



We are a welcoming, caring community, called by Christ, and enabled by the Spirit, to share God's love by living our faith

A Congregational Call Meeting is called for

October 21, 2018

in order to consider an open call to Deacon Scott Knarr as Deacon of Music of Mount Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Waterloo upon the expiration of his current term call.

immediately following the Sunday Service at approximately 11:15 a.m.

Building bridges through Music

By Deacon Scott Knarr

I am privileged and honoured to say that my first call as Mount Zion's Diaconal Minister of Music will be completed in just a few months. I suspect that members of the congregation may have seen few changes as I have continued to fulfill the role of music director for Mount Zion. On occasion, I have preached and shared about our growing ministry on Six Nations of the Grand River Territory. However, the real impact of my diaconal involvement becomes apparent behind the scenes with the partners in ministry who give direction and shape to our faith community.

I am energized and motivated by the spiritual discipline of preparing music for worship each week. Working in partnership with Pastor Philip



Deacon Scott was interviewed by Ryerson film student Victoria Anderson-Gardner during Music for the Spirit last July. We hope to see the results of her work this fall.

and Church Council Executive, I have gained insight into Mount Zion's needs, desires and dreams through Church Council meetings, the Charting Our Course visioning

process, and the incredible recent success of the Mount Zion Community Cafe. I am proud of how we are living out our mission and that we continue to consider new ways to be in mission with our community. How does my call and Mount Zion's music ministry evolve with that mission?

Diaconal ministers normally focus their ministry at the edge-places of church and society. They build community and equip congregation members to be messengers of God's love and justice-making in the world. Because my area of expertise is music, it is through music that I have opportunity to build bridges into various communities: at Six Nations, at Wilfrid Laurier University, and with other Two Rivers Ministry Area



Deacon Scott and choral scholar Zack Evans Whitely last Sunday at a recording session when the Mount Zion choir recorded 10 favourite hymns which will be put onto listening devices and distributed to shut ins.

congregations as well as ecumenical partners. Through our shared music ministry we strengthen and extend our relationships, gathering people into new communities and partnerships.

Within our Mount Zion community I have bridged various committees to animate the gift of music to seniors, youth, and everyone in between. The challenges of being a senior-friendly church through the initiatives of Health Council; of communicating our responsibilities to our Indigenous neighbours through the Service Committee; of supporting the learning and participation of children and youth through handbell ringing; of embodying the welcome and hospitality of Christ alongside Pastor Philip so that each person feels that they belong and have voice in our community brings me joy and peace.

At times this task requires bringing forward voices or ideas that may have previously been discounted; making visible people or realities which are normally invisible to most; moving between boundaries of church and world in a way that makes these assumed categories more permeable and flexible. With a team-

based approach to community development, musical leadership, worship planning and outreach to our neighbour we become stronger, more robust and diverse.

Beyond our Mount Zion community, I have worked particularly to build strong relationships with our First Nations neighbours. I have been supported by the Eastern Synod Mission Committee in this work which extends from Mount Zion to Two Rivers Ministry Area and even to other ministry areas who are keen to find ways to be in relationship with Indigenous peoples.

My vision for ministry includes animating musical activities at multiple congregations – with Mount Zion as a strong central node – allowing each to express themselves in new ways with new partners. A diverse and animated program which meets local needs and challenges us to be church out in the world – not only for ourselves on Sunday morning, but also throughout the week as we meet our neighbour where and when they are most comfortable. This approach might be called “nimble”, showing a flexibility, openness and reach that stretches us to grow in unexpected ways.

A deacon is something of a catalyst, bringing together various communities and individuals so that they might rub shoulders and generate new developments. It is not that the deacon accomplishes the work on his or her own, but rather that connections are made, bridges constructed and situations are introduced where the Spirit moves and animates our hearts and minds.

This is an exciting time to be church! Mount Zion is evolving and shaping the kind of community we wish to share with the world around us. I am delighted to discover with you how our gifts for ministry might enliven our worship and community relationships. Given that a half-time call to ministry has its limits, it will be critical to find partners out in the community to help us to carry out this mission. We cannot do it alone. And more importantly, God calls us to embrace our neighbour and discover the gifts which they may offer to our community. We need only open our hearts, our ears, our eyes to see how God is already at work in the world around us.

Pastoral Acts

Nick Ramirez and Stephanie Meng were united in marriage at the Button Factory on Saturday, September 15. Nick is the son of Helen May Ramirez and grandson of Dennis and Hope Eaton.



Mount Zion Café

Come and bring a friend to the Mount Zion Cafe

The Mount Zion cafe offers seniors the opportunity to socialize over a cup of tea or coffee. At about 11:30 a.m. a scrumptious lunch of home-made soups and breads is available. From time to time you might find live music to enjoy while lunching with friends both old and new.

