

# Wespress for May 2015

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## Coming Events

Saturday 30 May	8:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
Sunday 31 May	10:30 a.m.	Bella Duetto Handbell Group
	After service	Gardening Club meeting
31 May to 3 June		Truth and Reconciliation Events
Saturday 6 June	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Art and Plant Sale
Saturday 13 June	9:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study meeting (see below)
Sunday 23 August	All day	Gracefield Camp

### 1. Men's Breakfast 30 May 2015

Michel Tandros will talk about the Church of Alexandria, in Egypt.

He will cover a historical background of the Church, which was founded by Saint Mark in 64 AD and was very active in the first centuries of the Christian era. It broke away from the Christian Church in Jerusalem at the Council of Chalcedony in 451 AD. It survived the Arab invasion of 642 AD with its implications for the Church, and for Christians under Muslim rule. Michel will then talk about the place of Christians in Egyptian society up to the events in Egypt since February 11, 2011 as they affected Christians, and the present day relations between Christians and Muslims.

Gather in the Lower Hall any time after 8am. Breakfast will be served at 8:30am.

Ian Firth

### 2. Westminster Gardening Club

#### *First Meeting*

Now is time to garden, so come and join the Westminster Gardening Club. We are planning our first meeting after Church Service on Sunday, May 31, in the Campbell Room. We will be planning on how to organize our gardening effort for the summer. At the meeting we can discuss how much time and effort people wish to spend doing the work. Mowing the lawn is not part of the work. Come join us. No experience is needed - just a wish to garden.

Submitted by Debbie Jones and John Tyler

### **3. Truth and Reconciliation**

The Presbyterian Church in Canada has been a significant participant in the Truth and Reconciliation process with Canada's Indigenous peoples. You are encouraged to take part as you are able.

#### **Truth and Reconciliation events**

May 31 - June 3.

#### **Walk for Reconciliation**

Sunday, May 31

Gathering at École secondaire de l'Île beside the Robert Guertin Arena in Gatineau at 11 am with the Walk starting at 12 noon and ending at about 2 pm at Marion Dewar Place (Ottawa City Hall) where there will be speeches and entertainment. A description of the route and answers to other questions can be found at <http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/index.php?p=864>

Everyone is encouraged to participate to show support for the ongoing reconciliation process, recognizing that the TRC is just a beginning, and not an end. A good turnout by local Presbyterians to join with those from out of town would be desirable.

It is acknowledged that the timing of the Walk may make it difficult to attend morning church services and get to the walk. Congregations may consider ways to make participation more possible for their people.

#### **TRC Closing Events May 31 - June 3**

Each morning - Sunrise Ceremony at the Sacred Fire on Victoria Island

#### **May 31 Walk for Reconciliation**

June 1 Delta Hotel 9 am - 5 pm.

Archival Displays - The PCC will have a display table with photos and other archival documents.  
10:30 am - 12 noon KAIROS Blanket Exercise  
10:30 am - 12 noon Actions of Reconciliation - Plenary  
1:30 pm - 3 pm A New Way Forward: Panel and Dialogue

June 2 Delta Hotel 9 am - 5 pm.

Archival Displays - The PCC will have a display table with photos and other archival documents

\*\* Release of the TRC Findings on Indian Residential Schools (a precise time has not been announced)

1:30 pm - 3 pm Response from Parties to the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement  
3 pm - 4:30 pm Passing the Torch: Pledges of Reconciliation

June 3 10 am Ceremonial Close to TRC and Honouring Ceremony at Rideau Hall (invited Guests)

1:15 pm Honouring Memories; Planting Dreams Ceremony at Rideau Hall (Open to the Public)

William

### **4. Big Art and Plant Sale** **June 6th from 9 AM to 1 PM**

Hope you will mark the morning of Saturday, June 6th to enjoy browsing at our Westminster spring sale. Come to prepare for the summer by decorating your house, yard or wardrobe as there will be lots of design delights and great baking too. See the affordable artwork by Deborah Lyall, Barbara Carlson and John Benn plus handmade "lampwork" glass jewellery by Nancy Sinclair and Sara Carlisle, lots of garden plants, great used books, delicious home baking and our friendly cafe.

