and family in the Eritrean community and all of us are astounded by her strength. She has been regularly attending St. Martin's after a two-hour commute from the shelter in Scarborough. She has short term accommodation, but we are reaching out to parishioners if there are any leads for long term accommodation in the general area along St. Clair from Christie west to Keele and south to Bloor. We are looking for a large one-bedroom or a two-bedroom apartment. Please contact Tim Stephenson ([timjstephenson@gmail.com](mailto:timjstephenson@gmail.com)) or Glen Storey ([storeybook25@gmail.com](mailto:storeybook25@gmail.com)).

## Lammas Summer Food Drive

By Glen Storey

This year's Food Drive conducted for the month of August was again very successful. It is a combination of collecting non-perishable food items brought to the church and cash donations which are used to make Bulk Food purchases for St. Bartholomew's



From St. Martin's to St. St. Bart's

Food Bank located in the Regent Park area. With the more than \$500 in donations we were able to purchase almost 600 lbs. of food which along with the collected food items were delivered to St. Bart's in time for their

opening day.

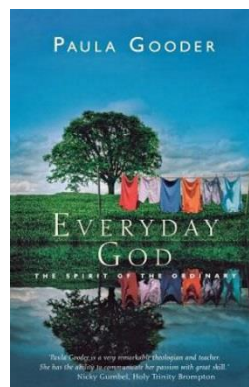
As usual our donation was greatly appreciated by the Volunteers and I'm sure by the Clients who were patiently waiting for the doors to open.

Thank You to all those who help make our food drive a success every year and to the Outreach Volunteers that give of their time at coffee hour collecting your donations.

### **Book Club: Everyday God**

By Mary Conliffe

The St. Martin's Book Club got off to a great start on September 12<sup>th</sup> with eight people gathering to discuss *Everyday God*, Paula Gooder's examination into Ordinary Time and finding God in the spirit of the ordinary. Participants spoke movingly of their appreciation for the book and their experiences of discovering God in unexpected ways and ordinary occasions. Because the book is neatly divided into three parts, the first of our three weekly discussions focused on Part One, "Ordinary People," and those quiet saints among us who challenge and inspire



us to see God in the every day. Many of our former parishioners who had journeyed with us in our life of discipleship were mentioned with love and gratitude and we felt encompassed by a great cloud of

witnesses. We also spoke at length of our own call to live out our baptismal ministry, even as all the great figures in the Bible were called out of an ordinary existence to do great things for God. Are you a "Mary" or a "Martha"? When, like Philip, have you invited someone to "come and see" Jesus? Who, like Paul's companions, accompanied you on your journey and encouraged you in the faith or your ministry? These are some of the questions we explored together in reflecting on the spirit of the ordinary.

The book study continues through September on Wednesdays in the Guild Room at 7:30 p.m. Part Two, "Ordinary God," will be discussed on September 19<sup>th</sup> and Part Three, "Living Extraordinary Ordinary Lives," will conclude the book on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Please join us!

### **Canadian Friends to West Indian Christians Annual Dinner**

By Eilonwy Morgan

The Canadian Friends to West Indian Christians will again recognize the lives and ministries of Bishops Arthur Brown and Basil Tonks with a fundraising dinner on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. As founding members of the Canadian Friends, both Arthur and Basil were great friends of the clergy and people of the West Indies. Their leadership was instrumental in encouraging

integration and contributing to the rich diversity of the parishes in the Diocese of Toronto and the multicultural nature of the communities in the Greater Toronto area. Basil Tonks was the Incumbent of St. Martin's in 1980-1981.

This year the dinner will also pay tribute to The Most Rev'd Colin Johnson, Archbishop of Toronto, as he prepares for his retirement. Archbishop Johnson will be the Celebrant at the Eucharist and the guest speaker at the dinner.

Tickets are available from our parishioner Frank Bodkin (tel. 416-622-3522).

## Stewardship

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By Peter Chauvin

One of the most important things we can do each day is to acknowledge those around us who help and support us through their generosity and effort. Here at St. Martin's there are many people who are deserving of our thanks. Stewardship is, in part, making sure we show our gratitude to members of the parish, to the groups and to the leaders, lay and ordained, who do so much for the parish.

We will be launching our annual Stewardship campaign in October. As in the past, we will include the list of groups and committees on the Time & Talent commitment sheet. There are 30 such groups listed on the T&T, and cumulatively they represent dozens of parishioners who do so much. These groups include many who work behind the scenes and whose work often goes unnoticed – that is, until the work doesn't get done. As we enter our Stewardship campaign, we should all remember to thank those who do so much for St. Martin's.

The campaign will start on October 21<sup>st</sup> and culminate on 'Commitment Sunday,' November 25<sup>th</sup>. We hope to be able to distribute the campaign material this year predominantly by e-mail and ask that you consider submitting your T&T and pledge online, through our website. We do promise this year to follow up with all those who offer their time and talent through the campaign. As well, we will soon be able to accept donations, both one-time and monthly, online through a 'Donate Now' button to be set up on our website. Stay tuned for these exciting developments.

On September 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, we asked parishioners to review and update the mailing list set out at the back of the church, including e-mail addresses. It is hoped that we will be able to use e-mail to substantially replace the costlier distribution of printed mailings, such as *The Lychgate*. Thanks everyone for taking a moment to look over your contact details and providing updates as required.

On a related note, the Stewardship Committee will be hosting an estate planning seminar here at St. Martin's. It is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> after the 11 o'clock service. Please circle this date and keep watching for details.

## Summer Preserves

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At this time when so many summer fruits are available, please keep in mind our annual Nutcracker Fair when making your jams, jellies, and preserves. The jars of home-made jams and preserves are always popular items at the Fair. The Fair will take place this year on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Parish Picnic, September 9

