

News from the Pews & Pulpit

July 2008 Vol. 4 No. 2 **The Church of Saint Simon-the Apostle** 416-923-8714 Fax 416-923-9205

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Rector's Message

Dear members of St Simon's, Some things just never go away.

At our Annual Vestry Meeting at the end of February we talked about hopes and dreams for the future of the parish, and about our financial needs. Although there was keen interest in this discussion, we were diverted by the question of our financial obligations resulting from the sexual abuse of choir boys by Ned Hanson, who was music director and choir master in the 1960s and 1970s here at St Simon's. In the end, we lost our opportunity to engage in our visioning for the future. Long after Ned Hanson had left his position here, long after he was finally (in the 1990s) arrested, tried, convicted and jailed for his crimes, and long after he died, our attempts to move forward are stymied by the fallout of his actions.

This tells me clearly that we need to do something about this!

But it is quite complicated. There are so many pieces to this puzzle.

- There are people here at St Simon's who were not here during those times, and are now hearing about this for the first time.
- There are people here who have been here for many years, but joined the parish after the time of Ned Hanson.
- There are people here who were here during the time of the abuse, but knew nothing about it at all.
- There are people here who knew that something was amiss, but did not know what it was.

- There are people here who were abused, or who had family members abused, by Ned Hanson.
- And, just to complete the picture, there are people here who have been abused, but in some other place by some other person.

And this raises a lot of questions. People ask:

- What has this got to do with me? I wasn't even here.
- I was abused elsewhere, so what has this to do with me?
- Will our parish ever recover from this terrible situation?
- How can we help those that have been abused? Do we even know who they all are?

I have been in touch with our Bishops, and with the Canon Pastor of the Diocese (who helps parishes who have faced the issue of sexual abuse). I am planning a day in the fall when we can address the concerns of our parishioners, and seek a measure of healing within our parish.

Sunday, October 5, during our morning service we will offer our prayers for those who have been injured, and seek God's guidance as we care for one another. We will have a special guest speaker. Following the service, over lunch, we will have an opportunity to discuss ways of finding healing for our parish. Please plan to be here on that day.

Yours in Christ Jesus,



Reaching Out Through Music Gala

At midday on May 2, the power went out, with a gala fundraising concert only hours away – the launch of a new music and outreach initiative for Saint Simon's... Reaching Out through Music will offer instruction, at nominal cost, in voice, piano and guitar, to boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 14 from the St Jamestown neighbourhood. Interested children will also have an opportunity to participate in a newly-formed children's community choir. At the core of the programme is the idea that studying music offers much more in the way of benefits than simply acquiring the ability to sing or play a musical instrument, and a basic education in musical fundamentals. Musical study has been shown to aid in the building of self-esteem and provide a constructive outlet for selfexpression, and education in music has also been shown to correlate positively with academic achievement, including reading ability and mathematical skill. With current waiting lists at nearby subsidized music schools running as high as 300 applicants, the need for this type of project is greater than ever.

Staff and volunteers worked for several hours to position candles in the church for the concert and in the parish hall for the silent auction and reception... Saint Simon's has a long history of outreach in the St Jamestown area, dating back to the construction of the 18 highrise buildings which make up the most densely populated neighbourhood in Canada. Recently, the parish has been collaborating on outreach with an ecumenical coalition of churches – Mennonite, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, and United – in the area, sponsoring an after-school programme together, and hosting public meetings. Reaching Out through Music is a project of Saint Simon's, spearheaded by Kirk Adsett; he maintains consultations with partner churches, as well as with some of the other music programmes for inner-city children, in order to benefit from their experience and to maximize the potential benefit of the programme.

Finally, with about half an hour left to go, the lights came on again. It was too late to put the candles away, and they added a particular elegance to the evening...

The concert was the brainchild of John Loosemore, a parishioner at Saint Clement's, Eglinton, with family connections to Saint Simon's. He drew on his contacts among singers and musicians to assemble a stellar cast, including vocalists Jean Stilwell, Meredith Shaw, and Patricia Zentilli, pianists Patricia Parr, Linda Ippolito, Leonard Gilbert, and John Sheard, flutist Ross Pearson, and the Saint Simon's Choir. The CBC's Suhana Meharchand provided lively introductions. The church was full, the silent auction a tremendous success, and Reaching Out through Music was well and truly launched. Some of the concert performers have continued their involvement. lessons and choir practices are planned to start in September – and the work of fundraising continues.



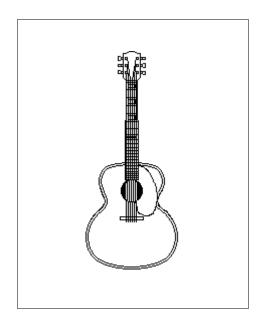
(A version of this article is scheduled to appear in the diocesan newspaper The Anglican in September).

How You Can Help...