We need your help. Bring your friends. Post our sale notice in your neighbourhood. Provide baking for the bakeshop (call Shirley Stubbs 613-224-4537), muffins for the cafe (call Wendie McCaffrey 613-728-5533), plants or produce like rhubarb (call Debbie Jones 613-692-3853), books can be brought in any Sunday (call Bill Rankin 613-225-8845) or volunteer to help on the day of the sale (call Laura Kilgour 613-747-7854)

Proceeds from book sales go to support two projects: one for the street community in Kenora, Ontario and the second for girls' education in Afghanistan. Look to see you there and bring your friends.

## **5. Women's Bible Study**

Last meeting before summer is Saturday, June 13th. We will meet at 9:30am for breakfast at Tutti Frutti Restaurant, 1463 Merivale Road . . .

Restaurant is in a strip mall with a Food Basic and Shopper's Drug Mart near Clyde/Merivale.

Please call Debbie Chadsey at 613 828-0257 to RSVP by Thursday, June 11th.

All ladies welcome even if you haven't had a chance to attend any of the regular meetings this year.

Thanks  
Debbie Chadsey

## **6. A Day at Gracefield Camp – Sunday, Aug 23/14**

Join us to celebrate the beautiful surroundings and have fun with your Westminster family at Gracefield Christian Camp beside Lac Castor. More than one first-timer last year said, "why did I wait so long ..."

After the chapel service, we will gather for a BBQ lunch. There are so many options available for the afternoon: a nature hike; a walk through the Prayer Trail & Labyrinth; canoeing; swimming; or just enjoying the wonderful scenery while relaxing outside White Pine Lodge.

One of the best ways to get there is in the luxury coach which leaves the church at 9 AM sharp for a very easy and comfortable 90 minute trip up the Gatineau. Last year there was lots of room for more passengers so sign up to reserve your space. Those who wish can take their car and maps are available. The camp property and buildings are very accessible.

There will be afternoon tea before the bus departs, arriving back at Westminster by about 5:30 PM. While the bus is provided by Westminster, contributions are appreciated to defray the cost. For the BBQ lunch, those who are able are asked to contribute \$10 per adult and \$7 per child.

Hope you can join us on Sunday, Aug.23/15 for our next Gracefield Sunday.

## **7. Choir**

The Choir has now wound up our rehearsals for the season, which we all agree was a very successful one. Highlights included the annual concert, with a guest string quintet from Orchestra, an organisation run by the Leading Note foundation to provide financial support for young players who would find the cost of music lessons prohibitive. Then we took part, along with 5 other choirs, in a concert at All Saints Westboro, who are celebrating their 150th anniversary. Our final performance was a concert at Unitarian House, where we sang and played to a very appreciative audience. We hope to visit them again before Christmas. Anne Wice is a most welcome addition to the sopranos, and we all do our best to attend as regularly as possible. I gave a recital at Valley Stream and Carlingwood, flying the flag for Westminster, and was guest organist and piano accompanist at the Welsh Festival in Niagara. This will be held in Ottawa next April. Rehearsals resume after Labour Day, and we shall be happy to welcome new members.

I have been fortunate in engaging Karen Donnelly, principal trumpet of the NAC, to be our guest soloist in the next annual choir concert, to be held at 3pm on Saturday May 14th, 2016. An afternoon event may encourage those who prefer not to drive after dark to attend this special event.

Alan

## **8. Retirement**

Most of you will have heard by now that I have written a formal letter of resignation to Session, effective Aug 31st 2016. I was appointed in September 1977 when I was full time Director of Music at Ashbury. I retired from that post in 1984 and remained on Faculty as College Organist. That year Session kindly allowed me to use a room on the 3rd floor of the CE building as a studio where I could teach piano privately. I have been doing so ever since, but with few students in recent years. I retired completely from Ashbury in 1996. My time at Westminster has been a very happy one, and I have been most grateful for the support and encouragement of everyone at the church. But I have always known when to retire in the course of my career, and I feel that just after my 80th birthday next year will be a suitable time.

Alan

## 9. Church Finances

Financial highlights for the period January 1, 2015 through April 30, 2015.

