



# 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

### **Student Minister**

Sarah Priebe

### **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!**

This has been a busy Autumn at St. George's. Along with this Advent letter, you are receiving a copy of our Ministry Action Plan. Please take time to look at it. I'm very pleased that your Church Council has been very active in proceeding to fulfill this Ministry Action Plan. The Worship and Christian Education Mission Team has started up 3 home Bible Study Groups, Candice Young Rojanschi is co-ordinating our Church School, and Lee Dowker has helped organize a volunteer choir once a month when we have the Holy Communion service without the regular choir. The Mission and Outreach Team recently invited and hosted a reception for all people who have been married or baptized at St. George's in the last two years. There is now a box under the pulpit to collect canned goods for our local missions. And soon there will be a "mitten tree"; come and see what that is all about! The New Member Mission Team has improved the bulletin boards, created a space for children in the Church Hall, and started a "Biscuit Brigade". The Stewardship and Finance Mission Team is in the midst of

forming a Capital Campaign Team, and a Finance Planning Committee. And the Buildings and Grounds Mission Team has re-activated the Tower entrance to the church and is looking at improving lighting within the church. So some of the short term goals are already achieved, and your Council continues to work hard on other priorities.

This is your Ministry Action Plan. Please become involved in it with what interests you the most. We must all work together to fulfill God's will for us.

The work has begun on the restoration of the front portico. I am happy to say that we have been able to raise about 50% of the cost through Government grants, the Diocese of Montreal and the Anglican Foundation. Now it is up to the Congregation to give what they can, and to do some fundraising. Very soon we will start a "stone" program, inviting the public to donate either \$25, \$100 or \$250 for a stone, a foundation stone, or a corner stone. I hope all parishioners will be able to reach out in their respective communities... **(continued on Page 2)**

## From the Rector's Desk...

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to raise funds for this essential restoration project. I thank your Corporation for their hard work in raising funds so far, now let us all get involved.

Finally I wanted to say that your Diocese had an upbeat Annual Synod meeting at the end of October. One project that the younger clergy of the Diocese are undertaking is to have an Advent Chapel in Les Promenades de la Cathédrale under Christ Church Cathedral.

They are planning to open and decorate the space the old Book Room was in, and offer a quiet, prayerful space to hectic Christmas shoppers. They are looking for volunteers to help set up and take down the space, to spend 3 hours to greet people, or even to play some music.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Rhonda Waters, the Curate at Christ Church at [rwaters@montreal.anglican.ca](mailto:rwaters@montreal.anglican.ca)

May you, your family and friends have a blessed Advent time.

Ralph+

## Carols By Candlelight

**Our Carols By Candlelight service is to be held on Friday, December 16th at 5:30 pm.**

For a month now our Music Director, Erik Reinart, has been rehearsing a glorious selection of music with the choir, in anticipation of this annual event.

There is something for everyone, with music from Gabrieli to Rutter. There will, of course, be the usual opportunity for everyone to join in during the congregational carols and gospel readings to punctuate the service.

It is always so uplifting to see pews full of people, in a beautifully decorated, candlelit sanctuary. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit Tynedale St-Georges and the Music Fund, and a reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall, where friends old and new can share Christmas cheer.

Let's make this a resounding success! Bring your friends and help them to get their Christmas season off to a joyful start!

Tracy Davidson

## Mission and Outreach

The Ministry Action Plan is the document that contains the ideas as proposed at the Parish Conference, held earlier in the summer, and which gained the support of those parishioners who attended. We should all have a copy, and please, we all need to read it!

Mission and Outreach Committee recently worked on the service and reception held annually on All Saints Sunday for those who were baptized, confirmed or married in the church during the past two years. There were nineteen couples who were attracted to our beautiful and centrally located church in downtown Montreal for their wedding and fourteen babies and two adults who were baptized.

This outreach effort served to build up a relationship with those invitees who attended. To make them feel welcome in our church and to extend to them our love in Christ. There was also the opportunity for our parishioners to show generosity and cooperation as food, drink and gifts were provided for the reception. A special corner for toddlers was created, thanks to the New Member Ministry.

