
THE LYCHGATE

April 7, 2019

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



From the Desk of the Assistant Curate

Easter Reflections on Lent

Through much of my spiritual journey, I have held to a theology of looking ahead and moving forward. As St. Paul says, “but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3: 13). This type of thinking aligns well with what we know about time. Time does not rewind but continues linearly from one moment to the next.

But time isn’t merely linear. Christians, and those from other religious traditions, also understand time as circular. We move through seasons of time, again and again, as we journey into God. The momentousness of each of these seasons is not necessarily equivalent. For Christians, Easter is the pivotal moment, not just in the Christian year, but in all of time and history. Easter governs how we experience all other seasons of faith and life. Our recent journey through Lent, for example, was rife with the truth and triumph of Easter.

This year, during the third Sunday in Lent, Jamelia Williams, a representative of Downsvie Youth Covenant (DYC), came to speak to us about the amazing work happening in that ministry. Her words resonated with Easter proclamation! She talked about the children who find support through DYC – kids who are on the margins, who could easily be left behind, but through this ministry are being given a second chance. Isn’t this what Easter, in our cyclical experience of time, offers us? Easter hope is marked by new beginnings, fresh starts, and second chances.

The parable of the barren fig tree (Luke 13: 6-9) affirms this. The tree in the story has been planted to hold up the tendrils of the grape vines. Its roots are deep and draining nourishment from the soil, but the tree is failing to bear fruit. The instinct of the landowner is to cut it down because it is “wasting the soil.” The landowner’s gardener refuses to give up. He tells the landowner to “let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” The gardener is full of Easter hope, treating the barren fig tree as God treats us: with patience and continual care, even when our lives fail to produce fruit.

But what will happen next year at the same time if the tree hasn’t borne fruit? Praise God that Easter arrives once again before the tree can be felled. We never arrive at “next year” because the season of Easter returns to remind us that God will continue to nurture us, digging around and re-fertilizing the soil, so to give us one more chance to grow – to make things right within ourselves and with our neighbour. Some would misunderstand and call this “cheap grace.” I call it the hope of Easter. So let us be gentle and patient with ourselves, as God is gentle and patient with us; and let us live into the second chance we have been given once again this Eastertide.

Blessings, the Rev’d Alison Hari-Singh

Church Directory



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

151 Glenlake Ave.
Toronto, Ontario M6P 1E8

www.stmartininthefields.ca
Facebook: stmartininthefieldsTO
Instagram: stmartingarden

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

Incumbent:

The Rev'd Canon Philip
Hobson OGS

Assistant Curate: The
Rev'd Alison Hari-
Singh

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

Organ Scholar: Esther-Ruth Teel

Junior Organ Scholar: Derek
Hodges

Church Wardens:

Cindy Paget

Philip Savage

Secretary:

Margaret Allen

Property Manager:

Mark Kolberg

Sunday School & Nursery

Grace Karram Stephenson

About *The Lychgate* Newsletter: *The Lychgate* is published four times a year. Parishioners and friends are encouraged to submit news and articles to the editors, Eilonwy Morgan and Ian Greene, at iangreene0766@rogers.com. For digital access to *The Lychgate*, including colour photos and click links to web sites, go to <https://stmartininthefields.ca>. If you want to go paperless and cancel your paper copy of *The Lychgate*, email us at Lychgate1111@gmail.com.

Since December 2, 2018

We have not had any baptisms or weddings since the last issue of the *Lychgate*. We have had three funeral services: for Robert Pollock, Carmen Collymore, and Margaret Darte.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 13 – Palm cross workshop: 10:30 a.m.; Pysanky workshop: 10 a.m.

