



THE BEACON-The Church of St. Luke

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To know Christ and to make Him known in worship, fellowship and service.

On Saturday, April 24th Heather and I were delighted to become grandparents for the second time. Our grandson McIntyre, now two and a half years old, is now big brother to Bronwyn Grace Adair Miller who entered the world in less than flattering circumstances on the floor of the emergency room at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre. Bronwyn Grace Adair decided that she was not going to wait- not for Aileen, her mother and our daughter-in-law, to be admitted into the hospital, nor for Garth, her father and our son, to get back from going to tell the right people that they were there ready to deliver, nor for her mother to be at least on a gurney let alone a bed, nor for the doctor. Not Bronwyn Grace Adair. She was ready to make her entrance and nothing was going to stop her. And so, thanks to a wonderful Emergency Room nurse and a couple of Paramedics who just happened to be close at hand, she took her first breath.

Oh, by the way, we have been told that Bronwyn Grace Adair is affectionately to be called Winnie. Apparently Winnie's father, that is our son Garth, decided years ago that if he were ever to have a daughter, she was to be called Winnie. He has further explained that by choosing the name Bronwyn not only is Winnie a viable short form but also, when Winnie becomes a teenager she will be able to resort to the use of her full name Bronwyn around her girlfriends (just to look more sophisticated and grown up, I suppose!)

That is all very well and good. But there is no one in either Garth or Aileen's family with this name so why, pardon me for asking, is the name Winnie so important in the first place?. The answer to that question is the real meat of this letter.

You see, when Garth was thirteen years old we moved from a parish in Lindsay to one in Oshawa. In the new parish there was a woman whose name was Winnie. Winnie was a wonderful, unpretentious, gentlehearted, loving, caring, even saintly woman in her eighties (though she looked to be in her early seventies.) I adored Winnie; it was hard not to. Winnie knew more

about the saints of our church than I ever will. She spoke in a soft voice and even when she was scolding me for forgetting that it was the Feast of Saint Barnabas or the Feast Day of the martyr Polycarp, she remained gentle-hearted and loving.

Yes indeed, Winnie, though it was never her intention, made a great impression on me and I will always cherish her memory. And apparently, unknown to either Heather or me, Winnie also made a great impression on our son Garth!

And now Garth has chosen to honour Winnie's memory by calling his daughter by the same name with hopes that his daughter will grow to demonstrate all the same qualities of character that were so endearing in our dear old Winnie. Wow!

I've got to admit that I'm pretty (and pleasantly) surprised by all of this. I also have to admit that it has caused me to ponder, "Will the way I live my life ever touch someone so much that they name their child after me because they would want their child to have the same characteristic that I have?"

How about you? Ponder for a moment with me.

Following our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ calls us to a certain way of living and to a certain way of being in relationship with others. Winnie never wondered what was in it for her; she was simply and faithfully living her life following her Lord. And that is what made the difference; Winnie lived for Jesus.

I pray that each of us may strive to do as dear old Winnie did so well, that is live our lives in accord with the one who lived and died and rose again that we might indeed have life to the full, Jesus Christ our Lord.

And I pray that Bronwyn Grace Adair will indeed live up to the name Winnie.

Rev. Ric Miller

THREADS OF LOVE

Many of you who have been members of the parish for several years are well aware of the ministry of the "Threads of Love" chapter here at St. Luke's. However, for recent members of the parish, such as Don and I, the work of this group may not be so well known. For those "newbie's" in our midst here is their story, and what a story it is!

The purpose of the group, which began in the United States seventeen years ago, reads: Threads of Love is a sewing ministry meeting the needs of newborns and tiny premature infants. **Their goal** is not to dress babies, but rather to clothe hearts of anxious and bereaved parents with the love of Christ. It is a non-denominational ministry serving Christ and Christ alone. There are only seven chapters in Canada; St. Luke's being one of three in Ontario. Members of the St. Luke's chapter include parish members and those from other congregations and neighbourhoods. Truly an interdenominational mix.

These ladies carry out their purpose and goal by lovingly stitching very small garments, blankets, and knitted items for newborns and preemies. Soft colourful flannelette gowns are stitched together with the opening down the front of the garment to clothe premature infants requiring special nursing care. Pink, blue, yellow, and white fine woolen caps are knitted to keep little heads warm. Some very small caps are knitted to be included in memory boxes for parents of infants, who despite all care, are stillborn at birth or who die shortly after.

Their finest work is represented in the making of very small burial gowns. There are nine different sizes to accommodate every situation. These gowns are made of pure white batiste fabric with white smocking at the neck and cuffs as well as heirloom lace on the cuffs and at the hemline.

These garments are donated to the Spiritual and Religious Care Department of the Trillium Health Centre and are distributed to all, regardless of backgrounds and cultures, who

require these special needs. Cards from the Threads of Love at the Church of St. Luke, expressing God's love for these children and their families, are included with each garment

I attended one of the St. Luke's Chapter meetings last month and you could feel the love and the care that they stitch into each garment. They are funded by individual donations from the parish and from families who have benefited from the work of these ladies. The white batiste material is given to them by the Trillium Health Centre.

Recently a donation was received from a family who benefitted from this ministry with a note saying: *"Thank you for all you did for his family"*.

These grateful notes, and the knowledge that what they are doing makes a difference in the lives of families in this community, are the rewards of St. Luke's Chapter of 'THE THREADS OF LOVE'.


Barbara Beatty.