Funds:	<u>General</u>	<u>Capital</u>
Income	\$69,225	\$ 2,290
Expenses	<u>\$95,146</u>	<u>\$24,397</u>
Difference	(\$25,921)	(\$22,107)

Offerings given for:

General Fund:	\$52,783
Capital Fund:	\$2,290
Presbyterians Sharing:	\$1,407
PWS&D:	\$1,780

Offerings given and funds raised for:

Centre 507:	\$140
Kenora Fellowship:	\$583
Education Langhman Province:	\$749

## Electrical Upgrades

Phase II of the electrical upgrades is underway. The upgrades include replacement of electrical panels, gym light and switch/socket. This work, of approximately \$60,000, is being paid for from the Building Upgrade Fund.

David Wice

## 10. Jessie Ivy Bailey (1912 – 2015)

Passed away peacefully at the age of 102 at Granite Ridge Seniors Residence in Stittsville on February 27, 2015. Born on December 4, 1912, in Georgetown, Ontario, the only daughter of the late David and Mabelle Arch. Very beloved wife of the late H. Bramwell Bailey

Jessie was present in the early days of Westminster Presbyterian Church when it was established in 1928. Her parents were founding members. She was a teenager at the time and attended church with them. The basement of the building was constructed in 1932, and services were held there until the completion of the sanctuary in 1954.

In 1966, Jessie's husband, H. Bramwell Bailey, became Westminster's organist and choir director, remaining with the church until 1976. During that time, Jessie was a permanent and valued member of the choir. Music was always one of her passions. She and Bramwell founded the Grant Opera Company of Ottawa which was a very active and important part of the Ottawa musical community during the 1950s and 1960s. She was recognized and praised as an accomplished operatic soprano. She taught singing for many years. Influencing many promising singers from the Ottawa area.

I had a long association with Jessie. Became church elder to her and Bramwell during the 1960s. During Jessie's more senior years, I was her pastoral care visitor until her passing in 2015. Jessie loved yellow roses and it was such a pleasure to present some to her on her birthdays.

Ernie Dance  
Jessie's long-time friend.



Jessie Bailey celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup>



LADY MABELLE ARCH, a founding member of Westminster Church, Ottawa, celebrated her 100 birthday in September 1991. Pictured with Lady Arch are Rev. MacArthur Shields, Mrs. Jessie Bailey, daughter of Mrs. Arch, and Ernie Dance, elder.

## 11. Congratulations

to Anne Wice and to Joshua McLellan who both successfully defended their Master's theses in Engineering at Carleton University. Anne and Josh appreciate and thank the congregation for all the prayers, interest and support they have received.

## **12. Center 507 News**

Our church group who makes cheese sandwiches for Center 507 are now into our 23 year .We welcome everyone to join us on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Our effort in making and delivering them to Center 507 is greatly appreciated. The Center is always in need of gently used Men's clothing.

There has been a lot of changes in the services that is now given at the Center, as the federal and the provincial government have cut a lot of the funding. Where there was about 10 full time staff there is now 2 1/2 paid staff and some volunteers. Center 507 is now a drop in center where the clients can get a hot lunch, use the computers, visit with friends and get some gently used clothing.

Regards  
Audrey and Bill Miller

## **13. Greeters and Readers**

As coordinator of the Greeters and Readers for the Sunday services, I want to thank each of you who have assisted and contributed to the services in a very meaningful way. Whether it is to members or visitors, the warm welcome extended by the greeters is truly appreciated. The reading of the Bible lessons is an essential component of the service; William appreciates the assistance and contribution of the readers.

In particular, I want to thank Wendie McCaffrey and Krisztina Nagy who greet, unfailingly, at the Christian Education door – how very special to be welcomed by either of these ladies.

My sincere thanks to all of you,  
Betty Jean Bone 613-721-5536

## **14. The "Big Love"**

A city-wide church initiative to put "love your neighbour" into action!

What might Westminster do?

Some churches will host a free garage sale, others will offer a free neighbourhood hot dog lunch, others will wash cars. What matters is that as followers of Jesus we offer something "concrete" to

show our love of our neighbours and have God bless them through us as Christians.

What might you do? What might Westminster do for the Westboro area?

Please pray about this - use your imagination - find something you would be excited to lead or be part of! Then talk to your elder or to the minister!  
How might God's love flow through us!

William