Saturday, April 20 – Resurrection Party following the Easter service; youth dance to follow

Saturday, April 27 – Tour of Donovan Collection 10 a.m.; GTA Community Cleanup day; church garden and perimeter cleanup

Sunday, May 5 – PARC art show and bake sale

Saturday, May 25 – Blessing of the Bikes

Sunday, May 26 – Rogation Sunday; Nametag Sunday; Healthy & Growing Parishes Survey

Sunday, June 2 – FaithWorks Walkathon

Friday/Saturday, June 7/8 – Parish family camp at Nokomis

Saturday June 15 – Quiet Garden

Saturday, June 22 – Fun Fair

Wednesday, July 10 – Concert with bands and choirs from England

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm/Passion Sunday, April 14

8:30 a.m. Eucharist

11:00 a.m. Procession and Sung Eucharist

Monday of Holy Week, April 15

10:00 a.m. Eucharist

7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Tuesday of Holy Week, April 16

10:00 a.m. Eucharist

7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 17

10:00 a.m. Eucharist

7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Maundy Thursday, April 18

8:00 p.m. Eucharist, Washing of Feet, Stripping of the Altar. Chief Celebrant & Preacher – Bishop Jenny Andison

9:30 p.m. The Watch

Good Friday, April 19

10:00 a.m. Children's Service

1:00 p.m. Liturgy of Good Friday

2:30 p.m. Sacramental Confession

Easter Eve, April 20

8:30 p.m. Easter Vigil

(followed by the Resurrection Party)

Easter Day, April 21

8:30 a.m. Eucharist

11:00 a.m. Procession and Sung Eucharist

Easter Monday, April 22

7:00 p.m. Eucharist

The Rev'd Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan

By Eilonwy Morgan



Rev'd Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan cutting 40th anniversary of ordination cake

On the second Sunday of Advent, December 9, 2018, the sermon at St. Martin's at the 11 a.m. service was preached by The Most Rev'd Fred Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. He spoke of the illustrious career of our Honorary Assistant, The Rev'd Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan. That day we celebrated with her the 40th anniversary of her ordination, and gave thanks to God for her years of service to the Church. Archbishop Hiltz spoke of the

intellect and passion she brought to her life's work.

Mother Alyson studied theology in the mid 1970s, although at the time it was difficult for women as the question of their ordination to the priesthood was being hotly debated. She felt a call to the ordained ministry, nonetheless, and for advocacy work, and was ordained deacon in 1975 and priest in 1978. She then went on to have an impact on the local, national, and international Church.

One of her professors at Trinity College was a leader in Anglican-Roman Catholic dialogue, and he thought it important to have ordained women as part of that work. Mother Alyson joined the Canadian dialogue in 1977 and became passionate about work for the reconciliation of Christian churches.

After ordination, Mother Alyson and her husband, Father Bruce Barnett-Cowan, spent some years in northern Quebec in a parish that included the Naskapi First Nation, and in Manitoba, where they directed and taught at the Henry Budd College for Ministry, a theological school for Cree First Nations.

After that, Mother Alyson took the position of Ecumenical Officer with the Anglican Church of Canada. She facilitated talks with the Roman Catholic Church, the United Church and with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, leading up to the 2001 agreement of full communion, a fruitful relationship that has continued to this day.

In 1995, under Archbishop Peers, Mother Alyson became the Director of Faith, Worship, and Ministry for the national church, continuing with ecumenical work but also overseeing the development of the 1998 hymn book, *Common Praise*, and the work of the Primate's Theological Commission which addressed the question of the blessing of same sex unions.

In 2009, she became the Director of Unity, Faith, and Order for the worldwide Anglican Communion. In this role, she not only met with the Archbishop of Canterbury, but also with the Pope and Ecumenical Patriarch, and with the greatest scholars and pastors of our time as she provided staff support to all the international ecumenical dialogues with which the Anglican Communion was involved. She also met with many ordinary people of many races, languages, and cultures. She wanted these people to feel valued for their witness to the Gospel in their own context. She felt deeply that each church offers and receives gifts, and in so doing is enriched.

In 2015, she became the interim General Secretary for the Anglican Communion. This was an office of considerable influence, second only to the Archbishop of Canterbury for oversight for the Communion.

Later in 2015, Mother Alyson came back to Canada, swiftly being appointed President of the Canadian Council of Churches, a national ecumenical group of 26 churches. She is now serving as Past President of that body.