P.S. Should this ministry interest you speak with its leader, Maureen MacLeod.

**ST. LUKE'S PARISHIONERS
YOU HAVE DONE IT AGAIN!**

Many, many thanks to all who contributed to the meal for "Open Door". The food was delicious and plentiful and gratefully appreciated by all, from the youngest child to the oldest adult. Thank you to the church school students who provided the cutlery wrapped in Earth Day serviettes. Rosemary Vezina and I were thrilled to have the help of Joyce Sava and Caitlin Monks to serve the food. What a team! Please remember that Open Door is always in need of baby formula and diapers. Again, thank you so much.

Grace.



THE BEACON ON-LINE!!!



The March issue of the Beacon was forwarded by email to all members of the parish who have notified the church office of their email addresses along with their usual hard copy either picked up at the church or send by post. This will happen again with the May and June issue. Beginning in August/September the Beacon will be sent only by email to those whose email addresses we have. Should you also wish to receive the hard copy, rather than just the email, please notify the church office and you will continue to do so. If you wish to add your email address to our list, please email or telephone Karen in the Church office, stlukes@eol.ca -905-278-1811. This will save us money in mailings and also allow us to deliver the Beacon to your home more efficiently. Many thanks to John Mathews for setting up this email delivery system.

“An ounce of practice is worth more than tons of preaching.” (Gandhi, 1931)

The Dharkan Editorial Board would like to thank the Church of St. Luke and some members of the church for their generous donation to the Dharkan Newspaper.

We started the newspaper about five years ago to keep the Christians of all nationalities in touch with each other. In some parts of the world Christians don't enjoy the same religious freedom that we enjoy in this part of the world. Their strong faith keeps those Christians going but they need our prayers. Most of them cannot preach the gospel but show their love of God through their actions. In God we are one and carry the burdens and the cross with those who are suffering. Your donations have shown that you care.

Not only through your monetary helps, but also allowing us the use of the church premises off and on for our community needs, has greatly encouraged us. Thank you.

*Priobala Khan
On behalf of the Editorial Board of Dharkan.*

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SENIORS' LUNCHEON FOR MAY

Our last Seniors' Luncheon before the summer break will be on **Wednesday, May 19** at 11:45 in the Skylight Café at Gordon Graydon S.S., on Ogden Avenue. A three course hot meal, including tea and coffee is served by enthusiastic students in the hospitality department, for \$8 per person. Music is provided, birthdays celebrated and good fun and conversation guaranteed. Why not bring a friend of neighbour? To reserve a seat call Ellen Shilton at 905-276-7443 by Sunday, May 16th. See you there!

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**A Prayer Chain for St. Luke's** has been established under the auspices of the Pastoral Care Group. The members of this Prayer Chain will pray daily for various people, needs and concerns in our parish. Emergency or special prayers may be requested of this group for any purpose, such as healing, personal concerns or to rejoice and give thanks. To start this chain-reaction for your prayers, please **call Canon Don or Barbara Beatty at 905-274-9776**. Your prayer concerns which will be kept confidential will be passed quickly down the chain and you will be upheld in our prayers daily, for as long as needed. Remember, " more things are wrought by prayer that this world dreams of". (Alfred Lord Tennyson).

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On Sunday May 16th the Mississauga Marathon will be running throughout the city. For those who travel along the Lakeshore to come to St. Luke's please note that the WEST lanes of the Lakeshore between 8 am and 2 pm will be closed to accommodate the athletes.



The ministry of healing will be available on Sunday May 16 following the 10:30 am service.

St. Luke's Annual Yard Sale

Saturday, June 5, 2010

8:00 am till 1:00 pm

Clear out your cupboards, your basement, your garage of unused or unneeded treasures. (Please NO mugs, drinking glasses, old car parts, tires, or adult clothing. Children's clothes are welcomed.

The church will be open at designated times from Tuesday, June 1 through to Friday, June 4th to receive your donation. Please check your Sunday bulletins for the designated times or call the church office at 905-278-1811.

Bake your special pies, bread, muffins, fruit loaves, cookies, squares or tarts along with jams, jellies and preserves to add to the "Bake Table". (Please clearly label any baking that contains nuts).

Your assistance on Saturday would be greatly appreciated. It is also a fun time to be together with people from the parish and the neighbourhood. Call Karen in the Church Office to offer your help, 905-278-1811.

Come out Saturday – here is your opportunity to purchase new treasures, take home some baked treats for the weekend as you enjoy the company of friends and neighbours.

Choral Evensong for Ascensiontide

Thursday, May 13, 2010

7:30 pm

St. Luke's, Dixie

Come celebrate the Ascension of our Lord with combined choirs of the Church of the Holy Spirit and St. Luke's.

Organists: Eric Hanbury and Bill Wallace

Officiants, the Reverend Judith Atree and the Reverend Richard Miller

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, Herbert W. Sumsion

God is Gone Up, William Croft

Forsaking Chariots of Fire, John L. Bell

A freewill offering will be taken for *Outreach*.

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Coming Events

Sunday May 23	8:30 and 10:30 am	The Feast of Pentecost
Sat. June 5	8:00 am	THE ANNUAL YARD SALE
Sunday, June 6	10:30 am	Church School Closing & Parish Barbeque

Looking Ahead - Summer Schedule

Beginning Sunday, June 13th until Labour Day Weekend, Sunday, September 5th, our summer schedule will be one service at 9:30 am each Sunday. We will return to our regular schedule Sunday, September 11th.