Oct 10 & 24 Nov 14 & 28 Dec 12
10 am - 1 pm

Family Friday Night Suppers



All Kinds of food for all kinds of families

Oct 19, Nov 23 & Dec 14.

LITURGY

Bytes

Why we do the things we do

Baptism, as one of the two sacraments and along with the word, is a crucial element in the life and practices/rituals of the Lutheran and other Christian communities. The roots of this practice could be traced to the Jewish practice of cleansing and during the time of Jesus we know that it was not just John the Baptist, but others also practiced this ritual. Though it was done outdoors initially, as Christianity was driven underground due to persecution, the practice moved indoors. People were baptized in cisterns or pools of water where they could be submerged. Sometimes vessels were used which are the precursor to the fonts we have now. We find them in various styles and sizes even today placed at different locations in the nave, depending on the tradition.

At Mount Zion we have the font up in front adding symmetry to the altar and lectern, symbolizing word and sacrament as being central to Lutheran faith. We have, on some occasions, moved the font to the narthex or the end of the aisle to intentionally remind us of the who we are in baptism, claimed by God in Christ. With our flexible space, we have the capability to move the font often. Moving it to floor level during a baptism visually conveys that baptism is incorporation into the community of faithful who continues to journey with the one baptized in her/his life of faith and is central to our life as a community.

The Mountaineer is a publication of Mount Zion Lutheran Church, 29 Westmount Road, Waterloo. Editorial Committee: Dennis Eaton, Pauline Finch, Tim Ehrlich, Dave Heldman, Pastor Phillip Mathai, Karen Gastmeier. The Mountaineer is published nine times per year, **The Mountaineer is not published in January, July or Aug.**

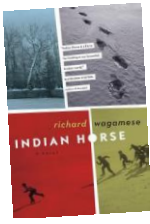
Email articles and announcements to

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Back issues of The Mountaineer can be found at

www.mzlc.ca

The Mountaineer is available either by print or by email. Please email the office if you wish to change your delivery method. email to: mtzion@mzlc.ca



Book Study

Indian Horse,

by Richard Wagamese

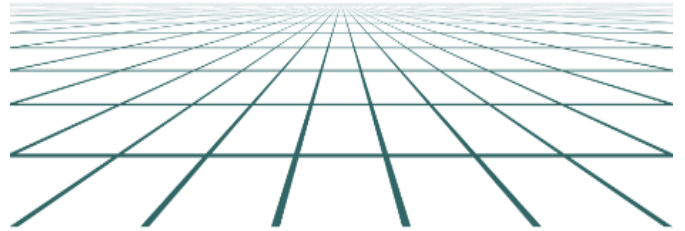
Wednesday October 17th

at 2 PM in the Glebe Room

This fall we are reading Indian Horse by Richard Wagamese. Indian Horse was a 2013 Canada Reads Selection, and a First Nations, Metis and Inuit Literature winner. Richard Wagamese traces the decline of a culture and a cultural way with compassion and insight. He describes the horrors of residential school and how the game of hockey helped a young boy survive. He has written about love, family and the power of spirit.

We think this book study will be powerful and informative. All are welcome. There will be light refreshments.

PERSPECTIVES



The most pressing questions of the day demand Christians respond through the prism of faith

Join Pastor Philip for lunch and discussion from a faith perspective

**Following the service:
October 28 & November 25**



*A fundraiser in support of
Mount Zion's Choral Scholar
Program*

November 17, 2018

6:30 pm



- ★ *singers*
- ★ *chefs*
- ★ *instrumentalists*
- ★ *artistry of all kinds.*

See article on page 9 for more details about how you can be a part of this exciting evening

Open Council Night 2018

Mount Zion's big, wide and evolving umbrella

By Pauline Finch, Church Council Member



What's under our umbrella? The obvious answer on a rainy evening . . . us.

But when the same question was asked about a large umbrella held aloft indoors at our annual Open Council meeting on Sept. 25, the answer wasn't as simple. In fact, numerous options "rained" down on about three-dozen Mount Zion members gathered in the Norman Lange Auditorium.

After nearly six months of investigating, interviewing, discussing and compiling, our *Evolution Committee* – Dennis Eaton (chair), Stephanie Von Schilling, Bill Gastmeier, Mary Thompson and Marnie Spicer Boyd – presented highlights from "The Evolving Challenge," their just-published report about where our present and future resources might fit in the wider community.

Setting the Stage

Dennis reflected on recent Eastern Synod developments, as many congregations large and small decide whether to go forward, remain static, or close their doors in an era of changing needs and dwindling membership. Summing up Bishop Michael Pryse's words on the subject, we need to "get off our asses and do more than before."

