



THE ELM LEAF NEWSLETTER

The Parish Church
of St. Peter

June 2011 issue

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Summer and the Holiness of Time

I have been noticing how often I hear the word, "Busy!" when I ask someone how he or she is doing. Often when we initiate a conversation with someone we begin with asking, "How are you?" And increasingly often I hear that response, "Busy! WAY too busy!" And sadly, I believe the many folks who respond in this way are telling me the truth. Often they will go on to explain the numerous demands on their time: expectations at work are way too demanding; family pressures; raising children; caring for family members experiencing health concerns; extra curricular activities; etc. etc. etc.

A few years ago I spent the better part of a year researching the theological implications associated with Sabbath time. One of the interesting things I discovered was that when we take a close look at the story of creation in the Book of Genesis, the first thing God identifies as 'Holy' is 'Time'. God creates light, waters, dry land, plants/vegetation, stars, birds and all living creatures, human beings (notice that is human 'beings' not human 'doings') . . . and it is proclaimed over and over again throughout this intricate process, "God saw that it was good." It is not

until God establishes the seventh day that He/She identifies something as 'Holy'. . . "So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all His/Her work that He/She had done in creation." Clearly, the God we worship places a high value on hard work and a job well done, and yet, at the same time, God places such a high value on Sabbath time that it is identified as 'Holy'.

We live in a culture in which the value we place on 'time' runs contrary to the notion of time as 'Holy'. We often hear it said that, "time is money" and it is not uncommon to hear the need to, "race against time." Imagine, racing against that which is Holy. This is because productivity tends to trump all else. As long as we are being productive we can justify our existence.

However, when we take that deeper look into the Story of Creation we recognize that our faith teaches us something different. Our faith teaches us that time is 'Holy'. It is a sacred gift and we are called to be careful, faithful stewards of the time we are given.

(continued next page)

Summer (cont.)

As the warmth of summer breathes new life into our gardens and the many facets of creation, I pray that each of you will allow sufficient time to find re-creation in the midst of this great gift. May you cease your busyness and find restoration within the gift of summer-time.



Rev. Canon Donna Joy

Two of the photos on pages 5 and 6 were provided by Susan Slater. Youth group photo on page 3 provided by Jim Daun. All other photos in this issue were provided courtesy of Ian Chalmers.

Elm Leaf Editorial Team

Publishing Editor
Marcus Le Nabat

Assistant Editors
Yvonne Kyle
Jim Daun

Please submit articles you wish to see published to one of the editors for consideration. Next issue is planned for Sept. 2011.

Women's Friendship Group

It is really amazing to see the diversity of interests that are drawn together in the St. Peter's Women's Friendship Group. Since last fall we have shared some beautiful breakfasts and learned about; Yvonne Kyle's Nahanni River canoeing adventure, some techniques and recipes for Cooking for One or Two with Sally Cranston, Ian Barnett's youth program at FortWhyte Farms, and the pleasures of container gardening from Susan of Jensen's Nursery.

On June 18th, Shannon Rusu will guide us through a hands-on session of floral design. She will provide different containers and plants and guide us toward creating a beautiful arrangement, which we will be able to take home. Please bring a pair of 'snips' or a small knife suitable to cut flowers. Please RSVP to our email invitation and come join us for *Finding Your Inner Floral Designer*.

We will continue our program in the fall, meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month, so please mark your calendars. We would be very pleased to learn of YOUR ideas for topics so do not be shy in making suggestions.



Women's Friendship
Committee Co-chairs:
Stephanie Giberson-Kirby
and Shannon Rusu

PIANO ANYONE?

Lynne Martin has a lovely apartment-sized spinet piano that needs a temporary home until she has space for it.

She is willing to let a family whose children will be taking piano lessons (or someone else) use it in their home for an indefinite period of time (at least one year, but probably two or more). Lynne will pay to have the piano moved from its present location to its new temporary home, but the host family should be prepared to pay to have the piano tuned once it settles in.

If you agree to take good care of it for the duration, you may use it for free, other than the cost of regular tuning. This beautiful little piano has good action, produces a rich, bright tone, and is a pleasure to play. It has a bench as well.

Please contact Lynne at martin5@mymts.net if you're interested.

Youth Group

The youth of St. Peter's parish gathered several times since the last edition of the *Elm Leaf*, mostly on Friday evenings.

One of the highlights included learning how to build box kites in late March under the tutelage of Glenn Morris, Jim Daun and Jim Ellis.

Then, on April 8th they had a sleepover at the church. The evening began with a neighbourhood tidy up (pictured below), supper together, and then watching movies & playing games until the wee hours.



Cleaning can be fun when you're with friends!

