



Advent 2010

# The Georgian View



## From the Rector's Desk...



**St. George's Anglican Church**  
*Place du Canada*  
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### **Office Hours**

Tuesday - Friday  
9:00am - 4:30pm

### **Church Open**

Tuesday - Sunday  
9:00am - 4:00pm

### **Rector**

The Rev. Canon Ralph  
Leavitt

### **Honorary Assistant**

The Rev. Fred Tiplady

### **Wardens**

Carol Spence Lord  
Muriel Eaton

### **Organist and Choir**

#### **Director**

Dr. Erik Reinart

### **Services Sundays**

9:00am Holy Communion  
10:30am Main Service  
(see calendar for details)

### *Wednesdays*

12:15pm Holy Communion

***Do not be afraid;  
for behold, I bring  
you good news of  
great joy!***

In our current Bible Study, we are spending six weeks looking at only one passage of scripture; 1 Corinthians 13 - the passage on love. Rick Warren leads us through this passage to emphasize that community is essential in Christianity. In different weeks we are looking at how reaching out together, belonging together, growing together, serving together, and worshipping together are essential if we are to grow the kingdom of God.

One of the first challenges he gives us I have found to be quite profound. Rick Warren, in the first, and subsequent weeks, challenges everyone to open their hearts to receive love, and to take the opportunity to share love. Each week we have had to consciously report on the times in our week when we received love, and when we have had an opportunity to share love. Usually we are so busy running around, opportunities to receive or share love pass us by. The Lord does not want that at all.

As we move into the new Christian year and start the Advent season it is an appropriate time to make a "new year's" resolution to slow down and recognize God's love around you and share it. Recognize and acknowledge when people do something to help you. Will it be a family member celebrating your birthday, or will it be a total stranger who

helps you in some small way? Take the time to recognize all gestures of love, and say "Thank you". On the other hand, go out of your way to show love, to be a friend or a helper to someone. Just a small gesture can go so far. And accept the thanks you get, gratefully.

Remember always; *love is patient, love is kind,,, it always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.*

I wish you all a blessed Advent and joyous Christmas. I hope you will participate fully in the various activities at St. George's. Show your love by inviting someone to the Carols by Candlelight service on Friday December 17th at 5:30 p.m. Let us show our love and thanks to our Choir by filling St. George's. And most of all let us accept the love that God has for us as we celebrate the incarnation of his Son at Christmas. In the words of Christina Rossetti, whose lyrics were made into a famous hymn:

Love came down at Christmas, love all  
lovely, love divine;

Love was born at Christmas - star and  
angels gave the sign...

Love shall be our token, love be yours  
and love be mine;

Love to God and neighbour, love for  
prayer and gift and sign.

Ralph +

## Light

“Let there be light, let there be understanding”. These words are found in one of the hymns that we sing.

Light reveals things that are hidden; it opens our eyes to understanding and knowledge. One dictionary definition says that light gives spiritual knowledge and insight to people.

JESUS says that “HE is the light of the world and that the one who follows HIM shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life”. John 8:12

I desire to have this light that JESUS talks about. How do I obtain it? GOD says in Hosea 4:6 “that HIS people are destroyed by lack of knowledge”. What does HE mean? HE is not talking about worldly knowledge, but spiritual knowledge. My need is to know HIM and HIS ways. In Psalm 119 HE tells me three things. Verse 130 says that the entrance of HIS word brings light; verse 105 that HE is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path, and in verse 133 HE says that HE will direct my steps by HIS word.

As well as saying that HE is ‘the light of the world’, JESUS also says in Matthew chapter 5 that we are the light of the world and HE calls us to let our light shine before people that they may see our

good works and glorify our Father in heaven. St. Paul echoes this call in Philippians 2:15 when he says “we are to shine as lights in the world”.

Is my light shining? The LORD commanded Paul and Barnabas “to be a light to the Gentiles”, Acts 13:47. HE commands us to enlighten those whose minds have been blinded by the god of this age – lest the light of the gospel of the glory of CHRIST, who is the image of GOD, should shine on them. 2 Corinthians 4:4.

In 1 Peter 2:9 I learn that “GOD has called me out of darkness into HIS marvelous light”. May I learn to live in this awesome light by knowing, obeying and living out HIS words and HIS commands. My prayer is that as I learn to do this daily that others will have their eyes opened so that they too may live in HIS marvelous light. Amen.

Jane Wigglesworth

## Prayer

“In prayer we seek God’s help. Whenever we pray we are making the confession that we cannot live without God. We are openly testifying to our reliance on him. We are no longer depending on our own frail resources. Prayer relaxes the tension of our self-inflation.”

