



The Beacon –The Church of St. Luke
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*To Know Christ and to make Him known in
Worship, Fellowship, and Service.*

My Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What do you do when you don't know what to do?

Yes, sometimes it is quite easy to know what to do: you can look at the information, make sense of it all and then, without pause or hesitation, a decision can be made. Easy. Done. Move on.

But, it is not always easy to know what to do! Sometimes the information we have is incomplete or confusing or perhaps even quite incomprehensible. Then, what do we do? How can anyone move forward if things are so out of whack, if things just don't add up or if they don't make sense? At that point, even the most proficient decision makers can find themselves stumped, stymied or even paralyzed.

I can't help but think that that is where the disciples found themselves that first Easter weekend. It began as they watched their teacher, their Lord, arrested and taken off for trial. It continued through the mocking and scourging of Jesus as well as through his crucifixion. And if that wasn't enough, that first Easter Sunday arrived and the body of Jesus had gone missing.

Talk about things not making sense, about things being confusing. Weren't things supposed to keep getting better? Wasn't Jesus supposed to be the Messiah? What went wrong? I feel so paralyzed! I don't know what to do! What do we do now?

For those disciples their first course of action was to hide, to gather together and lock themselves away. But that is not what God intended for them to do. God, as God so often does, had other ideas, other plans.

It was only as they began to see as God would have them see, that the disciples realized that what they were experiencing was not incomprehensible. It was only as they turned to God that things stopped being confusing. It was only as their faith blossomed within them that what seemed to be incomplete and unfinished, was shown to be divinely whole and perfect.

One of the truths of the resurrection for me is that God is full of surprises and that God is never stumped, stymied or paralyzed. I need to learn to trust that truth more often than I do. God sees the whole picture even when I can't see the piece that I am being shown. God can do amazing and surprising things.

What do you do when you don't know what to do?

May I suggest that we all follow the example set by the disciples of Jesus and in the midst of our humanity and our very human responses that we risk allowing our faith in God to blossom trusting that God is in control of all things – even when we don't see, grasp or understand.

May this Easter season be filled with the joy and divine surprise of the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Blessings always.

Yours in Christ,

Richard Miller

St. Luke's Garden

We have such a fabulous property, we are considering creating two new garden beds this year. One bed will be for flowers – to enjoy



both outside and inside on the altar and the second bed will be for vegetables and herbs that can be harvested and shared with

Outreach. If you are interested in helping to prepare the gardens, plant and tend, please send an email to bholdgate@rogers.com or give me a call at 905-278-5866. We will be looking to get started in May

and unlike “too many cooks” there is always room for more gardeners. Quote: *If you've never experienced the joy of accomplishing more than you can imagine, plant a garden.* Robert Branult.



Bev Holdgate.

Altar Flowers

Quote: *Flowers are the sweetest things God ever made, and forgot to put a soul into.* Henry Beecher, *Life Thoughts*.

If you would like to celebrate a memory, an occasion or offering of thanks, flowers for the altar are a great way to grace our church. In the hall you will find the “Flower” bulletin board.



Please add your name and date to the list as well as the name or occasion your wish to remember or celebrate. A donation for the flowers can be placed in the offering plate – please ensure you mark the envelop “Flowers”. A donation of \$40. is appreciated but we will accept any donation you can make.

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THE FIVE GROUPS GATHER

The five parish groups (Pastoral Care, Proclamation, Teaching and Learning, Welcoming and Worship) will meet on Saturday, May 7th. beginning at 9 am. They will share their various agendas and discuss plans to move forward the ministry at St. Luke's. Any member of the parish is welcome to attend.

The Open Door!

It is OPEN DOOR time again. Please help us provide a meal for Open door on THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2011. Open Door is a drop-in centre at Square One for anyone in need of help. A dinner is provided every Thursday night by various churches in Mississauga. These dinners are greatly appreciated by those who attend. PLEASE SIGN-UP ON THE SHEET IN THE PARISH HALL TO BRING FOOD TO THE CHURCH BY 12:00 NOON ON MAY 5TH. Cash donations are also needed to be sure we have enough food for every one. For more information contact Grace Harte.



The Outreach Committee would like to thank all who participated in the sale of Hot Cross Buns on Palm Sunday. \$200. was raised to be used to help local outreach projects.