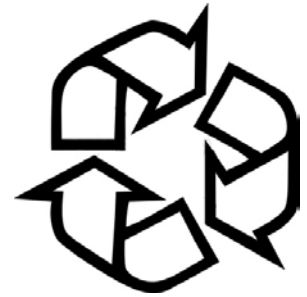
The youth — and their parents — owe Jim Daun a huge debt of gratitude for the time, effort and creativity he has put into this important ministry.



Marcus Le Nabat

No trees were harmed in the making of this newsletter!

This newsletter was printed on Envirographic 100 paper, which is comprised of 100% Post-Consumer Waste. It's also 100% Processed Chlorine Free and acid-free as well.



The Psalm of Summer

In the spirit of Rev. Donna Joy's keynote article this month, I thought it appropriate to include this submission coming out of the Diocese of Toronto, originally printed in Westwind

Recreation is my shepherd; I shall not stay at home.

He maketh me to lie down in a sleeping bag; He leadeth me along to the 400 and the 404 each weekend.

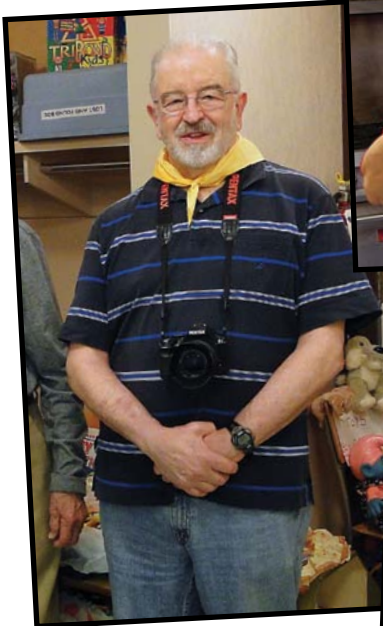
He restoreth my sun tan; He leadeth me to provincial parks for comfort's sake.

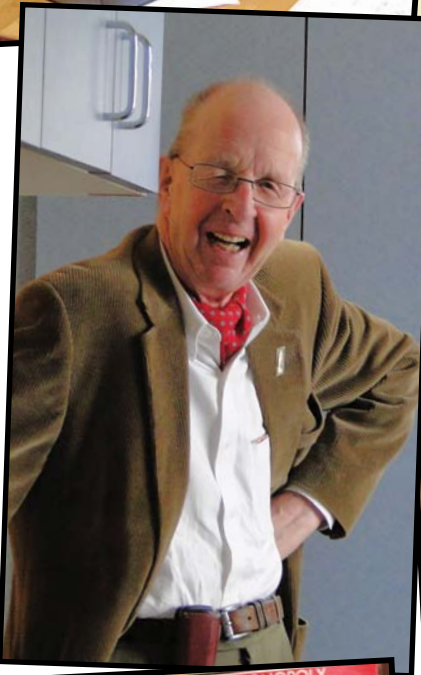
Even though I stray on the Lord's day, There will be no reprimand for Thou are with me.

My rod and my reel they comfort me; I anointest my skin with oil; my gas tank runneth dry.

Surely my trailer shall follow me all the weekends this summer, And I shall return to the House of the Lord this fall.

St. Peter's in Pictures





These images were captured at St. Peter's annual "All in the Hall" Garage Sale.

Thanks to all the volunteers, those who donated items for the sale and especially to Susan Slater who organized the event.

Parish Questionnaire 2011: Summary

The following is a general summary of the information gathered from the questionnaires completed in May of this year. Everyone did not complete all the questions which is why the totals do not add up to the number of surveys received.

A copy of all the information and comments is available on the table in the Narthex.

Total number of surveys received	97
Total with comments	70

1. Length of attendance at St Peter's:

- 0 – 5 years - 31
- 5 – 10 years - 21
- >10 years - 43

2. Services attended:

- 8:30 am - 8
- 10:30 am - 89

3. What do you find most meaningful?

- Music, (hymns, anthems, singing)
- Sermons
- Ritual/Liturgy/Worship (in general)
- Eucharist
- Community/Fellowship/People
- Prayers/Healing Ministry/ Prayer Bowl/ Sense of the "Holy"/ Times of silence
- Participation of many
- Sounding bowl
- Readings

Suggestions that might make the service more meaningful:

- Bulletin that is easier to follow
- Shorter prayers
- Shorter service
- Children involved regularly in service
- No 'social chat' during the service and The Peace
- Readers use the lectionary book rather than their bulletin

4. Activities designed for Christian growth attended in the past 2 years:

The majority attending the **Advent, Lenten and Bible Studies, Labyrinth and Meditation** found them meaningful and enhanced their spiritual growth. Mentioned most was this year's Lenten study of the Stations of the Cross.