So it was clear from the start that this wasn't just another job for Council's to-do list. It needed the

focused attention of a special task force assigned to investigate our mission in three broad categories – Partnerships, Property, and Change.

Within those categories, the group found that we have built strength and potential in five areas: *Community and Congregation; Teaching and Learning; Families and Youth; Music; and Leadership, Administration, Funding & Project Management.*

Meeting with representatives of eight other area churches (Lutheran, Anglican, Presbyterian and United) and one-to-one with a cross-section of congregation members, the Evolution Committee was "wowed" by the number of outreach activities some maintained. Others shared good ideas from past projects, and others seemed motivated to follow Mount Zion's lead.

Going beyond the traditional church-family "bubble," Committee members fanned out to a variety of secular institutions, organizations, and local government services, asking: What does the wider community expect of churches in the 21st century? To say they got an earful would be an understatement. After receiving a huge volume of input, the Committee asked itself: How do we make all this meaningful?

And that's where the umbrella idea (you we're waiting for it, right?) comes in. As Dennis and several others observed, when opened it shelters a wide area; but all the ribs meet together at the centre. In the same way, diverse mission and outreach projects may seem unrelated, yet all share a common purpose.

Dennis and his colleagues were especially impressed and inspired by Kitchener Working Centre founders, Joe and Stephanie Mancini. When the couple started out in 1982 as newly-minted university grads, they built their dream on Christian "praxis" – taking what they'd learned and applying it directly in the community. With "a whole room full of great resources," Dennis challenged Mount Zion to consider applying the "praxis" model to its own future.



Over thirty people came out on a rainy Tuesday night to attend Open Council and hear the report of The Evolution Committee.

Parts of the Whole

Community and Congregation - Stephanie

We have a long record of community engagement, going back to when Pastor Delton Glebe canvassed the neighbourhood in the late 1950s looking for people to form a new mission church.

We've shown how well and for how long we can do community projects: Open Sesame Headstart Pre-School has helped children for more than 45 years; the Café continues to grow in response to seniors' social isolation; many groups have benefitted from the Adopt-a-Cause program.

There is a wider community beyond our walls that has needs; "Jesus didn't stay in the synagogue." It's important to share our collective values, knowledge and strength. "Size *isn't* everything!" We can be active and effective despite declining numbers.

Teaching and Learning - Dennis

This is more about creating adult learning opportunities and we haven't always done a good job. When did we last have a Bible study? Pr. Philip's upcoming Sunday lunch-discussion series, Perspectives is a good start.

The Health Council has taken a lead in providing timely information on issues like long-term care, heart and stroke awareness, fitness. More education is needed on faith issues around death, dying, and medically-

assisted death. Should we explore the merits of existing programs such as Alpha Ministry?

Our church was packed in Fall 2017 for Faith and Politics, an excellent use of our space for outside-sponsored public education events.

We can do much more in teaching and learning: "We have both the opportunity and the calling."

Families and Youth - Marnie

Open Sesame will grow because children's needs in the community are increasing.

We've been home to the 10th Waterloo Scout troop for decades; should we go beyond simply providing physical space and build a closer relationship?

Poor Sunday church school attendance is a challenge; we could explore ways to bring more children together from other congregations.

Family Friday meals are proving a good intergenerational experience; could be another opportunity for older kids and youth who enjoy helping out at church meals.

Music - Bill

Inspired by John Lennon's iconic song "Revolution," Bill set the tone by arranging and performing it as "Evolution." The Beatles had a visionary approach to music that built their longevity and Mount Zion's music program has also thrived because of vision and

dedication; many choir members are in church several times a week. We have sung with different choirs in different spaces; New Apostolic Church, St. Matthew's, Our Lady of Lourdes, Anglican Parish of Six Nations. Some choir members connect with community music through Sing Fires of Justice, Wayne Gilpin Singers, Gloryland Chorus, Leupold Chorale, Inshallah etc.

Other Two Rivers Ministry Area congregations have fewer musical resources than we do; there are opportunities to collaborate and share. Our Choral Scholar program is having a major impact.

The worship space choir area has been altered to provide easier access as members age; also creating more space for additional singers and instrumentalists. Mount Zion's space is used by many community music groups: Kiwanis Festival, Leupold Chorale, ORMTA workshops and recitals, RCCO events, fundraising concerts, Waterloo Chinese Philharmonic Choir.

Near-future opportunities might include music therapy space for the Glebe Counselling Centre; providing space for young independent musicians; lesson space for Laurier's non-profit community music school.

We're becoming a preferred space for Synod events, such as ordinations, and provided classroom space during the Seminary renovation; we can make more under-used or un-used rooms multi-functional.