Mother Alyson is very proud of her ministry with First Nations and is committed to the process of Truth and Reconciliation. Reconciliation is also the principal aim of her ecumenical work, and was most hopefully achieved in the full communion agreement with Lutherans.

The Rev'd Alison Hari-Singh, Assistant Curate



The Rev'd Alison Hari-Singh

Alison was born in London, England, and emigrated to Canada with her family when she was six years of age. She was raised in a small town in northern Saskatchewan – St. Walburg, about 45 minutes

northeast of Lloydminster – but moved with her family to Mississauga, where she completed high school.

Alison holds a B.Sc. (Hons) in Psychology from the University of Toronto, and an M.Rel. from Wycliffe College. She is currently finishing a Ph.D. dissertation in political theology at the Toronto School of Theology, where she also works as the Administrator of the Doctor of Ministry program.

Raised in a Christian home, Alison first sensed a call to ordained ministry while participating in a United Church youth group as a teenager. Later, she found her way into Anglicanism and joined the pastoral staff of St. James Cathedral, working with young adults.

She is interested in a holistic spiritual development that unites contemplation and action. Singing, songwriting, playing the piano and guitar, and writing fiction are favourite pastimes. She also practices hatha yoga daily and loves to move, whether walking or cycling around Toronto.

Alison is married to the Rev. Jeff Nowers, Associate Priest of St. Aidan's in the Beach, and they have one young daughter, Ava.

Matthew Waterman, Choral Scholar

By Matthew Waterman

I came to St. Martin's through conversations with Jack Hattey about studying the organ with him. Those conversations led to me coming to St. Martin's as a choral scholar, and since then I have begun to fulfil my field education requirements in this parish as well.



**Matthew Waterman,
Choral Scholar**

I was born and raised in Toronto, and have attended St. Paul's L'Amoreaux for most of my life. During my first year of high school, I first received repentance and faith in Jesus Christ by God's mercy. At the same time, my emerging interest in music multiplied dramatically, and I

began studying music in earnest, joining the arts program at Earl Haig Secondary School by my third year of high school.

After graduating from high school and completing a bachelor's degree in music from the University of Toronto, I enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at Wycliffe College, to train for pastoral ministry. Apart from the bustling musical life at St Martin's, which is full of exciting and challenging compositions and variously gifted musicians, I appreciate the way in which truths are not merely spoken but frequently sung. I thoroughly enjoy singing about the textbook truths of Jesus Christ contained in the Nicene Creed, and the way words of admiration are combined with grand and stirring music, such as these: "Yea, Amen, let all adore him, high on thine eternal throne. Saviour take the power and glory, claim the kingdom for thine own. O come quickly! Everlasting God, come down!" Singing words such as these confirm my own faith in the one who loved me and gave himself over for my sins, and the ministry I have received from God, to testify to the

good news of God's grace and the hope of the resurrection of the dead.

Thank you for welcoming me into your community.

The Beatles in Canada

By Eilonwy Morgan and Ian Greene



Piers Hemmingsen interviewed on CBC in London, January 30, 2019. Photo courtesy CBC.

On January 30 of this year, St. Martin's parishioner Piers Hemmingsen was interviewed in London, England by CBC television and radio because of his participation in a memorable event: the gathering of Beatles fans in London, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Beatles' final live concert. This concert has become known as the "Rooftop Concert" because the Beatles performed on the roof of their Apple Records building.

Piers has a fascinating story about how the Beatles became popular in Canada a year before they did in the United States. He grew up in a military family, and during his father's posting to England in the early 1960's, his older brother came home from school one day and mentioned with enthusiasm that a new rock group would be on television. Piers watched the television program, and says that he was "hooked since then" on the Beatles' music.

When the family returned to Canada in the summer of 1963, his brother brought home his

Beatles records issued in England. Piers reports that his brother "pestered the local radio station DJ to play them." As radio stations were always open to new music, this happened. Then radio stations across the country followed suit. Piers believes that many Canadians were receptive to this band because of the history of English immigration to Canada.

