

# BLOORBEAT

The Newsletter of



Volume XXXVII, Issue 2

## Minister's Message

### Resurrection

An early happy Easter wish to all of you! Easter is the highest and most holy day of the Christian year. Beyond the miracles of Jesus' birth, baptism, and ministry; beyond his parables, transfiguration and passion; the resurrection of Jesus is the defining moment in Christian history, and therefore Easter is the high point of our lives of faith.

Whatever the date, the return of the sparkle of sun on the water that has escaped the clutch of an icy grip marks the annual reawakening of the earth. It's not by chance that Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus in the spring, as we marvel at the annual resurrection of nature. It's yet another dimension of Easter in our northern hemisphere. Easter, after all, has no fixed date, but is a moveable feast, tied to the rhythms of the earth and moon. Easter is the first Sunday after the full moon following the spring equinox, and this year it arrives relatively early.

In some ways it's much easier for us to connect with the resurrection of nature than the resurrection of Jesus. Easter bunnies and eggs are much more popular in the culture than are references to Jesus' resurrection. Most children will gleefully participate in the annual egg hunt, and we'll all gladly chow down on chocolates shaped like bunnies as we take part in our general, secular, ritual celebration of the coming of spring.

It's harder to help children, and adults, connect meaningfully with the resurrection of Jesus, and much easier to go along with Jesus' disciples in writing off the first reports of an empty tomb as an "idle tale." The coming back to life of a dead body doesn't seem to make much sense, and many can no longer relate to Jesus' resurrection being a supernatural act of a supernatural God which somehow brings us salvation and offers us an ironclad guarantee we'll go to heaven when we die. Ever since early Christianity that was the commonly held belief, and is still an assuring belief for many. But to many in our postmodern day, including me, it fails to fit with our way of seeing things.

The empty tomb stands as a central image of the resurrection, as all the gospels recount the story. It's worth noting, though, that with each gospel the story grows with the telling. For instance Mark, the first gospel written, has "*a young man dressed in white*"; Luke, the second, then has "*two men in dazzling garments*";

*(continued on page 4)*

## Bloordale United Church

4258 Bloor Street West  
Etobicoke, ON M9C 1Z7  
(416) 621-1710  
www.bloordale.ca

Minister	Rev. Brian W. McIntosh
Pastoral Care Minister	Rev. Nelsona Dundas
Christian Development Co-ordinator	Lisa Mazzariol
Administrative Assistant	Halyna Parypa
Organist & Choir Director	Mervin Fick
Custodian	Victor Nguyen

### Church Council

Chair	Pat Conway-Willis
Church Council Secretary	Dana Bach
Congregational Meeting Secretary	Pat Nelson
Board of Trustees	Jack Lovatt
Ministry and Personnel Co-Chairs	Dana Bach
	Pat Conway-Willis
Nominations	Pat Nelson
Treasurer	Norman Dundas
Presbytery Representatives	Norman Dundas
	Paul Rose

Minister	Rev. Brian W. McIntosh
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### Committee Chairs

Congregational Life (co-chairs)	Helen Hitchcock
	Pat Conway-Willis
Communications	Julia Stavreff
Finance, Stewardship, Planned Gift	Jack Lovatt
Outreach and Christian Development	Lynn Lawrence
Pastoral Care	Sylvia Williams
Property	John Pauksens
Social and Fund Raising	Julia Stavreff
United Church Women	Joan Hollowell
Worship	Sharron Le Blanc
Members-at-Large	Jim Bell
	Amy Bickford

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## WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE WEEKS AHEAD

### Worship Schedule

Mar.	25	Palm/Passion Sunday / COMMUNION
	29	Maundy Thursday / Tri-Church Service at Bloordale – 7 pm
	30	Good Friday / Tri-Church Service at St. James – 10:30 am
Apr.	1	Easter Sunrise at Centennial Hill – 6:59 am
	1	Easter
	8	Easter 2
	15	Easter 3
	22	Easter 4 / Good Shepherd Sunday / COMMUNION
	29	Easter 5
May	6	Easter 6
	13	Easter 7 / Ascension - Brian away
	20	Pentecost / COMMUNION - 10:00 am
	27	Trinity Sunday -10:00 am

**All Services at 10:30 a.m. except as indicated**

## Stewardship Spot

*"Stewardship is everything I do after I say 'I believe'."*

### \$1,000 a Year

Well, we've just celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on March 11th, and officially launched our \$60,000 for 60 years campaign. Neither the Anniversary nor the campaign were one-Sunday wonders alone, however, despite the great day we had, with an engaging guest speaker in the morning and the gathering of close to 80 of us in the afternoon/evening that included a very nice catered dinner, the raising of \$2,300 through a silent auction, some brief entertainment that included our collective singing of some golden oldies, the handing out of yet another set of three Anniversary Awards – which aren't really awards at all but simply an Award certificate! – to some very worthy recipients, some hearty laughter and a fair bit of reminiscing, and a toast to Bloordale! All those festivities allowed us, however briefly, to pat ourselves on the back for a six-decade run of Sunday Services and everyday service to the surrounding community of which we can be – though perhaps not boastfully! – proud.

It was a great day, and marked the launch of a year-long observance of our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, at least until the end of 2018. Just over a month prior to the day, we'd shared a letter with you, our membership and friends, about the financial campaign, encouraging your special gifts to enable us to move forward into 2019 and beyond having dealt with some lingering financial issues in our operating accounts. In the letter we wrote about our mission and ministry having been centered in actions that could be summarized in three categories: friendly hospitality, community support, and outreach and social action. Your leadership, myself included, believe it outlines a ministry worthy supporting, and this column makes a simple pitch to do just that.