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<p><i>The Georgian View</i></p>	<p><b>Editors:</b> Marleen &amp; Ron O'Connell</p>	<p><b>Contributors</b></p>
<p>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 <a href="mailto:ronmar@videotron.ca">ronmar@videotron.ca</a></p>	<p><b>Office Support:</b> Carol Johansen <b>Mailing Preparation:</b> Robert Chubb and Tracy Davidson</p>	<p>Josette Contissa, Tracy Davidson, Tony Hadly, Ralph Leavitt, Carol Lord, Allan Marjerison, Anne McGuigan, Sarah Priebe and Jane Wigglesworth</p>

## Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre

The outreach services of Tyndale St-Georges cover the whole spectrum from neonates to adults and the work force.

The Early Childhood Program had 45 families from 17 different countries registered in our last session, led by our dynamic multicultural team of educators, animators and volunteers. The large number of participants attests to the high quality services provided by the Early Childhood staff, over the past year, with a team of well-trained and motivated professionals. The positive feedback given by the families participating in our programs reflects the constant effort and dedication of the educators.

We have been working closely with our community partners to introduce the newest trends in early childhood in all of our programs. We have expanded early literacy activities in all of our groups. Through bilingual songs and story time, we have started to introduce more French vocabulary to our little participants. Much work has also been geared towards the topic of school readiness, preparing parents and children for their first encounters with school. With close collaboration with the Volunteer Department, we continue to provide space for senior volunteers to share their expertise with the Early Childhood participants.

The Department of Children, Youth and Families has had a great past year and with some slight changes to programs, was able to meet a larger number of community member needs. We hired a new education coordinator who came equipped with a Master's degree in Educational Psychology from McGill University and experience in the field of education, particularly in literacy, which is one of the identified target areas in the After School Program. With a new education coordinator came bright new ideas, and thanks to an unanticipated grant this year, we were able to make bright ideas a reality, offering French tutoring on Saturday mornings and remedial help to more children during the week days. We also built bridges with the schools we work with which allows us to better reinforce what the children are learning in school and allows us more room for improving our programs based on feedback from all of our partners.

Our socio-recreation program was injected with new life as we, as a team, recognized the importance of socio-recreation for the development of interpersonal skills, human values and a positive self-image and re-emphasized it as a mandatory component of the After School Program. Since then we have noted a great difference in the

cooperation amongst children, an increase in positive interactions and a growth of friendships amongst some unlikely characters!! We are also proud of the changes we made to our youth programs, which allowed us to open up some components to the community - increasing the number of youth we worked with from 15 or 20 to almost 50.

The Adult Development Program of Tyndale St-Georges continues to flourish. Every day we see people walk through our doors with hope on their faces that we will have the resources they need to make the necessary changes in their lives and their families' lives. Our two employment programs funded through Emploi Quebec are full to capacity and while we have seen some financial cuts from the government we have been able to continue to give the necessary services so that our participants can find employment. In our pre-employment groups we have surpassed our required 50% finding employment, with 75% of the people finding a job with another 15% going back to school. We are thrilled and appreciative of the team and their hard work. The Tyndale Treasures training is in the last stretch before the participants go out as stagiaires. We are very excited with this group as they have very good French conversation

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## Tyndale St-Georges (continued from page 3)

which will certainly help them to find employment. The Tyndale Treasures store was a little quiet over the winter months but we are now seeing business pick up. The sales from the store help to subsidize our programs. The merchandise helps our community to be able to buy clothing of good quality for a very affordable price. We are always looking for clothing for adults and children that has been "gently used." If you have any donations, please call Beverly Trought at (514) 989-2155.

Our computer instruction and French classes continue to offer necessary training for our community members. With the new technology and Social Media becoming so important we are thrilled to announce that Tyndale St-Georges has just recently received funding from the Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities to offer social media training to our community. This will be a great tool for them to build networks for finding employment. It is a perfect way to "break the isolation" that so many of them feel due to their lack of education, financial, and language barriers. The work that is done every day at the Little Burgundy Employment Center which houses the Adult Development Program of Tyndale St-Georges continues to play an important part of our community. We would love to share what we do with you and invite you to pass by and we will be glad to

give you a tour. Please call Cynthia at (514) 989-2155.