Leadership, Administration, Funding & Project Management - Mary

This is a big portfolio with many opportunities to expand projects both internally and in the community. While there are many definitions of leadership, we seem to prefer insightful leaders and to work in teams where individuals contribute specific responsibilities and skills.

Future leaders should emerge as a natural outgrowth of what we do now, as well as from new undertakings. We need to embrace the possibility that our next generation of leaders will identify and pursue different goals.

Funding is always part of the picture and always needed. Good projects are often activated by the availability of government or institutional grants;



Evolution Committee Members, l – r, Dennis Eaton, Chair, Mary Thompson, Marnie Spencer-Boyd, Stephanie von Shilling, Bill Gastmeier

groups form around these opportunities, such as the multi-church group that with CLWR help, brought a former refugee family from Congo to resettle successfully in Waterloo. Funding is most often needed to pay trained people to do things volunteers can't, such as fill teaching positions in the Open Sesame program, administering church finances, working in youth leadership and in programs like Music for the Spirit.

We need to increase our paid staffing capacity to accommodate the programs we want to do and for which we want to attract more volunteers.

Summing Up

We have three choices:

1. Remain "status quo" for about another 10 years, then close the doors.
2. Sell all or part of our land-facilities to survive longer, or give the money away.
3. Go forward in new and sustainable directions, make a positive impact

As Dennis put it: "We are not as old as we think we are..." And that's worth having under our umbrella

Photos: P Finch

You can read the report on Mount Zion's website in the filing cabinet section. It is listed in the report section. <https://www.mzlc.ca/copy-of-filing-cabinet>

More About our Choral Scholar Program

Bill Gastmeier, Chair of the Worship and Music Committee

This is the second of two articles about our choral scholar program. Since our last article was published we have welcomed Alysse Sailor to our ranks and she is pictured along with Zack and Clair below.



Lee Willingham

*All of our choral scholars have been taught by **Lee Willingham**, a Professor in the Faculty of Music at Wilfrid Laurier University, Director of the Laurier Centre for Music in the Community and one of Canada's leading music educators. We asked Lee*

to tell us his thoughts about the Choral Scholar program. Here is what he told us.

“Laurier’s Faculty of Music is very supportive of the choral scholar program that several local churches provide for the young singers studying voice in the undergraduate years. Some might argue that students are over-worked and perhaps should rest their voices on Sundays before they are back in school Monday, singing several hours each day. We have found quite the opposite to be true. There are several important aspects for the choral scholars that add value to their educational experience. In no particular order, let me cite several.

- They learn new repertoire each week with very limited rehearsal time. This improves sight-reading, speeds up the learning process and assists in getting to the performance level quickly and efficiently.
- They learn some of the important music that is frequently used in worship settings. They also are exposed to new literature, so the diversity and quantity of the music they encounter sets them up for lifelong singing in faith-based settings.
- They learn how to lead musically. The choral scholars’ voices rejuvenate and add flexibility and depth to a volunteer church choir.

- They are mentored by the examples set by faithful singers who have been in the choir stalls through thick and thin, through bountiful years along with the lean, and through the lifespan of many of the church families. This is community that they desperately need as they live apart from families during their study years.
- They have the rare opportunity to sing in an intergenerational setting, where they might be the youngest (or not), but certainly benefit from sharing and presenting music with an older population.
- The faith based setting provides a pathway to spiritual growth; an opportunity to think inwardly and nourish that human dimension that so often gets neglected in this rushed age of full schedules, due dates and unfinished tasks.



Choral Scholars, Zack Evans-Whitley, Clair Dingee and Alysse Sailor after choir practice. The element of fun that they bring to practice is appreciated.

We offer our thanks to the churches in the Waterloo Region who provide our students with funding, and

most importantly with a valuable educational experience.”

Deacon Scott adds that “learning alongside youthful singers is an inspiring lift for our senior choir members. When younger voices blend with mature ones we gain a great deal of strength and vibrancy. University music students come to Mount Zion with many more gifts than their voices – they bring a musical knowledge that spans several centuries, several instruments and various cultural-ethnic styles and idioms. We are all enriched by their learning and their gift of spirited music making. In turn, the younger musicians get varied opportunities to explore how their musical training may be lived out in a community that presents music to the congregation on an ongoing and continued basis. This allows for rapport and insight into the community dynamic of music and worship experiences and deepens the connection between song texts and ritual worship. The church year gives expression to emotions and desires that run the spectrum of human experience and provides an excellent platform for self discovery.”

The program is not without cost, which is carried in the Worship and Music Budget. We hope to expand the program moving forward. Stay tuned over the fall for more information concerning this exciting community partnership and our “Mount on The Move” event which will give you an opportunity to hear our choral scholars as part of a music and food filled fund raiser for the program

This fall’s Service Opportunities.