When you break it down, it's only \$1,000 more for every year of our life, and age 60 is an important age for anyone, affording ourselves the chance to both look back at what's been accomplished yet also look ahead and dream of what might yet be done. We have solid relationships within the community, we've encouraged and cared for people in our Circle and beyond, and have been stewards of the gospel message of God's love and passion for life as known in

and through the One who is our Center, Source and Sum. It's a legacy that's worthy of not only being remembered but shepherded into the future, though it may look a little different, given our age and the changing times in which we live. Let's each do our part to meet this achievable goal and give \$1,000 a year more than usual – I know I will, because we're worth it!

Brian

## Welcome our New Chair of Council!

Welcome Patricia (Pat) Conway-Willis as she assumes the position of Chair of Bloordale's Church Council!



Pat is relatively new to Bloordale, having been introduced to the church by Rev. Nelsona Dundas, who was Zone Chaplain at the

time Pat became Zone D-1 Commander in the Royal Canadian Legion.

A Montrealer by birth and schooling, Pat worked in the insurance industry, including some years in Calgary.

In the last few years at Bloordale, Pat has been and will continue to be Co-Chair of Congregational Life and Co-Chair of Ministry and Personnel. In addition Pat is on an ushering team, is a member of the Revitalization Task Group and its sub-group Property Options, the Anniversary Committee and has been Co-Chair of the Pancake Supper and the first Tenants' Pot Luck Dinner.

I hope we will all help Pat where and when we can!

Patricia Nelson

## Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)

One of the ways that people who care about Bloordale act to secure its future is through the PAR program. Brochures that outline how to do this are available in the display case near the office, or speak to Brian, Norm Dundas or Jack Lovatt if you'd like more information. PAR does offer the church your consistent support, and helps with budget planning.

## Minister's Message

(continued from Page 1)

Matthew, the third to be written, says "an angel of the Lord, whose appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow"; and then, lastly, John says, "two angels in white." Mark's telling of the story, in the original version at least, has no appearances of Jesus, but only the proclamation of an empty tomb and a set of fearful disciples. Then there's a progression of appearances in the other gospels, until we close with John's telling of the story, the one we hear from the most at Easter, which has Jesus appear numerous times, have long conversations with the disciples, address lingering doubts in the story of Thomas (John 20: 19-31, always the story told on the Second Sunday of the 7-week-long Easter season), and stretches out the Easter story to two whole chapters.

Does this not sound like a community trying to come to grips, as it grows over time, with its lack of evidence for its good news, as it slightly embellishes its core tale, a tale which may not be idle but which certainly had lacked any solid historical facts upon which it could be based?

Yet Paul, interestingly, who put ink and blotter to papyrus to write his letters long before any of the gospel writers did the same, makes no mention of the "facts," or even of the empty tomb. Paul, instead, simply affirms that Jesus, following his gruesome and terror-inducing death on the cross and his being placed behind a huge stone door in a tomb, appeared to many in mystical bodily form, and to him who had severely persecuted Christians up to then. So we have the first hint here, in Paul's writings, that something powerful and profound happened following Jesus' death.

And while such experiences can't be quantified by mathematical formulas or historical facts, they can be qualified by the testimony of the witnesses who share the story of their own experiences of the risen power and presence of Jesus in the always skeptical court of public opinion. Such is the way the resurrection rumour has been spread down through the centuries, as we trust the witness of those close to Jesus, both then and now, who have had a strong, or subtle, yet always transformative experience or inkling of Jesus' risen life. It's always been the experience, and the continuing trust of those whose trustworthy testimony seems to have a tale of

transformation at its centre, that has given rise to the rumour and created the stories that have tried to explain the inexplicable.

Think about this for a moment: when we hear our spouse say that they love us, what's the basis of our belief that they really mean it? Even the first time it was said between you, it's likely that you had some experience of their attentiveness, their attraction, their loyalty, their devotion, their character upon which to base your decision about the trustworthy nature of their words. Spouses continually "prove" the "fact" of their love by the way they act, and over time such continuous acts of integrity and love deepen the bond and the trust between them. It's the life they lead in relation to the one whom they love that proves the worth of their testimony. Is it any wonder, then, that it's the life we lead that proves the worth of our testimony of our experience of God's love for us all that was made supremely known, we believe and reaffirm at Easter, in Jesus' resurrection?

And remember, too, that the Easter story isn't just about Jesus' rising alone, or about the promise of new life after our physical death. It's also about the promise of God's new resurrection life that awaits us after every kind of death we must face in this life, whether that be the liberation promised the oppressed, the justice promised the downtrodden beyond their systematic marginalization, the truth promised those who have suffered under the lies of the powerful, the recreation promised this creation beyond our collective plundering, the community and hope promised to those who are lonely or despairing, or the inclusion of those now excluded by whatever crucifying powers-that-be rule our particular days.

So the Easter good news comes alive anew each year, beyond the hints of hope known in the cycles of nature, calling us to lead transformed lives as Easter people and to proclaim the love of God known to such a full extent in Jesus because he was willing to suffer death rather than retaliate or embrace violence, in trust that God would raise him on the third day. This is our belief, this is what we claim at Easter, this is the good news to which we reply Hallelujah! May your Easter be filled with such faith and life that you may not only speak but live your Hallelujah every day as a disciple of Jesus.

