



**THE BEACON-Church of St. Luke**  
1513 Dixie Road, Mississauga, ON, L5E 2P7  
Phone: 905-278-1811 Fax: 905-278-1176

Email – [stlukes@eol.ca](mailto:stlukes@eol.ca)  
Web Page – [www.stlukemississauga.ca](http://www.stlukemississauga.ca)

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

My Dear brothers and sisters in Christ.  
Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Many years ago I heard a challenging story. It went something like this.

Every Sunday morning neighbors emerged from their houses at the same time, one dressed for church, the other dressed for the golf course. Each politely said “Good morning” and then went on their way in their own particular direction. One Sunday the golfer called over to his church-going neighbor, “Hey, next Sunday why don’t you come and play a round of golf with me?” And so, the next Sunday the churchgoer did not go to church but rather went golfing. A few weeks later history repeated itself and again the churchgoer went the following Sunday morning to play golf. And so it continued throughout the good weather weeks of the summer and even into the fall. After one beautiful fall Sunday morning round of golf the once church-going neighbor asked the golfing neighbor why he had never come to church with him, after all, he had gone golfing with him so many times now. The golfing neighbor’s response was short and bluntly to the point. He said, “Because you never asked!”

Because you never asked! What a powerful line that is and quite telling in its directness.

Because you never asked!

Over the past number of years there has been an increasing amount of study done on what church is all about: study about why people give (or do not give); study on what makes a church thrive; study on how to “grow” a church; and study on what brings people to church in the first place. I find it very interesting that the number one reason someone goes to a church is that a member of that church tells them why their church is important to them, and then invites them to join them one Sunday morning. The main reason people come to a church is not advertising, not a catchy yellow pages ad, not a flashing neon sign but rather because someone who is going to a particular church asks them to come with them.

What if the above story was told a little differently and it was the golfer who asked the churchgoer, “Why did you start golfing with me?” The answer would be, “Because you asked!”

Because you asked! What a challenging turn of events.

The truth of the matter is that we churchgoing human beings seem to be reluctant to invite someone to come to church with us. For most of us our faith and our worship life are personal and private matters which we are reluctant to mention and if we are reluctant to mention them how much more so are we reluctant to invite someone else to participate in them. Yet, the studies about church life say that that is the number one reason people come to church – because you asked!

Perhaps there is someone in your life, a neighbor, a friend, an acquaintance, who might just be waiting for you to ask them to come to church with you. I invite you to pray about it and challenge you to be the one who is bold enough to ask.

Yours in Christ,

## Christian Healing Revisited

The Healing Ministry was given to the church by Jesus Christ. Let us look at some of the biblical basis for this ministry.

It is obvious from the Bible the healing Ministry was important to the early Christians. About one-third of the gospels concern the healing miracles of Jesus.

Jesus sent out the twelve, the seventy and then the whole church to preach and to heal. See: Mark 16:15; Luke 9:1-6: and Luke 10:1-9.

The Acts of the Apostles has many accounts of healing from the life of the early Church. Paul talks about one of the gifts of the spirit as healing (1 Cor. 12:7-11). James tells the sick to call the elders. They will anoint you and pray for you and you will recover (James 5:13-16). This ministry was very much a part of the New Testament Church.

The Holy Spirit is given to build up the body of Christ, to strengthen the believers, and to empower us for ministry. If the Christian community does not demonstrate the love of God then the world will think we are phony, and rightly so.

The Ministry of Healing is about the healings of Jesus. It is given to the church, his Body, by Jesus himself. It is the Body who exercises the Healing Ministry. All Christian believers can be instruments of Jesus in this ministry.

Next month we will look at some of the Principles of Christian Healing for today.

Don Beatty.

### **BIBLE STUDY**

Begins Wed. October 1<sup>st</sup>.  
7:30 pm in the Vine Room

In the Gospel of Matthew we see Jesus speaking many times. Come and explore with us what it meant then and discover together what it means now. No experience necessary! Bring your Bible and your friends. We begin at 7:30 pm and depart at 9:00 p.m.

*Facilitated by Captain Walter Marshall*

## **SENIORS' LUNCHEONS ARE BACK!**

*The Seniors' luncheons are starting up again, with our first luncheon scheduled for THURSDAY, OCT. 16<sup>TH</sup> 2008 at Gordon Graydon Secondary School. The luncheon starts at 11:45 AM, and we are finished by 1:15. For \$7.50 you are served a 3 course meal including salad, a hot entrée and dessert with tea or coffee. The lunch is prepared and served by students of the Hospitality Department in the high school's very own "Skylight Café", and good fellowship is enjoyed by all. Birthdays for the month are acknowledged, and we have our own pianist to provide some musical entertainment as well.*

*Drivers are available upon request, and dietary restrictions are taken into consideration if you inform us at the time of reserving your seat. Please call Ellen at 905-276-7443 between Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> and Monday Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> to reserve your seat. Hope to see you there!*



**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** "It's the most wonderful time of the year.." A time to share Christ with a needy child by using a simple shoe box or a plastic box of the same size is very welcome.