This year the Tyndale St-Georges Volunteer Department has been bustling with activity. Volunteers have helped out in a variety of ways, including tutoring elementary and high school students, animating recreational activities, playing basketball with youth, preparing and serving snacks, helping out in our Tyndale Treasures Community Store, doing graphic design, and assisting with administrative work. The volunteer department is also facilitating a group for grandparents who provide care giving support to their grandkids. Our goal is to provide educational and recreational activities along with a summer full of special events.

There are many ways to get involved as a volunteer, and we are so grateful to have such a wonderful team! The volunteers at Tyndale are very diverse and include high school, CEGEP, and university students, community members, church and corporate groups as well as senior volunteers, all of whom have been an indispensable part of our programs. If you are interested in becoming involved, please call Sarah Lusthaus at (514) 931-6265, ext. 31.

Tyndale is grateful for the continuing, generous support it receives from St. George's Church.

Allan Marjerison,

Chaplain - Tyndale St-Georges

## About Me

Hi! My name is Sarah Priebe and I am very pleased to be the new In-Ministry Year student here at St. George's. I started in September and will be here until mid-April 2012. I'm also taking classes at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College (Dio), toward a Diploma in Ministry.

A bit about my background: I was born and raised in North Bay (Ontario), and went through the Franco-Ontarian school system. My family is Lutheran in background. I have a younger brother (Nikolaus) and sister (Heidi) who live in Toronto and Guelph, respectively.

After high school I did a Bachelor and Master's degree in Theology at Laval University in Quebec City. While in Quebec I attended the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, where I became very involved with youth ministry and was greatly encouraged by the dean, Fr. Walter Raymond, and Bishop Dennis Drainville. At the same time I was involved with ecumenical projects on campus, as well as various student organizations.

While in Quebec I also met my husband. Dominic, at the time, was a Roman Catholic seminary student at the Grand Séminaire de Québec. He currently works as a chaplain at Le Gardeur hospital in Terrebonne and we live in Repentigny, on the north shore, with our cat "Lulu."

On the north shore my home parish is the Anglican Parish

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## About Sarah (Continued from Page 4)

of Mascouche, where I served as organist. The priest there is Reverend Maïda Vandendorpe, who did her In-Ministry Year placement at St. George's as well just a few years ago!

Although I am a postulant for ordination within the Diocese of Quebec, I'm not sure if I'll end up serving there right away after graduation next year. Dominic, in the past, has thoroughly enjoyed working as a Padre with "Les Voltigeurs", a Quebec reserve unit of the Canadian Armed Forces and the oldest French-Canadian regiment. He would like to enter the Forces full-time next summer and if he is successful, there's no predicting where we will end up!

Outside of schoolwork and parish life, my favourite activities are anything done in the great outdoors, especially hiking, canoeing, snowshoeing and camping. Having grown up in an outdoorsy family living in one of the greatest natural environments in the world (the forests, lakes and rivers of northern Ontario), I can't remember a time when I didn't know how to ski or paddle a canoe! Prior to moving to Montreal I worked for ten years in an outfitter's, which was a wonderful job for me. Due to my interests in ecology, the equitable distribution of resources and my love of animals, I am also a vegetarian.

I couldn't be happier about being placed at St. George's this year. The church itself is breath-

taking, the music angelic, and most importantly, the people are warm, welcoming and very friendly. Thank you for accepting me into the St. George's community so readily! I look forward to getting to know all of you better as the year goes on. God bless!

## Guild Christmas Sale

The Guild Christmas sale was held on Thursday October 27<sup>th</sup>. This sale is traditionally a Guild initiative but this year especially, it was a wonderful example of the whole St. George's community at work. There are many people to thank.

There is the team that makes the Christmas puddings two or three weeks before the sale. This is a big job which also involves collecting tins, washing and otherwise preparing them for the finished product and wrapping them attractively afterwards.

There are the women in the shop who sort and collect attractive items for months before the sale and the people who freeze and bake and preserve so that we have a wonderful selection of foods on our bake table.

This year, men from the congregation and choir gave up a Saturday morning to do all the heavy work setting up. That we finished in record time is a testament to their energy and enthusiasm.

Our convenors work in the hall

for three days before the event making their tables attractive. On the day of the sale we have many people who come in early and stay late so that we can wrap and price things and clear up afterwards. Anyone who has worked at the sale will tell you that it is both energizing and exhausting!

Some people deserve a special mention. Carole Gabellini and her team did an outstanding job setting up the dining room, preparing and serving the Christmas lunch. I have never heard as many compliments on the meal as I did this year.