Brian

## Upcoming Interfaith or Ecumenical Events of Note

### 1) Muslim - Christian Supper & Dialogue in Mississauga March 25<sup>th</sup>

Brian and Bloordale have built a special relationship with Imam Hamid Slimi and his congregants at the Sayeda KHADIJA Centre in Mississauga, 7150 Edwards Blvd., over the last few years. Last fall we hosted a Christian - Muslim Barbecue at a picnic area in Centennial Park, and on March 25<sup>th</sup> we're invited, along with people from other Churches and Mosques in Etobicoke, to attend a Muslim - Christian Supper and Dialogue at their Centre at 5 pm on Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup>. It promises to be an enlightening and inspiring event of reflection and interaction, as well as fantastic food, so why not join us to find out about our Muslim neighbours! Tickets are \$20, the event is for ages 16 and up, and you are asked to register at [mcdsupper.eventbrite.ca](http://mcdsupper.eventbrite.ca)

### 2) 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Ecumenical Good Friday Walk for Justice March 30<sup>th</sup>

Each year about 300 or 400 people gather on Good Friday afternoon to observe an event that's a hybrid of a Catholic stations of the cross walk, this one focused on various justice issues and our collective lament about the suffering of God's children and creation. We start at the Church of the Holy Trinity, beside the Eaton Centre, at 2 pm, and proceed outside to a few stations, gathering back at Holy Trinity for a closing station by about 4 pm, immediately followed by a simple bread and soup meal. Sponsored by a coalition of Christian churches and organizations in Toronto, the focus theme this year is "*Dimensions of Poverty*," and all are invited to join us. Ask Brian, or go to [www.goodfridaywalk.ca](http://www.goodfridaywalk.ca) if you would like to know more.

### 3) Ecumenical Easter SonRise Service at Centennial Hill Apr. 1

For the 49<sup>th</sup> consecutive year the Hwy 427 Ministerial churches, including Bloordale, are hosting an ecumenical Easter SonRise Service at Centennial Hill at 6:59 am on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Parking west of the hill will enable a gentle sloped walk to the top, or you can climb the hill more steeply on the east side. Speak to Brian if you'd like to learn more.

### 4) Kairos Toronto West Workshop on "Refugee Rights - or Wrongs?" April 21<sup>st</sup>

The local Kairos Toronto West group, made

up of representatives from local churches who care about what Kairos Canada cares about, hosts two Workshops each year, and our first one of 2018 is on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. To be held at St. Philip's Lutheran Church, 61 West Deane Park Drive (north of Rathburn, east of the 427), the topic is "*Refugee Rights - or Wrongs?*" and leadership will be provided by Andrew Brouwer, Senior Legal Counsel, Refugee Law Office, Legal Aid Ontario, and Jozsef Pusuma, who, along with his wife and daughter, lived in sanctuary at Windermere United Church for over two years as they worked to try and be recognized as refugees in Canada. Refreshments and registration is at 9:30, and the program runs from 10 to 11:45 am. Feel free to attend this free Workshop, and/or ask Brian for more information.

### 5) Etobicoke - Mississauga Interfaith Festival April 29<sup>th</sup>

On Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup> the Etobicoke Interfaith Leaders Network, of which Brian is a part, is hosting an Interfaith Festival for the whole family at the Tibetan Cultural Centre, 40 Titan Rd. from 2 - 6 pm. You are invited to join faith groups of many creeds and backgrounds, uniting in celebration of shared values and showing forth our unity in diversity. At this free event you will enjoy traditional foods, the availability of many representatives of many faiths to talk to, and performances representative of a variety of traditions, including singing, dancing, and more! An RSVP is requested, so contact [interfaithfest@gmail.com](mailto:interfaithfest@gmail.com) by April 25<sup>th</sup>, and if you'd like more information about this event, ask Brian.



### Sunday Coffee Hour

As always we want to thank all of our volunteers for assisting us at coffee time, and providing all of your home cooked goodies. If it wasn't for you, we couldn't do it. It provides great friendships and conversation. We also, welcome any newcomers.

So thanks again, and if you get a call from either Helen or Pat, please see what you can do to assist on a Sunday.

Helen & Pat

## 60th Anniversary Dinner & Silent Auction

Bloordale's 60th Anniversary was very happily celebrated with a catered dinner for 76 Bloordale members and friends at Bloordale on Sunday March 4th. Kashi had done his magic with low-hanging lights and the caterers had set lovely tables for six with white cloths and deep blue linen napkins.

We were especially pleased to have with us six Charter Members, Ruth and Bill Alexander, Sonny Crux, Norm Gray, Shirley and Jack Thom and Joan Beaton Tyndall. The other four Charter Members had been contacted, but were away, ill or otherwise unable to attend. They and others sent best wishes. An attendee from our past was Bob Howald, who had been a popular leader of the Youth Group. Doug Jamieson, a much-loved former organist and choir director, was unable to attend the dinner, but came to the church service in the morning and had good visits with former choir members at coffee hour.

The 90+ Silent Auction items had been set up the day before enabling browsing during coffee hour Sunday morning. At the dinner there was time to check out the auction items between 4:30 and 5:30, and between courses during dinner.

Old photo directories were set out on a card table for people to see what we all used to look like!

At 5:30 dinner was served. There were baskets of rolls for each table. Then the servers brought in very fresh green salads with cucumber etc. The main course choices were Chicken Sofia or Vegetarian Cannelloni. The food was hot and delicious. Many commented particularly on the excellent scalloped potatoes - not often served at a banquet. Then there was a dessert station of assorted squares, brownies and cookies, plus Roxanne's lovely tray of fresh fruit.