Start now collecting school supplies, hygiene items (no toothpaste), toys, socks, sunglasses, flip flops, etc. The boxes are distributed to children suffering from the effects of war, famine, natural disasters and disease. Our 2008 boxes will go to Central America and Africa.

Complete details will be outlined on the poster in the hall along with informative brochures. For more details, contact Lois Marshall 905-275-0777. Boxes to be returned on or before Sun. Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS**

<b>Staff:</b>	<b>Church School Coordinator</b>	<b>Rosemary Vezina</b>
	<b>Teachers:</b>	<b>Janet Huber, Justin Daigle</b>
		<b>Grace Harte (supply)</b>
	<b>Music:</b>	<b>Jo Ann Thompson</b>
	<b>Registrar:</b>	<b>Jane Owen</b>

**THANK YOU!**

To *Grace Harte* for your many years as Church School Coordinator in which your faith, enthusiasm and caring have brightened so many young lives. Thank you for continuing to assist us as a supply teacher.

To *Mary Izawa* for your dedication and expertise in setting up and running our children’s library. Enjoy your retirement!

To *Will Frankling and Peggy Long* a belated thank-you for organizing and providing the children with lots of fun at our picnic in June.

To *Father Ric* for our beautiful new floors in the classrooms.

**New:** We are forming a **Youth Group for students in Grades 7, 8 and 9.** Further information on times will be available in both the weekly church bulletin and the next Beacon.

**Needs:** We need volunteers to help in the Nursery and to run our library. Please prayerfully consider giving a few hours to help in these activities. Please speak with Rosemary if this is a possibility for you. If you are interested in assisting with teaching, please speak with Father Ric.

**Our Learning Focus for September and October:** Five stories from Exodus to show the history of the Hebrew people, followed by lessons from letters to Philippians and Thessalonians, to learn about life in the early church when Christians were taught about prayer and about being God’s message in the world.

**Dates to Remember:**

- October 5 Harvest Thanksgiving  
Bring packaged and canned food for the local Food Bank
- October 5 Blessing of Animals Service - 2 p.m. in the Rectory back yard.
- October 12 Thanksgiving Sunday

Church School children will be invited to participate actively in ‘Operation Christmas Child’ beginning in October. Now is the time to look for small treasures for these boxes.

*Please remember that our children’s library has wonderful books to enrich reading experiences. We suggest that parents and grandparents look at the books in our collection and encourage their children to borrow some. Then, if the children have enjoyed a book, they may wish to submit a review to The Beacon!*

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**THE FEAST OF SAINT LUKE**

We will be celebrating The Feast of Saint Luke on the weekend of Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm there will be a special parish dinner and our worship on Sunday will be in honour of our Patron Saint, Luke the Physician. Tickets for the dinner will be \$8.00 per person

or \$18.00 per family. June Bruce will be selling tickets following the 8:30 service and Marilyn Lutes following the 10:30 service. Help is needed to prepare for the meal. If you are available to help please contact Marilyn Lutes.

**OPEN DOOR** at Square One Provides a dinner every Thursday evening to approximately 50 needy people. St. Luke’s Church has committed to provide a meal for the OPEN DOOR on THURSDAY,



**NOVEMBER 6, 2008. Watch for the “Sign Up Sheet” that will soon be posted in the Parish Hall. The Open Door also provides counseling, helps find housing and spiritually nourishes many people on a daily basis. Please help by contributing food for the Thursday dinner. Cash donations are also needed to be sure we have enough food for everyone. For more information contact Grace Harte.**

### October Events

<b>Every Thurs.</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. 7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Joy In the Morning Joy Music</b>
<b>Every Sundays</b>	<b>8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist – Coffee Hour Sung Eucharist, Church School, Nursery, Coffee Hour</b>
<b>Every Wed.</b>	<b>9:15 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Eucharist Bible Study Bible Study beginning Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. – continuing weekly until Wed. December 10<sup>th</sup>.</b>

#### **Special October Events:**

<b>Sunday, October 5</b>		<b>Harvest Thanksgiving Services Please bring packaged and canned food for the Food Bank</b>
<b>Sunday October 5</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Blessing of the Animals – Rectory Back Yard.</b>
<b>Monday October 6</b>	<b>7:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Advisory Board Meeting</b>
<b>Tuesday October 7</b>	<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Dorcas Meeting</b>
<b>Sunday October 12</b>		<b>National Thanksgiving Services</b>
<b>Thursday October 16</b>	<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Threads of Love</b>
<b>Friday October 17</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Euchre</b>
<b>Saturday October 18</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>The Feast of St. Luke celebration dinner</b>
<b>Sunday October 19</b>		<b>St. Luke’s Day Eucharist at 8:30 and 10:30 services Laying on of Hands and Anointing for healing will be available following the 10:30 a.m. service.</b>
<b>Tuesday October 21</b>	<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Dorcas Meeting</b>

**Sunday, October 12 is the last date for contributions to be sent to the Church Office for the November issue of “The Beacon”.**