An excerpt from The Bible Speaks Today Series, The Message of Nehemiah by Raymond Brown

## Susan Burpee

It was with shock and deep sadness that our parish learned of the passing of Susan, beloved wife of Tom Burpee, our Honorary Treasurer. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to Tom, his children, grandchildren and all their family. Susan’s funeral on Oct. 13th was held at her parish, The Ascension of Our Lord in Westmount. The church was filled to overflowing, a wonderful tribute to a woman whose love and work touched so many people.

*Rest eternal grant unto her, O Lord  
And let light perpetual shine upon her.*

## Carols by Candlelight

Our annual Carols by Candlelight service will be held on Friday, December 17th at 5:30 PM. A free-will offering will be taken and proceeds will go to Tyndale-St. George and to the Music Fund for necessary organ repairs. Erik and the choir are busy preparing a beautiful Christmas repertoire for all to enjoy and this is a wonderful opportunity for us to open our doors and warmly welcome as many visitors as possible.

A reception will be held in the church hall following the service. Please mark the date in your diary and plan to invite your friends. Let us celebrate the joy of Christmas and make this a truly memorable evening!

### The Georgian View

is the parish newsletter of St. George’s Anglican Church, Place du Canada, Montreal, QC. It is published seven times a year. All material contained herein is copyrighted and cannot be used without permission. Submissions for the next issue can be given in at the Church Office, 1101 Stanley St. or e-mailed to the editor at ronmar@videotron.ca

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**Office Support:** Carol Johansen and Tracy Davidson

### Contributors

Ralph Leavitt, Raymond Brown, Tracy Davidson, Tony Hadley, Jane Wigglesworth and the Editors

## Visitor to St. George's Church

On October 24th 2010 at our 10:30 service I discovered a visitor. It turned out that he was Dr. Emidio Campi, Institute for Reformation History, University of Zurich and a visiting scholar to McGill university. He enjoyed our service and it was mentioned that he has had lunch with Professor Farrow - a former parishioner here at St. George's - on a couple of occasions.

So what is the Reformation? In very broad strokes, it was the European Christian Reform Movement that established Protestant as a constituent branch of contemporary Christianity. It began in 1517 when Martin Luther published The Ninety-Five Theses, and concluded in 1648 with the Treaty of Westphalia.

Dr Campi has written and co-authored several books one of which is: Architect of Reformation: An Introduction to Heinrich Bullinger, 1504-1575 (Texts and Studies in Reformation and Post-Reformation Thought). Heinrich Bullinger has often been called the forgotten Reformer of the sixteenth century. This book gives Bullinger his long-overdue recognition and is the first broad introduction to Bullinger's life and theology. This discovery was made because I approached and greeted someone who looked like a stranger in our midst.

Tony Hadley



**Dr. Campi**

## Church Attendance

We have recently had some special Sundays with above average attendance at the 10:30 service due to new visitors as well as the return of others. For 'Back to Church' Sunday in September, every parishioner was encouraged to invite a friend or a neighbor. It proved to be very successful, and several who attended are now new parishioners. For another service, invitations were sent out to all of those who had been baptized or married in the last 2 years. The turnout was wonderful, and we hope to see many of these people return more regularly. Let's not wait for a special Sunday but consider extending an invitation to a colleague, relative or friend more frequently. And please remember to greet and welcome the new faces we see around us on a Sunday.

## Fund Raising Successes

### Restoration Dinner

The "Restoration Dinner" was a wonderful evening with 85 people in attendance. The guest speaker was Bishop Barry Clarke, whose birthday and wedding anniversary were celebrated that day. Our parish hall was beautifully decorated for Autumn; a harpist played music during the evening; and the food from appetizers to dessert was delicious. The Silent Auction, always a 'fun' time, was also a success. Thank you to everyone involved in the organizing of this special event and to all those who decorated, entertained, prepared food, served, cleaned up, etc. A very enjoyable time was had by all!



### Annual Christmas Sale

The "Annual Christmas Sale" raised \$5000. for St. George's Guild, who support many charities and missions with funds raised from this event and the Boutique's sales. A lot of effort, by many people, for a number of days, is required for this annual 3 hour event. Many thanks to everyone who helped in a variety of ways, and to the Montreal hotels who provided food for the luncheon.

### The Reverend Canon Ralph Leavitt

Congratulations to Ralph, our Rector, whose installation as a Canon of the Cathedral took place on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

## I'm a Christian

When I say that 'I am a Christian', I am not shouting that 'I am clean living.  
I'm whispering 'I was lost, but now I'm found and forgiven.'

When I say 'I am a Christian' I don't speak of this with pride.  
I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not trying to be strong.  
I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not bragging of success.  
I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not claiming to be perfect.  
My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I still feel the sting of pain.  
I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not holier than thou,  
I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow!

Author Unknown