After the meal, bidding on the auction items was cut off, Roxanne and Evelyn did all the tallying up and the rest of us had some delightful musical entertainment. Norm Gray, encouraged by his daughter, Kate-Lynn, played the first verse of about six hymns on his harmonica. This was very well received. Then the team of Larry Barnes, on piano - Larry had played during dinner - and Roy Harvey led a sing-a-long. They had handed out song sheets and everyone got right into it. It was lively and fun.

Next was the presentation of the 7th edition of the Bloordale Anniversary Awards. Diane Hercus received from Joan Hollowell, the Bloordale Community Service Award for her 35+ years with Meals on Wheels, Nancy Harris presented Pat Conway-Willis with the Bloordale Vision and Mission Award for her work as Co-Chair of both the Ministry and Personnel Committee and the Congregational Life Committee, then Dana Bach presented Pat Nelson with the Bloordale Outstanding



Service Award for her contributions to Bloordale through the years.

The cashing out went very smoothly and happily, when we totalled up the proceeds, we had made over \$2300 for Bloordale. Thanks are due to all who contributed in any way to the successful evening - contacting former members, donating auction items, bringing friends and bidding on the array of items.

All in all it was a great evening and everyone agreed there was much positive energy.

Patricia Nelson

### 2017 Annual Reports Available

Pick yours up, outside the church office, if you have not already done so.

## Sheridan Nurseries Gift Certificate & Magazine



The Social Committee has a certificate for an in-store consultation at Sheridan Nurseries. Valued at \$99, this consultation is up to 45 minutes and comes with a handy Garden Guide. Meet with a professional landscape designer for an in-store sketch service appointment. You will have the opportunity to bring in property measurements, photos, soil and light conditions and the designer will lead the way for planning solutions for your specific area. Upon completion of the consultation, you will receive a Sheridan Lifestyles Plus Discount Card which you will receive 10% off regular retail prices for the period of one year. This offer also comes with a Garden Guide.

This item was part of our 60th anniversary Auction but never received any offers. We would like to put the offer out there again to someone who is looking for an inspiring view on how to create a beautiful outdoor space. The bidding on this started @ \$40 and we are hoping to have an interested candidate as the proceeds will go back into funding Bloordale activities.

Happy Gardening!

Roxanne Dryding  
for the Social Committee

### From the Pastoral Care Committee

The Pastoral Care Committee is dedicated to the welfare of our congregation. We strive to connect with those who are shut in and those who are temporarily ill.

It would be very helpful if you would inform Sylvia Williams when you have made contact with one of our members needing a visit. She will chart it so no one is left out.

We would ask that you let Joan Hollowell know when you know of someone that is temporarily ill.

If we all work together we can take care of each other!

**Happy 60th Anniversary  
Bloordale!  
1958-2018**

## Upcoming Events Summary

**Sunday, March 18,** Lunch Bunch Lunch at Bounty Restaurant, on Dundas St. W.

**Tuesday, March 20,** UCW meets at 1:30, at Grace's house. All our welcome.

**Friday, March 23,** Craft Night #7

**Sunday, March 25,** Muslim-Christian Supper & Dialogue in Mississauga

**Friday, April 6,** Craft Night #8

**Saturday, April 7,** Rummage Sale

**Friday, April 13,** Craft Night #9

**Friday, April 20,** Craft Night #10

**Sunday, April 22,** Service at Wesburn Manor, Bloordale hosts the Wesburn service at 2:30 pm. The Bloordale Choir will sing.

**Saturday, May 5,** Spring Property Cleanup

**Sunday, May 6,** "Lunch Bunch Lunch" TBA

**Friday, May 11,** Outing to "Come From Away" at the Royal Alexandra Theatre

**Sunday, May 13,** Christian Family Sunday/ Mother's Day

**Thursday, May 17,** Delivery (pickup) of UCW geraniums

**Sunday, May 20,** Service at Wesburn Manor, Bloordale hosts the Wesburn service at 2:30 pm. The Bloordale Choir will sing.

## Come From Away Tickets Ready for Pick Up

Back in August, Bloordale ordered 30 group tickets to the hit musical 'Come From Away', for Friday May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018

If you have not yet picked up (and paid for) your tickets, please do so, from Julia 416-622-6309.

If you have ordered tickets and/or have paid for them but are now unable to go: not to worry. We have a waiting list, wanting your tickets. Call Julia.

Carpooling available

## Resurrection's Approach

A Poem by Ken Sehested, 2018  
- from PrayerandPolitiks.org

In praise of the Blessed One who refused to be named and tamed, who *emboldens* those previously bearing no name – no privilege, no recognition, the illegitimi of the world – to *rise up* with astonishing courage and against all odds to challenge the *webs of corruption*, injustice, and mortal threat fashioned by politicians, peddlers, prosecutors, and priests who *honor no truth* save that of their own seething imagination, who broach the ancient boundaries of *shared beneficence*, who sell Heaven's manna to the highest bidder, whose *security demands* foreclose on all who lack tribute, and whose blessing is confined to those *staid by the lies* inflicting every plundered field, deaf to the cries of those prostrate in mourning and affliction. *Easter in us*, Tree of all life and Trestle of every hope's flight from ruin's despair. Vouchsafe the promise, to creation's castaways, of the *resurrecting morning* to come, whose approach opens wide the gates of hell, *swallowing every crucifying power*.