October	Food Bank Collection
November	Guest Speaker CLWR We Care Bags
December	Mitten Tree
Ongoing support of Music for the Spirit After School Program on Six Nations.	



Wanted Flame Swallowers, Jugglers and Volunteers

By Scott Knarr

Mount on the Move – a music and food extravaganza which includes 3 stages, 4 food stations and some moving in between venues – will come to Mount Zion on November 17, 2018 at 6:30 pm! It should be loads of fun so invite your family, your neighbours, the folks you meet on the street – just about anyone is welcome to this one-time entertainment spectacular!

For the last several months a team of Mount Zion supporters has been organizing an eclectic palette of menu items to tease your appetite. Selections will be sure to range from fairly uncommon to well-loved favourites. You may sample each dish and compare with your own cherished recipe.

Musicians will include the singing of our very own choral scholars. In addition, our choir will present a short work adapted especially for the occasion. We have also heard from several community musicians who would like to support our choral scholar program by participating.

We hope to allow all our volunteer servers time to enjoy the evening as well, so we are seeking extra volunteers who would be willing to serve for a one hour time slot. The evening begins at 6:30 pm (of course set up will need to happen earlier in the day) and finishes at 9:30 pm (and then a clean up crew will be necessary). Please check the sign up lists to see where our needs are greatest.

More entertainers are also welcome – if you happen to be a flame-swallower, a juggler, or a mime artist we’d love to hear from you! We are exploring the possibility of including a visual art gallery if we were able to identify a volunteer or task group to look after that aspect of the evening. For more information about volunteering or promoting this event, please speak to one of the organizing committee Susan Brubacher, Karen Gastmeier, Brenda Wynowsky, Stephanie von Schilling, Scott Knarr and Pastor Philip

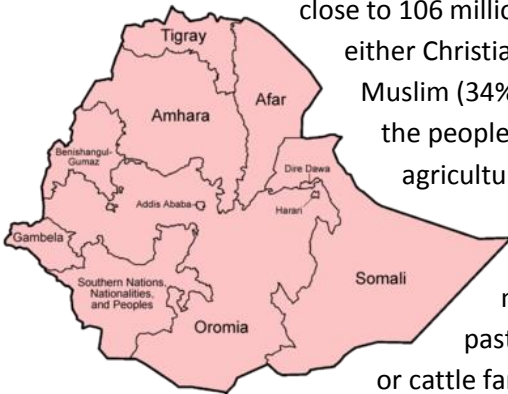
Canadian Lutheran World Relief and Ethiopia

By Mary Thompson for the Service Committee

Adopt-A-Cause for April - October 2018 has focussed on raising awareness of CLWR and its work. The spotlight for September and October falls on CLWR's efforts in Ethiopia. Donations can be made through your envelope or at <https://www.clwr.org/> Be sure to see CLWR's info graphic about their work in Ethiopia on the back page.

Ethiopia is a landlocked country in the Horn of Africa, bordered by Eritrea to the north, Djibouti and Somalia to the east, Kenya to the south and Sudan and South Sudan to the west. Its terrain includes farmland, desert, forests, and the vast Ethiopian Highlands. Dallol in the north of Ethiopia is said to be the hottest place of human settlement on Earth!

The population of Ethiopia is currently estimated at close to 106 million. Most are either Christian (63%) or Muslim (34%). About 85% of the people depend on agriculture for their living, and many are nomadic pastoralists (sheep or cattle farmers).



Urbanization is increasing. There are close to one million Internally Displaced Persons, as a result of conflict or natural disasters. Over the past decade Ethiopia has opened its borders to close to one million refugees from bordering countries.

Ethiopia is affected severely by climate change. Recurring extended droughts in recent years have made it increasingly difficult for farmers to continue the grain-fed agriculture they are accustomed to. In 2015-2017, a series of natural disasters left millions in need of food aid, and has caused critical water shortages. The country saw extreme drought in the Somali Region in the east, incidents of flash floods in the Oromia Region in the south, and flooding in the Afar Region in the north-east.

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) has been working in Ethiopia since 1973. As the Canadian partner of LWF, CLWR too has a long history there, in aid to refugees, emergency response, and projects in

food and water security. Projects to which CLWR contributed in 2015-2016 aimed to increase access to potable water for thousands of South Sudanese refugees in a camp in Gambela, through the construction of five water distribution points. In 2017, an aim in the Bambasi camp further north was to introduce biogas converters and stoves.

In 2016, in emergency response to the severe drought in the Lasta and Lalibela districts of Amhara, CLWR provided families with seeds and direct cash support. A goal of a longer term food security project in Lasta and Lalibela is to create a forest in 10 years! Since 2015, the local workers (mainly women) have built channels capable of irrigating 61 hectares of land, while 179 hectares have been covered with terraces for soil and water conservation and trees.