Capitol Records, based in Toronto, was quick to pick up on the trend. Piers reports that Paul White, at that time the person at Capitol Records who received the demonstration records from England, liked the music and encouraged Capitol Records in Canada to issue Beatles recordings. They did, in 1963.

Apparently Paul White's counterpart at the U.S. office of Capitol Records decided not to pick up the Beatles recordings initially in 1963 because there were harmonica tracks, and he didn't like the harmonica. As a result, with the recordings not being issued in the U.S., the radio stations in the U.S. did not play them. The Beatles' music was an English and Canadian privilege.

Then came the Beatles' performance on The Ed Sullivan Show, broadcast on television in the United States in February of 1964. Piers informed us that 73 million people watched this show. (He said he was one of them.) After that the story and music of the Fab Four (as the Beatles were called) was out in the broader domain. "This was an important moment for the Baby Boomers. We grew up with our parents' music, like Bing Crosby, but this was our own music."

The Beatles then went on to become the most successful rock band in history.

Piers has worked with the Beatles' company over the decades as a researcher. It is still run by Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, Yoko Ono (widow of John Lennon) and Olivia Harrison (widow of George Harrison). He says they have encouraged his books for their accuracy.

Piers felt that there should be a record of the Beatles' fame in Canada prior to The Ed Sullivan Show. England acknowledged the Beatles first, but Canada did so ahead of Ed Sullivan and the rest of the United States, and then the world.

And Piers Hemmingsen (and his older brother) had something to do with this happening, and telling the story to the rest of us.

Because Piers had learned so much about the Beatles in Canada over the years, he wrote a book about the group which you can borrow from the Toronto Public Library. Its title is [The Beatles in Canada: The Origins of Beatlemania!](#) He is working on a second volume that will finish the Beatles story for Canada, to be published later this year.

Piers said that the 50th anniversary concert was memorable. "We had people out on the street with guitars" performing the Beatles' music "just as it was done before." It was quite a tribute.

Games Night

By Grace Karram Stephenson



On Saturday, February 9, St. Martin's invited parishioners to escape the cold with an evening of board games in the Parish Hall. The event was beautifully put together by members of the Parish Council and the Newcomers Committee who provided pizza, snacks and desserts. It was amazing to see children and adults alike, in deep concentration over Scrabble, Battleship, Backgammon, Clue and UNO. The evening was long enough for several rounds of each game and almost everyone's name made it to the champions' list.

Thank you to all who made the event a success. If the cold weather kept you at home, don't fret. We look forward to seeing you next year for some friendly competition.



Parish Research Study

By Eilonwy Morgan

Earlier this year, Father Philip received an inquiry from the Rev'd Grayhame Bowcott. He is currently working on a thesis on healthy and growing parishes for a Doctor of Ministry degree. The Diocese identified six parishes which demonstrate growth in stewardship and developing ministry. St. Martin's is one of these parishes.

Parish Council has agreed for St. Martin's to participate in Rev'd Bowcott's study. This will require one day, May 26, involving the parish as a whole, with Rev'd Bowcott preaching at the main service, and a parish survey. There will also be a separate interview of Parish Council on their experiences and priorities, likely on May 13. Each of these activities will seek to identify the hallmarks of a church which is healthy and growing.

We will also ask to learn the overall results of the study among the six parishes, their good ideas, and overall conclusions.

Parish Retreat, Camp Nokomis, June 7-8

By Grace Karram-Stevenson

Save the date for the St. Martin's Parish Retreat at Camp Nokomis (June 7-8).

Why a retreat? The practice of leaving regular life and making time to meet with God is centuries old. Spiritual retreats in different forms are an important part of Christian, Jewish, Hindu and Islamic Sufi communities. The practice of retreats in

Christian community dates back to St. Ignatius of Loyola in the 6th century. Today, religious communities still host retreats for laypeople throughout the year, while summer camps act as a type of retreat for young people.