Submitted by Brian

IN MEMORIUM

**Ilene Helen Morenz**

**June 11, 1935 – February 17, 2018**

## Scout Sunday

On Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, members of the 401<sup>st</sup> Toronto Scouts attended the service at Bloordale for Scout Sunday, an annual service held on the Sunday following Lord Baden Powell's birthday on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Children, youth, and adult Scouters from Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, and Rovers were in attendance. In the year that Bloordale United Church was formed, the congregation decided to sponsor a local Scouting group, so at this service we also recognized 60 years of Scouting at Bloordale.



At our service, the congregation joined in around the campfire for a taste of the camp experience through song and photos! The slide show this year included highlights from this year's Scouting events, but also included a few historical photos from the early Scouting days at Bloordale. Although the Scouting program has evolved over the years to remain relevant for youth today, many of the core elements and values remain true to the original vision of Scouting. The children and youth still enjoy an active outdoor program, and learn the value of service, community, and leadership – just as they have done from the beginning of Scouting.

After the service, the congregation and 401<sup>st</sup> members gathered together downstairs and shared cake donated by the 401<sup>st</sup> as an expression of their appreciation to Bloordale.

On behalf of the 401<sup>st</sup> Toronto Scouts, we are very grateful for the congregation's ongoing support of our program.



Cubs in 1963!

Submitted by Diane Mulholland,  
401st Scouts Group Commissioner

## Report from the Revitalization Task Group

Below is a list of what the Task Group has been looking at/doing over the last two months.

- 1) Preparations are underway for Doors Open Toronto, for May 2018. Mervin William Fick's Esprit Choir will perform on Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> and Bloordale's Choir will perform on Sunday May 27<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more news.
- 2) Craft Night is going strong, for at least 10 Fridays having started February 9<sup>th</sup> and continuing on. Initially coordinated by our own Lynn Lawrence, the event is now being run by Lisa Cecchetto, a mother of 2 young children with ties to the neighborhood. 49 different children have come at least once, with about 30 joining us 2/3 of the time. Funded by a grant from the United Church's Embracing the Spirit Programme. Both Lisa C, and the kids are having a blast!
- 3) We will continue considering occasional services with Fellowship Christian Reformed Church, as necessary.
- 4) Bloordale has agreed that Terry Tan Day Care can apply for new funding to revamp rooms 21/22 for younger children.
- 5) A Bloordale Anniversary Committee has been formed to expedite activities for this, our 60<sup>th</sup> Year. A fund raising campaign has been started: \$60,000 for 60 years; and a number of people contributed to our campaign which started on Anniversary Sunday(March 4<sup>th</sup>).

This campaign is to carry on all year, to December 31, 2018. Expect to be part of another fun fundraiser, in the fall of 2018.

Two signs have been placed to the east and to the west of the front doors of Bloordale United Church:

*"Bloordale United Church  
60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1958 – 2018"*

- 6) A representative from the United Church's EDGE network attended our AGM on March 11, (see notes by Paul Rose, which follow)

Julia Stavreff  
Chair of the Revitalization Task Group  
416-622-6309 / 416-621-8050  
stavreffj@stavreff.com

## Notes from the Property Options Subgroup

Bloordale U.C. and EDGE (A United Church Corporation) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that allows us to engage in the work necessary to create 'development options' that will assist us in pursuing our Mission & Vision by better utilizing the Bloordale U.C. property. It must be stated that no physical work will be done to our structure until we, the congregation approves and a new agreement with EDGE is signed. There is to be no costs assigned to Bloordale U.C. during this phase.

As Kristopher Tavella, Property Consultant from EDGE discussed with us on Sunday, March 11, 2018 during his presentation at our AGM, it will be a collaborative process over the next few months. The process will entail:

- Completing a status (Vitality) report about Bloordale. This is in process.
- Mission development: How do we see our mission being expressed in relation to the use of our property.
- Property options exploration: examining various uses with the City of Toronto, private developers, etc.
- Update of property options from EDGE.
- Bloordale U.C. assessment of the options

We anticipate a great deal of work to make this a reality but it is an exciting time with minimal risk.

Paul Rose

## The Art Gallery has Returned



The Room 15 Art Gallery will be featuring art pieces created by students in Grade 6, 7 and 8. These have been loaned to us by Bev and Alun Morgan's son who is a full time elementary school art teacher. They will remain on display for the duration of our Friday craft nights and hopefully will inspire some of our attendees to further explore different art forms.

**\$60,000 for 60 Years!**

## Holy Week and Easter 2018

### **Palm Sunday, March 25, 10:30 am**

Palm/Passion Worship at Bloordale United Church. Youth, children, and adults participate in our Palm Parade. We share together in Communion

### **Maundy Thursday, March 29, 7:00 pm**

Hosted at Bloordale United Church. We worship with our Tri-church Partners

### **Good Friday, March 30, 10:30 am**

Hosted at St. James United Church. We worship with our Tri-church Partners

### **Easter Sunrise Service, April 1, 6:59 am**

At the top of Centennial Hill. Organized by the west of 427 Ministerial

### **Easter Celebration, April 1, 10:30 am**

Worship at Bloordale United Church. Inter-generational service with Children and Youth



## James Donaghy

### **Honorary Life Member of Bloordale United Church Council**

Bloordale's Nominating Committee is pleased announce that Jim Donaghy has been named an Honorary Life Member of Bloordale's Church Council. Jim has provided strong leadership to Bloordale in many ways:

*Co-Chair of the Dare to Dream Fundraising Campaign*

*Chair, Bloordale Church Council*

*Chair, Communications Committee*

*Member of the Planned Gift Fund Committee*

*An Early Proponent of the Idea of Amalgamation*

*Chair of Bloordale's Phoenix Committee*

*Many other contributions, including the acquisition of our outdoor sign*

Patricia Nelson,  
March 11, 2018

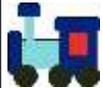
## Mammoth Rummage Sale

### **Come and Explore...**



**Granny's Attic Collectibles**

**Boutique of Accessories  
& Jewellery**



**White Elephant  
Sporting Goods**



**Books, Games, Toys**



**Small Furniture & Appliances**



**NO CLOTHING**

Saturday, April 7th  
9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

*Sponsored by the United Church Women (UCW)  
of Bloordale United Church*

*Note: Donations of any of the above items may be brought to the church and left neatly by the stage after April 1st and by April 6th in the morning*

## Bloorbeat available via E-mail

If you wish, you can receive Bloorbeat electronically as an e-mail attachment.