Such irrigation projects have been instituted in many parts of the country. CLWR is a donor to Support for Sustainable Development (SSD), an Ethiopian charity with a vision to see the poor farming and pastoral communities of Ethiopia become self-sustaining. Completed CLWR-supported SSD irrigation projects in Aura in the Afar Region have brought irrigation to over 1000 households.

In the last two years, with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and SSD, CLWR has been working in model irrigation projects in Berhale in Afar. Where rain-fed agriculture is now infeasible, the Demale River still brings water and fertile soil from the highlands. Household holders are paid in wheat to construct the irrigation system, and each participating household receives title to a piece of irrigable land. They receive training in sustainable farming and good irrigation practice; and a water users' association has been established for the operation and long-term maintenance of the system.

Meet members

PAT & AL EDWARDS – A busy half-century of service to Mount Zion

By Pauline Finch

How can 50 years whizz by so quickly? If you talk to Pat and Al Edwards, the key seems to be staying active, excited and engaged in every facet of life, and giving as much to one's church family as to one's own. In the Edwards' case, that's saying a whole lot! Pat grew up as the middle of three daughters (Judy and Peggy are four years older and younger) born to the late Harold and Grace Walz who were charter members of our congregation.



Allan and Pat Edwards at Webster's Falls in 2017.

She was just eight when Mount Zion was founded and vividly recalls the first worship service, held around the corner from today's building in the gymnasium of Empire School; Pastor Delton Glebe's "huge booming voice always kept you alert!"

From the beginning Pat and her family were active in our congregation; she belonged to the Junior Choir, attended Confirmation classes, and was a member of Luther League. And all these groups shared the first parsonage basement on Empire Street.

Pat remembers, "It was such a special day when we moved from the school gym to (what is now) the

auditorium of our existing building to worship ... no more setting up and taking down of chairs, altar and pulpit." She was especially thrilled at "the lovely new Sunday School rooms."

Al was born on the other side of the country, in Kamloops, BC to the late Art and Nora Edwards, when his father was stationed there with the Army. When he was two, the family moved to Kitchener where his younger brother Bob was born. They grew up Anglican, being baptized and confirmed at St. Andrew's Memorial on Mill Street in Kitchener.

In 1966 Pat and Al met on a blind date at the Concordia Club, arranged by one of Al's friends. A year later, they were engaged and Al took classes with Pr. Norman Lange to learn what it means to be Lutheran. The couple was married at Mount Zion in 1968.

As a newlywed Pat worked for Canada Trust. She started as a bank teller long before computers became part of everyday business. "We wrote in people's passbooks and registered their transactions on ledgers," she recalled. "Later we got the first computers, which were so poor, they were always down. We felt we did a better job manually than the computers." At busy times, she also assisted the bank's investment manager.

Al began his career at Kitchener's former Cluett-Peabody Company, better known as Arrow Shirts, but shortly after his marriage to Pat he joined London Life Insurance as a sales rep, became a CLU (chartered life underwriter) and was later promoted to management. After 15 years there, he accepted an invitation to join Lutheran Life (now FaithLife Financial) as Regional Manager for Southern Ontario, a position he held for 24 years until retiring in 2008.

Early in their marriage, Pat stopped working outside the home to be a full-time mom to the couple's three sons, Michael (Mike), John and Jamie, all of whom were baptized and confirmed at Mount Zion.

Mike married partner Jan at Mount Zion, with Pr. Mark Harris officiating and later baptizing their sons Hayden (now 20) and Keaton (now 18), as well as their mom.

Middle son John married wife Sue in the Red Desert outside Las Vegas and they have two daughters, Mara (8) and Alice (6). Jamie, the youngest, is still single and according to Pat, is “working hard and enjoying life.”

While being a full time mom to three active boys, Pat still found time to volunteer extensively, not only with her sons’ hockey and baseball teams and school events, but also helping out at older sister Judy’s kindergarten class, St. Monica House, and the Central Ontario Developmental Riding Program (CODRP). She says Al teases her for being “a professional volunteer.”

At Mount Zion both have been involved in a variety of responsibilities. Pat has served with the Sunday School, Nursery, Ushering, Open Sesame (for the past 12 years), the annual Women’s Retreat, Vacation Bible School, Communion Assistants, and been twice on a pastoral Call Committee. Al has served as an Usher, Communion Assistant, Church Council member, and also been part of a Call Committee.

Both Pat and Al have always enjoyed outdoor sports together. Until recently, he regularly played hockey and she retired from many seasons of ringette in 2008. They love biking and hiking and are avid downhill skiers, having conquered the slopes in places like Mont Tremblant, Vermont, Blue Mountain, Whistler, and of course the local Chicopee hills. Al logged some 80 outings this past winter alone. Pat tries to get in a game of badminton every week.