Do you have a guitar at home which you'll never use again? Perhaps a recorder, or even an upright piano? Reaching Out through Music is looking for all of these instruments for teaching lessons. If you have an instrument you'd like to contribute, please get in touch with Kirk at 416-923-8714, x208, or music@stsimons.ca.



We'll also need volunteer chaperones to sit in on lessons, in keeping with our policy of creating a safe and responsible environment for ministry. If you'd be able to devote a little time each week to helping children learn music, please let Kirk know as soon as possible, so that he can start organizing a roster of volunteers



Caribbean Night

This year's celebration is planned for

Saturday, September 27th at 6 p.m.

Tickets: \$30 / person

An evening of fun, food & dancing

Spicy hors d'oeuvres Curried Goat Jerk Chicken Fish Rice & Peas Vegetable Medley Dessert Table Wine at Table Cash Bar

Proceeds will be divided between
Saint Simon's
Reaching Out through Music and
Codrington College in Barbados,
the oldest theological college in the
western hemisphere.

Baillieston United Church

Sponsors are needed to help the Baillieston United Church in Jamaica to fund a community centre for local residents. Any amount of donation will be appreciated. This can be given to Saint Simon's Church (memo BUC), or to Marie Adams.

Receipts will be provided for donations of \$10 or more.

For more information please contact Marie at 416-924-3516. Thank you for your support.

Marie Adams Canada Fundraising



125th Anniversary Patronal Dinner

This year's Patronal Dinner will be a magnificent occasion, to celebrate our 125th anniversary as a parish. The actual feast day of Saint Simon and Saint Jude is on October 28, but since it falls on a Tuesday this year, we will have our own "feast day" on Saturday, October 25 – a spectacular dinner with entertainment, preceded by Choral Evensong. Paul Faulkner is leading the planning for this grand occasion – please get in touch with him (by phone at 416-423-5739 or by e-mail at pauldfaulkner@hotmail.com) if you'd like to get involved.

Tickets for this gala event will be \$125 per couple/single tickets \$62.50.

Summer Music Outreach

For four weeks in July and August, Saint Simon's will be the scene of an unusual musical outreach collaboration: City Hope (a foundation affiliated with the Mennonite urban mission, 614 St Jamestown) and Tapestry New Opera will take two groups of children from St Jamestown through the process of writing and performing an opera, based on a story developed by the children themselves. Tapestry's music director Wayne Strongman is also one of our resource people for Reaching Out through Music planning, and some of the same children will probably be involved in both programmes. Another connection: Chiara Lara, the coordinator of the Macaco Club Afterschool programme, will be in charge of the recreational part of the programme.

Parish Life Survey

With this newsletter, you'll also find a "parish life survey". This is intended as a complement to some of the after-service conversations we've had this past year about a variety of subjects, giving you an opportunity to comment in greater detail than is always possible in a meeting.

I'm hoping to do some long-range planning for next year during July, so I'd be grateful if you could return the survey as soon as possible. (It will also be sent out as an attachment to people on our parish e-mail list, so please feel free to fill it out and return it electronically if that's more convenient).

The Church of St Simon-the-Apostle

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Warden's Committee

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Paul Faulkner, 416-423-5739
People's Warden
Denise Orieux, 416462-9211
Deputy Wardens
Wendy Conad, 416-265-9281
Gloria Sheard, 416-921-7578



Saint Simon's Services

Sun. July 6 th	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Sung Eucharist in traditional language Rev'd Andrea Budgey
Wed. July 9 th	11 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: with anointing for healing Rev'd Andrea Budgey
Sun. July 13 th	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Sung Mattins Rev'd Andrea Budgey
Wed. July 16 th	11 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: with anointing for healing Rev'd Andrea Budgey
Sun. July 20 th	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Sung Eucharist in traditional language Rev'd Andrea Budgey
Wed. July 23 th	11 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: with anointing for healing Rev'd Andrea Budgey
Sun. July 27 th	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Sung Eucharist in contemporary language Rev'd Andrea Budgey
Wed. July 30 th	11 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: with anointing for healing Rev'd Andrea Budgey
Sun. Aug. 3 rd	8:30 p.m. 10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Sung Eucharist in traditional language Rev'd David Barker
Wed. Aug. 6 th	11 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: with anointing for healing Rev'd David Barker
Sun. Aug 10 th	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Sung Mattins Rev'd David Barker
Wed. Aug 17 th	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Sung Eucharist in traditional language The Very Rev'd John vanNostrand Wright

Milestones

Deaths:

Agnes Elizabeth Ross-Wilson (January) Gwendolyn Mary Roxburgh (February) Robert Jeffry Clements (March)



Baptisms:

Gabriel Kai Slater (May) Jane Edwards Hager (May) *News from the Pew & Pulpit* is published quarterly in February, May, September and December.

Members of the congregation and chairs of our various committees are encouraged to use the newsletter as a vehicle to publish important dates, announcements, success stories, needs, observations, and items of interest.

Submissions may be dropped off in the office (push material through the office window), sent by fax to (416) 923-9205 or by e-mail to office@stsimons.ca.