Just inform Halyna in the church office  
416-621-1710

## Esprit's Upcoming "Italian Sojourn"



On July 12<sup>th</sup> 2018, members of the Esprit Chamber Choir, together with our artistic director, Mervin William Fick and a few travelling companions will travel 7,081 km across the Atlantic to Leonardo da Vinci International Airport in Rome, to embark on our "Italian Sojourn." This sojourn is a tour of some 1200 km from Rome to Venice with side excursions, where Esprit will be singing Masses and performing concerts and recitals in venerated sacred spaces including Basilica San Pietro in the Vatican, Basilica Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome, Sant'Agnese in Agone on the Piazza Navona, the church of San Filippo Neri in Florence, Basilica Santa Maria Assunta in Montecatini Terme, Sant'Agostino Convent in San Gimignano, church of Santa Maria dei Miracoli and the Basilica San Marco, both in Venice. As well, visits to Assisi, Lucca, and Ravenna are planned, and knowing some of the group, I expect that spontaneous singing (with permission by those in charge of the spaces we are visiting there) will ensue to "test the acoustics," as it were.

From previous tours, Esprit singers know to expect soaring acoustics in spaces built to amplify sound. Once again we are thrilled to be performing a capella the music of Palestrina in buildings that were built in (or before) his time – the feeling of connecting our experience to the many generations that preceded us in giving voice to the magnificent harmonies and counterpoint of these early masters, as well as presenting music by Canadian composers such as Healey Willan, Eleanor Daley, W.H. Anderson, Keith Bissell and our own Mervin W. Fick, among others.

Upon our arrival in Rome on July 13<sup>th</sup>, and hopefully checking into our hotel, we will be making our way to the Vatican where we have the great honour of participating – singing – in a mass in St. Peter's Basilica at 5 pm. The beauty and grandeur of the Basilica and the priceless art found inside are legendary.

During our stay in Rome we will tour the city and some of its highlights, and also participate in Mass at Santa Maria Maggiore Basilica, a monumental 5th-century church which stands on the summit of the Esquiline Hill, on the spot where snow is said to have miraculously fallen in the summer of AD 358. The vast interior retains its original structure, despite the basilica's many overhauls. Said to be particularly spectacular are the 5th-century mosaics in the triumphal arch and nave, depicting Old Testament scenes.

Verena von Stritzky

### King Charles III

On Feb 21/18, a spring-like evening, members and friends of BUC attended the CAA Theatre, (Yonge south of Bloor), for this intriguing play written in 2014 by Mike Bartlett in blank verse. It explores power and betrayal. It is clever.

Subsequent to his mother's death, Charles III learns that parliament has passed a bill to limit the power of the press which requires his signature to legalize it.

Charles refuses to sign this controversial bill. Ultimately, political chaos and constitutional crises occur and Charles is forced to abdicate.

In the interim Diana appears as a specter and advises both Charles III and William that he will be the greatest king of all. Kate's soliloquy in act I indicates her plan for power.

Meghan has been long gone and Charles III accepts Harry's new love interest Jesse, and approves of Jesse and Harry living their lives as commoners. Later, when William is crowned, Harry denies Jesse. William and Kate declared they would mediate between parliament and Charles, but plotted his betrayal.

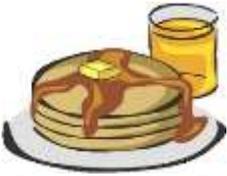
What a lovely bunch!

Many thanks to John and Helen for carpooling, and to Julia for organizing the outing.

Nancy Harris

## Pancake Supper

On Shrove Tuesday, February 13, 2018, Bloordale again hosted a Pancake Supper for our members and the community. In spite of a lot of illness around and a free meal offered by one of the other local churches, approximately 60 came to Bloordale. Of these there were at least 15 "Friends of Bloordale" whom we always enjoy having with us.



Nancy had looked after ticket sales and Pat Conway-Willis spent much time assembling all the ingredients needed - pancake mix, apples, apple sauce, syrup, sausages - both regular and veggie - and other miscellaneous needs.

The tables were already in place in the gym, so in the afternoon a crew of Nelsona, Linda Smith, Neil Parker and both Pats covered the tables, set out chairs and arranged the dishes, serviettes and cutlery.

Several volunteers had pre-cooked sausages and from late afternoon the grills in the kitchen were very ably staffed by Brian, Gord Moore and Melody Klassen, with support from Jo-Em and Joan who mixed batter and Neil, Susan Parks and Pat N. who helped serve. Then the clean-up crew of Roxanne, Shirley Jankus and Helen tidied everything up.

Because of the reduced number of diners this year and the way they straggled in, there were some difficulties keeping the food hot, but there are now plans in place to better deal with that issue next year.

Judging by the time people lingered to visit and the buzz in the room, they enjoyed the annual event.