Another of the couple’s passions is travel. Through Al’s work with Lutheran Life they were fortunate to visit places like England, Scotland, East Germany (when the Berlin Wall was coming down), China (where they walked the Great Wall and viewed the famous Terracotta Warriors), Spain, and many other places across Canada and the USA.

Those experiences “put the travel bug in us and we still love to cruise” Pat added. To mark their 50th wedding anniversary that takes place in October this year (2018), they’ve planned a special spring cruise in 2019. Along with Pat’s two sisters and their husbands, they’ll

sail down the west coast of Canada, USA, Mexico, Central America, through the Panama Canal and back home through the Caribbean. Of course, another major reason to travel regularly is to visit their children and four grandchildren!

Having spent half a century together at Mount Zion, Pat and Al have seen numerous changes, challenges, achievements and joys. More than anything, “it’s our church home where we feel most comfortable; it’s very welcoming.”

In addition to numerous wonderful family and congregational memories that have taken place here – baptisms, marriages, confirmations and more – they enjoy the friendliness of the congregation, its inclusiveness and diversity, and the gifted and caring pastors who’ve led us over the decades.



On a recent cruise.

They’ve enjoyed or participated in many Mount Zion outreach programs, including our Open Sesame headstart preschool, the annual Women’s Retreat, social events and community initiatives. Both are especially grateful for music in our congregation and share high praise for current Director of Music, Scott Knarr, along with the choir, guitar group, and instrumentalists who enhance our worship nearly every Sunday.

Their hopes for Mount Zion in the future are that we continue to serve our congregation and our community; keep encouraging young families to choose our congregation as their church home; that Mount Zion continues to attract great pastors and leaders to inspire and enrich us ... and above all, “to keep our doors open to new and challenging things.”

A Hill Called Mount Zion

By Emily Dolbeer

Editor's note: Way back in 1985, while serving on council for my first time, I remember vividly a devotion prepared by Emily Dolbeer. I was so impressed and learned much from her words. So much so, that recently I asked her daughter Melissa if there might be a copy of it still in existence. Sadly the answer was no, until Carol Ziegler recently stumbled upon a copy when she was sorting some old paperwork. The devotion was reprinted in the Mount Zion newsletter in 1985.

This is how it appeared: KG

In Jerusalem, there is a hill called Mount Zion, it does not seem to be a very high hill but when you start the climb it, your calf muscles tell you that it's pretty steep.

Mount Zion has deep meaning for Arabs, Jews and Christians. Under a few later layers of civilization somewhere on the hill, is said to be the Tomb of David. The Jews have built a memorial tomb on the slope. They display Torahs there, and a crown for each year since the restoration of Israel as their homeland. Arabs had used the site as a mosque, so there is a minaret. Crusaders built a hall over the Tomb and honoured not only King David but declared this to be the site of the Upper Room of the Last Supper and of Pentecost. There is a school for rabbinical scholars on Mount Zion and an Ecumenical Institute. A nursery school for underprivileged children is on the lower slopes and even a restaurant called "David's Table".

Near the top is an abbey erected on land given by a Turkish sultan about the turn of the century to the German Kaiser. According to tradition, it marks the place where Mary, the mother Jesus, died.

On the far slope is a large church, that of St. Peter and the Cock Crow. It is built over the traditional site of the house of the high Priest Caiaphas, where Jesus was brought for trial first and where may have spent his last night. And here Peter is said to have denied his Master three times before the cock crowed.

As a vantage point, Mount Zion provides a breathtaking view of the old city, with its walls and gateways, towers and domes. Composed of the same outcropping of sandstone as all Jerusalem's hills, it gleams golden in the intense light of midday and

became a deeper gold toward sunset. It breathes antiquity, yet it is itself a busy place, not a place apart.

I'm happy that someone proposed the name "Mount Zion" for our Church. It has so much more meaning than "The Westmount Lutheran Mission" which was our first name. And it is appropriate, too, that on our Mount Zion we worship our God, re-enact the Last Supper in our Communion Services, observe Pentecost each year, study about our Faith, eat together sometimes, have a nursery school for underprivileged children. Our Mount Zion is a busy place, with meaningful activity.



Dear Father: Thank you for the hill top experiences of life. Thank you for firmly establishing our Faith. Thank you for the patriarchs and the prophets, the disciples and the companions of Jesus, but especially, we thank you for the vivid lessons learned on the top of Mount Zion, both in Jerusalem and here.

Thank you for sending your Son, the Jesus of Bethlehem and of Golgatha, and the Jesus who is everywhere. Help us, as church council members to be good stewards of your Church on Mount Zion. Amen.