Suggestions for the future:

- Evening Bible Study
- Weekend Retreat
- Music times "getting together to make a joyful noise"

5. Fellowship Opportunities currently available at St Peter's:

Dinner group, Men's Breakfast Group, Seniors, Youth and Women's Friendship Group were all enjoyed.

Several people indicated that they would like to be involved in different activities and a few wanted more information on some of the opportunities listed.

Suggestions:

- More information needed for each opportunity
- Pot luck Supper
- Group to make meals for new mothers in the community

6. Opportunities for Ministry at St Peter's:

Many people are involved in more than one activity.

Activities listed	- 23
Already involved	- 130
Would like to be involved	- 46

Note: Those who indicated an interest in Ministry and Fellowship and signed the survey will be contacted by the coordinator of the activity.

Suggestions:

- Regular Youth involvement in every level of ministry
- New and all member ministry needs attention

7. General comments and suggestions about shifts and changes that have taken place over the past 3 years:

- Many commented on finding the changes positive
- Announcements – 16 liked the changes; 3 did not
- Lessons & Carols – 8 liked the evening service; 3 did not
- Prefer saying the psalm – 1
- Elm Leaf appreciated
- "Loved the Silent Night Project"
- Miss Shortbread, Sherry & Song evening
- ? possible to have the Easter Vigil an hour earlier
- Name tags important for everyone
- Suggest loose flower arrangements rather than present tight ones
- ? post Vestry Minutes on narthex table for easier access
- Question about using the 'Statement of Faith vs the Creed'
- Like to see the children more involved
- A few miss the intergenerational services; others do not
- One suggestion of considering a 4:30/5pm Saturday service
- 8:30 Service – 2 prefer; 1 supported stopping until fall

All the information collected will be reviewed and prayerfully considered by Vestry.

Questionnaire Committee:	Donna Joy	Cori Dorrian	Frances Tester
	Bill Harwood	Jim Ellis	Betty Currie

Northern Lights Lacemakers

On the last Sunday afternoon of every month, the basement room of St. Peter's Anglican Church, 733 Elm Street in Winnipeg, MB is full of lacemakers doing bobbin lace and tatting. We have been meeting there for over three years. We hold an Open House Lace Day with refreshments, lace display and demonstrations and a silent auction in June.

This year it was on Saturday, June 11 at St. Peter's from 1 – 4 pm. We have a retreat at Laureate's Landing in St. Norbert, on the south edge of Winnipeg in the fall, with lacemakers from Kenora in the east to Saskatoon in the west.

Many of the bobbin lacemakers in Winnipeg have learned lacemaking from lace teacher Ewa Kurnicka of Needlepoint Place, at 515 Osborne Street in Winnipeg. Classes start with Torchon, which is considered the most basic lace, and progress to the English laces:

Bedfordshire and Bucks Point, then Russian, Bruges and Cantu, a very early Italian lace.

Bobbin lace (or pillow lace) takes its name from the way it is made: on a firm pillow to which a pattern is tacked and each twist of the bobbins is held in place by a pin inserted into the pattern. There are really only 2 stitches, left over right (cross) and right over left (twist), but enormous elaboration is possible.

The earliest books of bobbin lace patterns were published in Italy in the early 17th century but lacemaking is even older. Lacemaking expanded from Italy through the countries of Europe, Russia, France, Belgium and to England. The development of machine-made lace in the early 1800's at first pushed lacemakers into more complicated designs and eventually made the making of lace by hand unprofitable. The recent renewal of interest

in lacemaking is as a hobby rather than the piecework of the previous centuries.

Bobbin lace may be made with coarse or fine threads. Originally it was made with linen, silk, wool, and later cotton threads, or with precious metals. Today it is also made with a variety of natural and synthetic fibers and with wire.

Tatting is a technique for handcrafting a particularly durable lace constructed by a series of knots and loops using small double-ended shuttles holding thread. The lace is created by a pattern of rings and chains forming half-hitch knots, called double stitches over a core thread. Needle tatting uses a heavy needle to form the loops instead of a shuttle. Tatting is more portable than pillow lace and that may be the reason more people think of tatting when they hear of making lace.

Lacemaking also includes many needle lace techniques to create lace using a needle and thread to stitch hundreds of small stitches to form the lace and/or define shapes and cutouts in cloth. Examples are Hardanger, Battenburg, Richelieu (cutwork), Romanian Point Lace and others too numerous to mention.

Lacemaking of any form is careful and meticulous work but the satisfaction achieved is enormous!



*Blossoms
on the tree in
front of St. Peter's
June 2011*



Mary DeGrow