For those of us who reside in a busy city, retreats are both a time of refreshment in nature and a time to awaken to God's working in our lives. We are excited to have former parishioners Monica and Matthew Green lead the teaching sessions at this year's Parish Retreat as we reflect together on how we might bring the hope of Christ to a troubled world.

Camp Nokomis is located near Fergus, and it takes about 1.3 hours to drive there from St. Martin's. The camp directors are Jay and Vicky Haddad, whom you know as St. Martin's parishioners. The web site for the camp is: <http://www.campnokomis.com/>.

Update on the Blessing Box

By Glen Storey and Kathie Wagg – for the Missional Team

Since being installed in December, the St. Martin's Blessing Box has been accepted by the community, and is being used. We often see community members at the library sections – taking out and putting in books for both adults and children. We have also seen children's videos going in – and going out.

The clothing section has been the most used. Our objective is to have warm clothing for the cold winter months for those with need. We have seen warm coats, sweaters, hoodies, boots and such in addition to the hats, scarves, mittens, gloves and socks that we have put in. We also receive a lot of other used clothing. This we take to Stonegate Ministries' second-hand store on the Lakeshore. They are very appreciative of anything we bring them.

The sections for non-perishable food, and common household and personal hygiene items, have not been as active, although whatever we put in goes out quickly. Not enough is donated as yet. We are hoping this will change as weather

improves and we are able to put in more variety of items, such as tinned goods and bottles.

The installation will change in appearance later in the spring. We will be removing the clothing section for the summer to enable our gardening group to access upper gardens. This section will be returned in the fall to hold the cold weather clothing.

People have asked "how can I help?" Very simply – contribute to the facility! Bring non-perishable food, common household or personal hygiene items. If you don't want to put them in the box yourself, put them in the box for that purpose located in the narthex at the rear of the church. When you do your personal shopping, include just one item for the Blessing Box each week. This is a very simple and reasonable way to share with those less fortunate in our community.

Six easy Steps to Health and Safety – Our Kitchen Protocol

By Kathie Wagg – for Parish Council

At our recent Parish Council meeting, we discussed and approved a new protocol for operations in our kitchen.

St. Martin's is a very social parish with many events involving food preparation and serving. We are now doing more events where we are inviting the community to join us. Accordingly, it is incumbent on us to ensure that the food we prepare and/or serve is handled safely and with the highest degree of cleanliness.

It is difficult to ensure these higher levels are maintained when people other than those involved in preparation, delivery or clean-up are constantly coming in and out of the kitchen. It is relatively easy to correct this and to ensure that we adhere to superior health and safety standards.

Step One is the primary change – to restrict access to the kitchen to people directly involved in the preparation, delivery or clean-up of our events. Young children should not be in the kitchen. There are too many surfaces that are dangerous to them. From now on, the individual responsible for the event or function will post the names of volunteers

with access permission outside the kitchen in the space to be designated for this function.

Step Two - Leave kitchen door open only when food or drink is being transported in or out.

Step Three - Place 'bussing' containers outside the door of the kitchen for people to put their dirty dishes in for every event – including coffee hour after services. For larger events i.e. full meals, place a table dedicated to bussing bins to receive dishes etc.

Step Four - At the end of events, place any surplus food items that are available to be taken by anyone on a table outside the kitchen – with a sign indicating this. Any food not on this table will be in the kitchen and put away for future use by the clean-up volunteers.

Step Five - When cleaning up from an event, please clean all equipment /utensils used and put all away in their proper places

Step Six - If someone 'wanders' into the kitchen, respectfully request anyone who is not on the volunteer list to exit the kitchen.

There they are – six easy steps to a cleaner, safer, healthier environment in St. Martin's kitchen. Together, we will make a difference!

Arts for PARC and Bake Sale – the Junos at St. Martin's

By Almut Brenne-Davies

As the Juno Awards on March 17, 2019 honored our Canadian musical talent with artists such as Shawn Mendes and Avril Lavigne, Arts for PARC and bake sale is aiming to honor the musicians and singers from the Parkdale Activity and Recreation Program.