The Rector cooked a turkey and transported the crockery and silverware to and from the Queen Elizabeth hotel.

Sylvia White and Royal did a splendid decoration of the stage area. It was the focal point of the room and made a wonderful impression as one walked in. Sylvia also worked very hard on publicity in advance of the sale. Carol Johansen helped with many little details and gently reminded me when I forgot something.

Despite a cold draught coming down the stairs, the team in the shop dealt cheerfully with crowds unprecedented in shop history.

And lastly, Ron O'Connell kindly handled the receipts and tabulated the results.

The Guild thanks you all.  
Anne McGuigan

## New

“New every morning is the love  
Our wakening and uprising prove;  
Through sleep and darkness safely brought,  
Restored to life, and power, and thought.

New mercies, each returning day,  
Hover around us while we pray;  
New perils past, new sins forgiven,  
New thought of God, new hopes of heaven.”

The above two verses are from a truly inspiring hymn written by John Keble in 1822. His inspiration came from two verses in Lamentations Chapter 3 verses 22 and 23. These state: “Through the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.”

Yes, every second of every day is a new experience. Some are good, others not so pleasant. The Bible declares that God never changes - Malachi 3:6. And in Isaiah 43:19 God says “Behold I will do a new thing...” In my opinion the greatest thing that God ever did was to send His Son Jesus to die for me that I might live. Yes, because of Jesus’ death, burial, resurrection and ascension I can have new life by accepting Him as my Lord and Savior.

Second Corinthians 5:17 says “that anyone who is in Christ is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new”. I believe by accepting Jesus into my heart, that at that moment I became a completely new person.

Old ways and thoughts however did not vanish overnight. I had to learn to change, to let the Holy Spirit work in me to make me more like Jesus. Colossians 3:10 says “I have to put on the new person who is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created me”. The following verses tell of some of the attributes that I need to acquire - tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, long suffering, forgiveness, and above all else Love.

Ephesians 4:23-32 also talks about this new person that I am to be. Verse 23 says “to be renewed in the spirit of my mind”. My thoughts need to agree with His, and my ways need to reflect His ways. I need to not only know and believe His promises, I need to obey His commandments. One of the hardest commandments is “to forgive others as He has forgiven me”.

How do I grow in this new life? How do I get changed from glory to glory as mentioned in 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 3:18? The answer - only as I submit to the Holy Spirit’s teaching and guidance can I be empowered to live the new abundant life that Jesus died for me to have.

My prayer like that of King David’s is - “ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” (Psalm 51:10) Amen.

Jane Wigglesworth

## Mission and Outreach

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Can we say that we were welcoming and friendly? We may not have achieved our goals fully this time around, however, as our Mission Action Plan moves on target we hope that the answer will be a resounding YES. Please note that Mission and Outreach has a box in the church (by the pulpit) to collect canned goods for local missions and there will also be a "mitten" Christmas tree.

Once again, many thanks for your generosity.

Carol Lord, Co-chair Mission and Outreach committee

## Prayer and Response

**This story was recounted by a doctor from Africa.**

One night I had worked hard to help a mother in the labour ward; but in spite of all we could do, she died, leaving us with a tiny, premature baby and a crying two-year-old daughter. We would have difficulty keeping the baby alive, as we had no incubator (we had no electricity to run an incubator). We also had no special feeding facilities. Although we lived on the equator, nights were often chilly with treacherous drafts. One student midwife went for the box we had for such babies and the cotton wool that the baby would be wrapped in.

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## Prayer and Response

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Another went to stoke up the fire and fill a hot water bottle. She came back shortly in distress to tell me that in filling the bottle, it had burst (rubber perishes easily in tropical climates).

'And it is our last hot water bottle!' she exclaimed. As in the West, it is no good crying over spilled milk, so in Central Africa it might be considered no good crying over burst water bottles. They do not grow on trees, and there are no drugstores down forest pathways.

'All right,' I said, 'put the baby as near the fire as you safely can, and sleep between the baby and the door to keep it free from drafts. Your job is to keep the baby warm.'

The following noon, as I did most days, I went to have prayers with any of the orphanage children who chose to gather with me. I gave the youngsters various suggestions of things to pray about and told them about the tiny baby. I explained our problem about keeping the baby warm enough, mentioning the hot water bottle, and that the baby could so easily die if it got chills. I also told them of the two-year-old sister, crying because her mother had died.