Thanks to all who helped in any way.

Patricia Conway-Willis & Patricia Nelson

### Consider a Planned Gift to Bloordale United Church

Giving a gift to the Planned Gift Fund through your will is one way to continue faithful stewardship beyond your lifetime. When your estate plan is prepared please consider a gift to your church through the Bloordale Planned Gift Fund. Contact Jack Lovatt for further information.



### CRAFT NIGHT 2018

Bloordale's popular Craft Night for Kids is continuing until April 20th, 2018, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

For Kids 4 to 10 years old

If you would like to volunteer for any of the craft nights, please talk to Julia at 416-622-6309, or Diane at 905-847-0845. Come up with your own craft ideas, or we will provide one for you.

## Bloordale Representative for Terry Tan

It's hard to believe it's been five years for me now as a director at Terry Tan from the Bloordale Congregation. The time has come for me to move on.

The Terry Tan Child Centre is in need of a Bloordale Congregation Representative for the Board of Directors. The organization has been a long-time partner at Bloordale for several decades. As a not-for-profit organization, the board is comprised of seven volunteer directors. A paid Executive Director oversees the day-to-day operations of the centre and provides updates to the members of the board. Board meetings are held during the evening on the second Wednesday of the month (September through June), and other committees meet as needed.

The bylaws of Terry Tan requires that one of the volunteer directors on the board is a representative of the Bloordale congregation. This member liaises between Bloordale and Terry Tan on related matters.

No formal training or experience is necessary for this role. The ideal candidate would have knowledge of childcare, education, or business. The candidate will be formally elected at Terry Tan's AGM in June for a two-year term. Contact Bloordale Council Chair, Pat Conway-Willis, if you are interested in this role.

Matthew Barrett

## A Note from Ministry & Personnel

At our AGM on March 11, during budget discussions, the question of reducing staff to save money was raised. As you are all aware, Bloordale is in a deficit position, but is also in the process of exploring our future using the expertise into which EDGE, an arm of the United Church, can tap.

We always ask ourselves if we should be cutting back on staff as our membership declines. It is a very reasonable question. The assumption is that the workload declines accordingly; alas, the process is rarely linear. Your Council has addressed this issue and agreed to carry on as we are for 2018. Council will be in a better position at the end of this year to reassess our needs.

Our many volunteers share their time in a variety of ways, many of which go unrecognized. Staff do so as well and the line between paid and unpaid work is sometimes blurry, particularly in a caring environment. Our staff continue to support us and we will continue to support them.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact either Pat or Dana.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dana Bach, Pat Conway-Willis  
Co-Chairs

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## St. James Food Basket Needs Our Help

When you go shopping, please pick up one extra item for our food box, if you are able. Each week, we suggest a food item, to help feed the hungry.

Past weeks' suggested items have been: peanut butter, cereal, canned tuna or salmon, toothpaste, pasta, beans or lentils, canned fruit, cookies and crackers.

Please put items in Bloordale's food box, located in the sanctuary, and we shall take it to the St. James Food Basket.

## The Lunch Bunch Beat

The lunch bunch has been around for a number of years, and has no intention of stopping. The brainchild of Gord Moore, the lunch bunch arranges for group lunches after the church service and coffee time. Generally we try to have outings every 6 to 8 weeks; restaurants are nearby, and are able to accommodate groups of 10 to 20 people at peak Sunday brunch time. Not everyone's favourite spot can accommodate us, but do give us suggestions, and we will try to accommodate.

When we go, we sit together at tables of 4 or 6, and order from the menu (breakfast, lunch or even dinner) and pay individually. Everyone is welcome, and we will save you a spot if you are on "coffee" duty and will be a bit late.

Our first lunch bunch of 2018 was on February 4th, at the Muddy Duck restaurant on Dundas Street just west of Highway 427. The Muddy Duck hosts a fabulous buffet breakfast but none of us needed that much food. We were surprised to learn that regular breakfasts were not available weekends so everyone had sandwiches or burgers. These are quite filling too, especially with fries, but one feels somehow "less full". Ten of us enjoyed a good time over lunch.

We went next door to The Bounty Restaurant on March 16, our next lunch bunch. Again ten of us went although not the same ten. Half of us had breakfasts, the other half had non breakfast foods. But we all got along well.

Our next lunch bunch lunch is slated for May 6th, at a place to be determined. Give us your recommendations!

Please tell us if you are coming so that our reserve seating is not way off. Last minute eaters are also welcome; just tell us that you are coming, during coffee time. To sign up, or for information, talk to Gord Moore (647-660-1359) or to me, Julia (416-622-6309). Carpooling is provided, and a good time is had by all.

Julia Stavreff



## Information from Pastoral Care

I recently had the pleasure of visiting a friend. This individual has a number of physical imitations and decided to sell her home and downsize to a suite in a seniors' residence. Faced with the daunting tasks of sorting, discarding, packing and moving, the option of turning to an agency was welcomed.

The agency chosen was "Downsizing Divas." This individual was able to sit back and direct the operations as the agency did all that was required for downsizing and moving including arranging the movers and totally setting up the new residence.

What a way to go if or when such a move becomes necessary!

Sylvia Williams

## U.C.W. News

Much help is needed for the Saturday, April 7 Rummage Sale. The signup sheet outside Rm. 15 is nearly blank!

When U.C.W. is called on to arrange funeral receptions, we have far too few overworked members. A list of names we could call on for help with sandwiches and goodies would help us continue this service and fund raiser. If you would be willing to be called, please sign up on the sheet outside Room 15.