Financial Update– August 2018

A note from Finance

1. Our financial status for the eight month period ending August 31 reflects a deficit of \$18,542 in the “**Ministry & Mission (current) Account**” compared with a budgeted deficit of \$24,275. The favourable deviation of \$5,733 was due to a higher receipts accounting for \$4,659 and lower expenses of \$1,074.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Better/(Worse)</u>
Total receipts	\$177,772	\$173,113	\$4,659
Total Disbursements	<u>196,314</u>	<u>197,388</u>	<u>1,074</u>
Deficit	\$(18,542)	\$(24,275)	\$5,733

Comments:

- Member regular envelope contributions of \$124,270 were \$389 better than plan.
 - Facility and parking net income of \$40,149 was \$3,084 higher.
 - Other income was higher by \$1,188 due primarily to \$1,079 in higher than planned earnings on our Endowment funds.
 - Disbursements were \$1,074 better overall for the period.
 - Of significant note is that **30%** of total receipts are from sources other than regular member contributions, indicating our increasing reliance on rental revenue.
2. Your support of **Benevolence** to the Synod and other designated causes totalled \$73,047. Included in this are grants of \$9,000 for Open Sesame, and \$28,933 for Six Nations/TRMA Partnership. Regular benevolence totalled \$17,924 which was remitted to Synod. Donations to other causes totalled \$17,190.
 3. In April, a generous donation of \$15,000 was received in memory of long time member Shirley Hillier which has been placed in the Memorial fund. Special fund balances designated for specific purposes are as follows as of August 31.
 - Mission endowment funds \$114,643
 - Contingency Fund \$ 30,000
 - Memorial Funds \$ 25,625
 - Youth Fund \$ 4,284
 - Music on the Mount \$ 2,669
 - Spiritual Retreat fund \$ 252

Richard Brubacher – Treasurer

Financial Update Eight Months ending August 31, 2018

By Richard Brubacher – Treasurer & Chair, Finance Committee

The summaries below reflect the actual cash flows for the eight month period ending August 31, 2018, and the position of our bank accounts. Comparative data is displayed for our budget commitment and the prior year.

Ministry & Mission (Current) Account - Cash Flow Basis

	8 Months - 2018		Comments re: Differences to plan	8 Months
	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Cash Inflow				
Receipts from Members	124,270	123,881	- better than plan \$389	128,268
Receipts from Facility Rentals & Parking	46,999	43,363	- better by \$3,081	32,216
Rental income reserved to Capital	(6,850)	(6,295)		(6,000)
Other Receipts - (Plate, Endow. Int., grant)	13,353	12,164		9,428
Deficit Reduction Response	-	-		1,070
Total inflow	177,772	173,113		164,982
Cash Outflow				
Disbursements - Staff & operating costs	196,314	197,388		177,553
Total outflow	196,314	197,388		177,553
Net Cash (Outflow)/inflow	(18,542)	(24,275)	- \$5,733 better than Budget Plan	(12,571)
Cash balance (overdraft)	2,858	(17,287)		13,965

Benevolence Accounts - Cash Flow Basis

	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Cash Inflow				
Receipts from Members - General Benev.	17,924	16,700		16,715
Receipts for designated appeals	55,123	-	- Incl. Grants \$37,933	39,153
Total inflow	73,047	16,700		55,868
Cash Outflow				
Payments to Synod	17,924	16,075		15,215
Payments to other designated appeals	55,123	625		40,653
Total outflow	73,047	16,700		55,868

Capital Accounts - Cash Flow Basis

	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Cash Inflow:				
Receipts from Members	8,411	6,128		8,859
Transfers from Ministry & Mission acct	6,850	6,295	- Rental income reserved from MM acct.	6,000
Total inflow	15,261	12,423		14,859
Cash Outflow				
Capital Expenditures	31,475	25,000	- HVAC & Lighting replacements, servery	7,491
Total outflow	31,475	25,000		7,491
Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow	(16,214)	(12,577)		7,368
Cash Balances	32,034	35,671		41,475

Rental Property Account - Cash Flow Basis

	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Cash Inflow:				
Rental Income from Tenants	22,241	17,100	Budget assumed tenant turnover	23,570
Transfers from Capital Account	-	-		-
Total inflow	22,241	17,100		23,570
Cash Outflow				
Current Expenditures - Properties	9,923	11,630		9,206
Capital Improvements to Properties	-	10,237	Improvements deferred	-
Total outflow	9,923	21,867		9,206
Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow	12,318	(4,767)		14,364
Cash Balances (overdraft)	7,184	(9,901)		(10,702)

Adopt-A-Cause for April - October 2018 has focussed on raising awareness of CLWR and its work. The spotlight for September and October falls on CLWR's efforts in Ethiopia. Donations can be made through your envelope or at <https://www.clwr.org/>

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