During prayer time, one ten-year-old girl, Ruth, prayed with the usual blunt conciseness of our African children. 'Please, God' she prayed, 'Send us a hot water bottle today. It'll be no

good tomorrow, God, as the baby will be dead, so please send it this afternoon.'

While I gasped inwardly at the audacity of the prayer, she added, 'And while You are about it, would You please send a dolly for the little girl so she'll know You really love her?'

As often with children's prayers, I was put on the spot. Could I honestly say 'Amen'? I just did not believe that God could do this. Oh, yes, I know that He can do everything; the Bible says so. But there are limits, aren't there? The only way God could answer this particular prayer would be by sending me a parcel from the homeland. I had been in Africa for almost four years at that time, and I had never, ever, received a parcel from home.

Anyway, if anyone did send me a parcel, who would put in a hot water bottle? I lived on the equator!

Halfway through the afternoon, while I was teaching in the nurses' training school, a message was sent that there was a car at my front door. By the time I reached home, the car had gone, but there on the veranda was a large 22-pound parcel. I felt tears pricking my eyes. I could not open the parcel alone, so I sent for the orphanage children. Together we pulled off the string, carefully undoing each knot. We folded the paper, taking care not to tear it unduly. Excitement was mounting. Some thirty or forty pairs of eyes were focused on the large cardboard box.

From the top, I lifted out brightly-colored, knitted jerseys. Eyes sparkled as I gave them out. Then there were the knitted bandages for the leprosy patients, and the children looked a little bored. Then came a box of mixed raisins and sultanas - that would make a batch of buns for the weekend. Then, as I put my hand in again, I felt the.....could it really be? I grasped it and pulled it out. Yes, a brand new, rubber hot water bottle. I cried.

I had not asked God to send it; I had not truly believed that He could. Ruth was in the front row of the children. She rushed forward, crying out, 'If God has sent the bottle, He must have sent the dolly, too!'

Rummaging down to the bottom of the box, she pulled out the small, beautifully-dressed dolly. Her eyes shone! She had never doubted! Looking up at me, she asked: 'Can I go over with you and give this dolly to that little girl, so she'll know that Jesus really loves her?' Of course, I replied!

That parcel had been on the way for five whole months, packed up by my former Sunday school class, whose leader had heard and obeyed God's prompting to send a hot water bottle, even to the equator. And one of the girls had put in a dolly for an African child - five months before, in answer to the believing prayer of a ten-year-old to bring it 'that afternoon.'

'Before they call, I will answer.' (Isaiah 65:24)

## Thank you Anne!

Members of St. George's Guild wish to thank Anne McGuigan very much for all her hard work surrounding the recent Christmas Sale, as well as for her diligent and conscientious work as President of the Guild. The volunteers always take pleasure in working for Anne who is a very thoughtful person and who always appreciates our work. Thank you!

Josette Contissa for the Guild



Anne McGuigan and Carol Gabellini beside the Christmas display set up by Sylvia White and Royal for the Christmas Sale.

## Longtime Parishioners

Sincere sympathies to the families of two longtime parishioners who have passed away.

Geraldine Bowles died on September 26<sup>th</sup>. She will be remembered for her delicious cooking at Seder Suppers, Soup Lunches and, with her son, George, for baking many goodies! She was also a member of the Prayer team.

Doris Haynes died on September 27<sup>th</sup>. She was a wonderfully prayerful person and a good artist. She has bequeathed a beautiful work of The Last Supper, in cross-stitch, with the disciples depicted in different shades of skin to show that we are all welcome. She stitched this work of art for a year, while recovering from cancer a number of years ago, and it now hangs in one of the rooms of the Church Hall.

Good memories of two lovely women!



Doris Haynes 1924 - 2011



Geraldine Bowles 1935 -2011

## A Reminder to Guild Members

The deadline for submission of nominations to the 2012 executive is Sunday December 18th, 2011. For more information, please speak to Carol Gabellini.

## Christmas Puddings

Have you remembered to buy your plum pudding for Christmas? Well you are not too late yet! The Guild still has some remaining for sale. Please see Josette Contissa or Anne McGuigan.