We will again be selling geraniums in May. If you have ordered previously you will be called; for new orders call Grace 416-621-8862

UCW's next meeting will be at Grace's house on Tuesday March 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. All ladies of the congregation and the community are welcome.

Joan Hollowell.

## Bloorbeat on the Internet

This issue as well as past issues of Bloorbeat can be accessed on the Bloordale United Church website at:

<http://bloordale.ca/bloorbeat/>

## Upcoming Concerts

**Artistic Director: Mervin William Fick**

Toronto Beach Chorale presents **Mozart Mass in C Minor**

Jennifer Krabbe Soprano, Laura McAlpine Mezzo-Soprano, Ryan Harper Tenor

Good Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Kingston Road United Church

975 Kingston Road

Toronto, Ontario

Tickets - \$25/\$12.50

PCS Singers/Brampton presents **Beyond the Beatles the Revolution**

Following the tremendous popular success of *The Beatles, Forever Young*, the PCS Singers are returning to the LBP Theatre for their Spring Concert.

Saturday, April 14 at 7 pm

Lester B. Pearson Theatre

150 Central Park Drive

Brampton, Ontario

Tickets - \$25/\$10 Youth 16 and under

MCS Chorus presents ... **Then the Music**

Rose Trilogy by Eleanor Daley

Songs of Innocence by Lawrence Enns

The Serenade to Music by Vaughan Williams

Saturday, April 21 at 7:30pm

Unitarian/Congregation of Mississauga

84 South Service Road

Mississauga, Ontario

Tickets - \$20/\$10 Youth under 18

Toronto Beach Chorale presents

**L. van Beethoven Fantasia for Piano, Choir and Orchestra Mass in C major**

Jocelyn Fralick Soprano, Lillian Brooks Mezzo Soprano, Sean Clark Tenor,

Max Van Wyck Bass

Sunday, April 29 at 7:30 pm

Kingston Road United Church

975 Kingston Road

Toronto, Ontario

Tickets \$25/\$12.50 Youth 7 to 18

## **BULLETIN AND MUSIC DEDICATIONS**

Weekly Sunday bulletins can be dedicated, with a note about why, by any member for \$15. This both helps defray our paper and printing costs and provides opportunity for special remembrances to be observed.

Music can also be dedicated in someone's memory, or in honour of someone's faithful living. A new anthem can be purchased for \$100, so please speak to Sharron or Mervin about your wish to support the music program in this way.

## **Spring Property Clean-up Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

The spring property clean-up will take place on Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup>. Lots to be done inside and outside, and the Property Committee cannot get it all done without help!

Please join us.

*The BUC Property Committee*

## **Bloorbeat Submission Guidelines**

When you email items to Julia and myself for Bloorbeat, please include words about the specific content in your e-mail header and in any file names, e.g. not just "Bloorbeat" but "Bloorbeat Upcoming Events". This makes it much easier to locate the items in my rather busy e-mail inbox when putting the Bloorbeat together.

In general, for text-based submissions, please avoid use of fancy fonts, headers, spacings or tab settings because these create more work for me and make it more difficult to maintain a consistent style in the newsletter.

Straight text, in 10 point font, with bold (but not underlined) headings in 14 point font, is best.

For photographs of church related items we can handle the standard graphics formats such as .tif, .gif, .jpg, .png or .pdf. We print in black and white but post on the church website in colour

For advertisements, PDF or uncompressed TIFF are the preferred formats. Please check picture clarity and text clarity of your ad printed in chosen size in black and white on a laser printer and viewed in colour at chosen size on a computer monitor.

## **Out of the Cold**

I would like to thank everyone who participated in our Out of the Cold project this year. Thank you to our Sunday School Children and our Cubs and Beavers for helping to make cookies. Thank you to all those who helped out at All Saints with the kitchen duty. Thank you to our Sunday School children (and parents for helping make the lunches and thank you to all who so generously donated financially! Every one of you helped us to help those in need.

I would also like to thank Vinci Catering for supplying us with delicious lasagna and mixed vegetables. We are so grateful for their help. It allowed us to supply a wonderful meal on a day when our volunteers were really spread thin.

We served approximately 80 meals but were also able to give a second helping to those who were extremely hungry. Additional food was delivered to a local women's shelter so nothing went to waste.

I am grateful for everyone's help and support.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Mazzariol

## **Invitation for Submissions to Bloorbeat**

Spiritual perspectives, committee news, community happenings, and ideas for changes and improvements to make Bloordale an even nicer place than it already is are all welcome.

Please submit or discuss your ideas with our Communications Committee chair

Julia Stavreff, 416-622-6309,  
stavreffj@stavreff.com

## **Bloorbeat Publication Schedule**

Following is the publication date and the deadline for submissions for the upcoming issue.

<b>Publication Date</b>	<b>Submission Deadline</b>
<b>2018</b>	
May 13	May 6

See next issue for 2018 Fall/Winter schedule



# Expect the Unexpected

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### BLOORBEAT ADVERTISING

Would you like to advertise your business in Bloorbeat? Prices per issue of Bloorbeat are:

Business card size	\$ 20
¼ page size	\$ 40
½ page size	\$ 70

Our printed pages size is 8 1/2" x 11"

To advertise, please call John Pauksens,  
 416-622-6309

or email pauksenj@gmail.com

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(416) 621-1710

Email: bloordale@bellnet.ca

Website: www.bloordale.ca

Committee Chair  
 Editor

Julia Stavreff  
 John Pauksens

Distribution Coordinators

Joan Hollowell  
 Shirley Scott