We have all heard about many famous musicians such as Justin Bieber, and previously, Prince and Jimmie Hendrix, for example, who seemed to be suffering from mental illness and addiction and used music to heal themselves and possibly us as well. The PARC musicians are not quite as famous, but music is a form of therapy for them as well. Their challenges are exacerbated by poverty.

As Christians we should remember that how we treat "the least of these among us" is how we treat Christ himself. Therefore, we should stand with the

Parkdale Activity-Recreation Centre and support the music program and its participants.

As parishioners of St Martin's who use music to heal ourselves every Sunday, let us support the efforts of the music program at PARC on May 5, 2019 after the 11 a.m. service. There will be an Art and Bake Sale in the church garden, when over 15 local artists will be showing their art, and there will be a delicious spread of baked goods for sale. All proceeds will go to support the PARC music program.

Tour of the Donovan Collection of Paintings

By Peter Muller

Over the past fifty years Father Daniel Donovan, Emeritus Professor of Theology at The University of Saint Michael's College, University of Toronto, has assembled a remarkable collection of paintings now hanging in the college. This collection is an expression of Fr. Donovan's personal taste, education, experience, and his vocation. Art, he says, "speaks to us on many levels," and in this collection particularly, the pieces work "as signs of the human spirit ... as it reaches out beyond the everyday ... to the Mystery that surrounds and permeates and gives depth and meaning to our lives."

Fr. Donovan has invited us to join him on a tour of the collection on Saturday, April 27 at Saint Michael's from 10 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Please note that due to limitations of space in some of the display areas and the wish to allow everyone a viewing position, Fr. Donovan has asked us to keep our group size to 12, or 15 at the very most.

To register for this Saint Martin's tour, contact Sheila Jennison: sheilajennison36@gmail.com.



First Crocus
of 2019

Dance Celebration at Resurrection Party

By Amelia Hartin

Easter is a time of happy new beginnings. Baptisms, confirmations and the resurrection of Christ are accompanied by longer days, warmer weather and a return to life outdoors.

This year, a Motown dance party will add to the joyous festivities in the latter half of our annual Resurrection Party on April 20. Out of respect to the community, the music will be kept at a volume where we can have fun and be happy without disturbing our neighbours.

All are welcome to join, so polish up your dancing shoes! Alleluia!

Pilgrimage to Canonization of Oscar Romero

On March 23rd, Jenn McIntyre and Maria José Marcano gave a moving account at St. Martin's of their pilgrimage to Rome to attend the canonization of Oscar Romero. Their journey was mentioned in the December 2, 2018 edition of *The Lychgate*. It was gripping to hear their stories and see their photos. People from El Salvador, and their diaspora, gathered in joy in Rome. The group from Romero House wholeheartedly embraced their fellow citizens of El Salvador, and the world, in celebrating the recognition of Saint Oscar Romero's witness for God and humanity.



Jenn McIntyre and Diana Ballesteros presenting on March 23 at St. Martin's about their Pilgrimage to Rome. Photo courtesy David McKnight.

Stewardship – A Spirit of Thanksgiving

By Peter Chauvin

In last November's stewardship campaign, we talked about the special need St. Martin's had to hire new clergy to fill the gap left by the departure of Mother Susan and Father Andrew. Parishioners responded to the stewardship campaign with increased financial support. Thank you so much. As a result, at Vestry we all approved the financial commitment in our 2019 budget for new clergy staff. Earlier this year, the Reverend Alison Hari-Singh joined St. Martin's, and has already contributed a great deal.

Your support is important to the future of St. Martin's. Your response to the campaign last fall was phenomenal, and so thank you all for that.

A key element to the annual stewardship campaign is our request that parishioners complete a pledge sheet, and Time & Talents form. Based on past experience, the pledges we received are likely about a third of the actual amount that we anticipate parishioners will actually contribute in 2019. It would be wonderful if we could raise the proportion of those making pledges. Pledges, while not binding, do allow us to better plan for, and manage, St. Martin's financial affairs. There is still time to complete a 2019 pledge form on our web site.