Thank You – Thank You – Thank You

- +to those who made Palm Crosses
- +to Bob Gibbons for the messages in the Church Sign.
- +to Walter Marshall and the Proclamation Group for decorating and placing our large cross outside so that all who passed by would know that Christ is Risen!
- +to the children who sang at Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Day Services as well as participating in the Good Friday Stations of the Cross and the decorating of the beautiful Easter Tree on Easter morning.
- +to the Church School Staff – Rosemary, Janet and Joanne for their excellent teaching and craft leadership with our children (do take a look at the Easter Tree in the Chancel).
- +to the expanded Joy in the Morning music group, led by Nancy Gibbons, Murray Griffin and the Falgarwood Brass for their gift of music during Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and, of course, Easter Day!!!!
- +to the Chancel Guild and Flower Convener for the beautiful flower display at Easter.
- +Rebecca, Scott and Ivy Faith for the happy reception following the Easter Day Baptism.
- +to Ric Miller who led all the Holy Week and Easter Services taking us from Palm Sunday, through the events of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Day.

All Members of the Parish of St. Luke, Dixie South

are invited to join with family and friends in

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary

of

**The Rev. Richard Miller's
Ordination to the Priesthood**

Sunday, May 29, 2011

10:30 am

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Canon Alan Hayes

Director of the Toronto School of Theology and Professor of Church History, Wycliffe College

Reception to follow in the Parish Hall

On Tuesday, April 19th, during the annual Crism Mass celebrated at the Cathedral Church of St. James, those priests who were celebrating their 25th or 50th anniversaries as Priests in the Diocese of Toronto were honoured and received the gift of a white stole with the Diocesan Crest on each panel. Richard wore his on Easter Day.

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St. Luke's Annual Yard and Bake Sale

Saturday, May 28, 2011

8:00 am – 1 pm

Donations can be brought to the church Monday to Friday May 23 – 27

Baked goods can be dropped off Friday, May 27th.

Plan now to help with the sale – call the Church Office to offer your assistance – 905-278-1811.

Again this year we will be hosting and Electronic Recycling Event

Drop off your old computers, TV's, batteries (no car batteries), unused or unwanted electronics.

Check with your family, friends and neighbours as everyone seems to have some old electronics in the basement or garage!!!!

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SENIOR'S LUNCHEON

The final Senior's Luncheon for this school term will be held on Wednesday, May 18th at Gordon Graydon Secondary School Skylight Café, 11:45 am – 1:15 pm. Cost is \$8.00 per person, which includes salad, hot entrée, dessert, tea and coffee. If you are interested please contact Ellen Shilton at 276-7443 by Sunday, May 15th to reserve at spot, or sign the list on the back table behind the last pew. Rides are available upon request. See you there!

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MULTICULTURAL POT LUCK DINNER

Our annual Multicultural Pot Luck Dinner will be held on **Saturday, June 11**. Plan now to bring a special dish reflecting your national heritage. Look for further details in the June issue of the Beacon.

Church Family Finances – Update to the End of April 2011

Over the first 17 weeks of the year, which includes Easter, attendance was down 12%. Some have been able to increase their support to the parish such that the total contributions received for maintaining parish ministries in the first 17 weeks of the year is 97% of what was received in the same period last year. This was done despite both the decline in attendance and significant parishioner contributions to the Diocesan campaign “Our Faith-Our Hope”.

At Vestry, we had projected total envelope support equal to that which was received last year (2010). It appears that we are on track to achieving that projection. On an overall basis, costs incurred year to date are consistent with the budget presented at Vestry. All other things being equal, the parish is on course to an operating fund deficit of \$22,115. To the extent necessary this will have to be financed from the reserve fund which had a balance at the end of 2010 of \$105,769.

Ian Thompson, Treasurer

Services, Meetings, Events

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| Monday, May 2 | 7:15 pm | Advisory Meeting |
| Saturday, May 7 | 9:00 am | Five Groups Meeting |
| Monday, May 9 | 1:30 pm | Pastoral Care Group Meeting |
| Wed, May 18 | 11:45 am | Senior’s Luncheon, Gordon Graydon Secondary School. |
| Sat. May 28 | 8:00 am | Annual Yard Sale |
| Sunday, May 29 | 10:30 am | Services celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Ric’s Ordination to the Priesthood |
| Saturday, June 4 | 9:00 am | Worship Group Meeting |
| | 11:00 am | “Baptism at St. Luke’s” Group |
| Sunday, June 5 | 10:30 am | Outdoor Service – Church School Closing Events
Bring your lawn chair and enjoy worshipping in the outdoors. |
| Sat. June 11 | 6:00 pm | Multicultural Pot Luck Dinner |
| Sunday, June 12 | 8:30-10:30 am | Feast of Pentecost |
| Sunday, July 3 | 9:30 am | Canada Day Celebrations – Beginning of Summer Schedule. |