As well, we all know the important ministries of St. Martin's thrive because of the volunteer support of parishioners – our time and our talents. As part of last fall's campaign, parishioners filled in over 35 Time & Talent forms covering over 87 positions and committees. There are 30 groups and committees listed in this year's stewardship brochure. These groups manage all manner of activities and responsibilities and keep the church running. If you haven't filled out a Time and Talent form, we encourage you to re-read the list, and to let us know if you would like more information about any groups that might be of interest to you. The Stewardship Committee is following up with committee chairs to ensure that each parishioner who has offered to volunteer is contacted, if it is the first time that person has offered to volunteer for that particular group.

There are two very important committees that share general oversight of running St. Martin's. They are Parish Council and Management Board. Each is headed by a warden. Each committee meets monthly – Parish Council on the 2nd Monday of each month, and Management Board on the 3rd Mondays of each month. These committees provide a wonderful insight into the activities of the church, and who is involved in these activities.

All parishioners are welcome to attend. Watch for upcoming meeting dates in the Sunday leaflet. It would be great to see you at Management Board or Parish Council.



At Games Night on February 9, Valentine's Cookies were served in anticipation of February 14!



During the week of February 10, Bishop Victoria Matthews celebrated the 25th anniversary of her consecration as a bishop. On Sunday, February 17, she was presented with an anniversary cake during the coffee hour at St. Martin's

Garden Cleanup

By Patty McKnight

We are planning to participate in the 'Clean Toronto Together' program on April 27th which is a city-wide campaign to bring out volunteers to clean up public areas. We'll focus on cleaning up all the litter that gets tossed into the garden at street level and in the driveway.

FaithWorks

by Judith Kidd

"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

The spring issue of *The Lychgate* comes out just at the time that the parish is in the midst of the 2019 FaithWorks campaign. This year the two words of the campaign focus on "Love" and "Kindness." It seems to me that the FaithWorks' partners put Micah's words into action - 'do justice', 'love kindness' and 'walk humbly with your God'. This year the two partners that we will hear from directly during our campaign seem to exemplify those ways.

Downsview Youth Covenant (DYC) states its mission is to meet the important need for affirmation of our youth by providing them with guidance, positive role models and activities that will enhance their lives. The community served by DYC is a densely populated, newcomer community of African, Caribbean, and other ethnic groups. However, while the community is rich in many resources, there is a high rate of families living below the poverty line with parents working two and three jobs for survival. Additionally, there is not enough free programming to support the needs of children and youth. DYC interprets 'love kindness' through the programming they do for youth. We heard from Jemilia Williams, a DYC board member, how children go from being helped to being mentors.

In a few weeks we will hear from a board member of All Saints Sherbourne. All Saints' is "the only Church organization in the downtown that dedicates its entire facility to providing a safe and nurturing environment to enhance the well-being of homeless and street-involved individuals. Staff work alongside the community they serve to help to address social inclusion, and to foster equality, and mutual respect." (from All Saints' website) A study done in 2016 estimated an annual economic impact for the surrounding community of \$13.5 million. That impact included 69 suicides prevented, 150 people prevented going to prison and 260 people helped with drug and alcohol addiction.

Both these partners demonstrate what "love kindness" looks like! I hope that you will consider donating to FaithWorks this year. By supporting FaithWorks we too can "love kindness" through the support of these partner agencies.

And, please consider joining us on June 2nd for our annual FaithWorks' walk on Toronto Island. It would be lovely to have you with us - but, if you are not able to join us, please support those walking on behalf of FaithWorks.

Pub Lunch March 24

On Sunday, March 24, the Hospitality Group invited everyone to join in for a “pub lunch” after the 11:00 a.m. service. Ham and scalloped potatoes were served, along with a vegetarian/vegan option. Trifle was served for dessert!

More than 100 people attended, necessitating extra tables and chairs!

