



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

Reformation and Affirmation of Baptism Service



October 27, 2019

10:00 am

Eco-consciousness

By Dr. Joy Philip



*The earth does not belong to us, but we belong to earth
This radiant sphere of green and blue
Our home and place of birth
The web of life connects us all, each strand its vital role
For what affects a single one affects the living whole.¹*

We stand at a critical moment in Earth's history, a time when humanity must choose its future.² This call in the preamble of the Earth Charter is an important one to reflect considering the crises earth is facing today, especially, climate change and eco-crucifixion. Everyday, when I make a choice, whether it is about the coffee that I drink, or the clothes that I decide to wear or purchase or the food that I consume or the mode of transportation that I use to go to work, I am choosing my future, not just my future but that of my children and grandchildren. As Akpezi Ogbuiwe, the former Head of Environmental Education and Training of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) said "our individual choices have the potential of distorting the scope of our hopes for world and for the future."³ The choices we make have consequences for people and lands far and wide. While those of us in the First world have the infrastructure to face the consequences or at the very least the means to tide over the bad times, those in the Third world suffer because there is neither the infrastructure nor the means. As the song reminds us "the web of life connects us all and what affects one affects us all."⁴



The present ecological crisis reflects a crisis in human consciousness, where the relationship with the earth and cosmos has been largely shaped and influenced by the stories that emphasized

humanity's dominion over nature. We need new stories born out of an earth consciousness, an eco-consciousness that emphasises our interconnectedness with the planet. Fulata Lusungu Moyo, an African Indigenous eco-feminist "poignantly talks of one's connection to the earth. She says, "to ask 'where are you from' one would say, *ikhupi inkaba yakho*" which literally means 'where is your umbilical cord buried?'"⁵ There is a deeper meaning to this question. The umbilical cord is that which connects a baby to her mother and by burying the umbilical cord one is honouring one's connection to the earth, "the place of one's roots and belongings."⁶ Eco-consciousness "fosters an understanding that humanity is part of the earth, part of the universe, not a separate entity."⁷ Rachel Carson said, "In every outthrust headland, in every curving beach, in every

grain of sand there is the story of the earth."⁸ What can we members of the global community, do so that we enable each other, our children, our grandchildren, our students, our friends, our neighbours, to listen to the voice of the earth and pay heed to her stories which in turn enables them to be eco-guardians and eco-rescuers fighting for justice for the earth and thereby create a better world.

¹ Kristopher E. Lindquist (2016), *Sing the Circle Wide*, Kanata Centre, Waterloo, ON, Canada.

² The Earth Charter (2000), <http://earthcharter.org/discover/the-earth-charter/>

³ Akpezi Ogbuiwe (2018), "The Contemporary Twist of Hope: A Response to Brendan Mackey's 'A Reflection on The Earth Charter Project and its Mission in the Anthropocene.'"

⁴ See footnote 1.

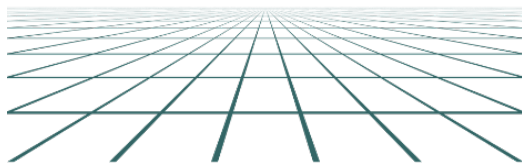
⁵ In isiZulu, Ukugqiba Inkaba means burying the umbilical cord. Fulata Lusungu Moyo (2017), "*Ukugqiba Inkaba – Burying the Umbilical Cord: An African Indigenous Eco-feminist View of Incarnation*," in Grace Ji-Sun Kim and Hilda P Koster, eds. *Planetary Solidarity: Planetary Women's Voices on Christian Doctrine and Climate Justice*, Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press,

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ John Darrell DesRoches (2010), "The truth about stories: An autoethnography towards earth consciousness," M.Ed Thesis, University of Prince Edward Island, Prince Edward Island

⁸ Citation for this was not available.

PERSPECTIVES



Eco-consciousness

The conversation continues

Sept 29 following the service

Join Pastor Philip for lunch and discussion from a faith perspective

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

Other Fall Dates

Oct 20 Nov 24

Following the service

This article is an shortened version of an article published in The May edition of The Canada Lutheran. It was edited by the author and is used with permission



Shaping a Just Canada

An event presented by Citizens for Public Justice and the Centre for Public Ethics at Martin Luther University College.

Tuesday, October 1: 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Mount Zion Lutheran Church
29 Westmount Road S
Waterloo, ON

Ahead of the 2019 federal election, CPJ will be engaging voters with a series of townhall gatherings in cities across Canada this fall. We invite you to attend, gain a better understanding of key policy issues, and learn important questions you can ask federal candidates.

This is a free event. Please register your attendance via CPJ.ca/Tour2019.

You can make your voice – and your vote – count!

501-309 Cooper Street | Ottawa, ON K2P 0G5 | 1-800-667-8046 | www.CPJ.ca



LITURGY Bites

Why we do the things we do

By Tim Ehrlich

Confession and Forgiveness

In our worship book, almost every setting includes confession and forgiveness as part of our liturgy. So why don't we always use it in our service? Before we examine that, let's have a look at why it is there.

The first part of the service begins with the Confession and Forgiveness or Holy Baptism. In the early days of Christianity, confession and baptism were closely intertwined. Luther in his large catechism stated "Repentance, therefore, is nothing else than a return and approach to baptism..." By the Middle Ages the mood had turned gloomy shifting from attitudes of joyful communion to bemoaning one's unworthiness. In 1523 Luther's reformed mass did not include a public confession and people would gather outside of worship to seek absolution from the priest. Gradually the practice shifted to Sunday morning and became part of the regular service. Confession remains one the seven sacraments of the Catholic church but Lutherans only recognize two, Baptism and Holy Communion.

Now, why then do we sometimes have confession and other times not? The answer is similar to why we only have one lesson sometimes or perhaps the Psalm is omitted. It comes down the flow of the worship service and in some cases time constraints. As Lutherans, we focus more on Baptism as opposed to Confession and Forgiveness. That is not to say Confession is unimportant but as a community of believers we celebrate and acknowledge our baptism as a community. Confession is a private act between us and our Lord and we have an opportunity for reflection at the beginning of every service and indeed, every day if we so choose.

In Our Prayers

Let us remember Don Stewart and Rita Schauss in our prayers as they recuperate and regain strength and wholeness.

Fall Book Study



The Home for Unwanted Girls by

Joanna Goodman

Wednesday, October 30, 2019

1 pm

Glebe Fellowship Hall

This is the story of a young unwed mother who is forcibly separated from her daughter at

birth and the lengths to which they go to find each other. The child is raised in Quebec's impoverished orphanage system in the 1950s. It's a precarious enough existence that takes a tragic turn, when along with thousands of other orphans in Quebec, she is declared mentally ill as the result of a new law that provides more funding to psychiatric hospitals than to orphanages. Learn about these Duplessis Orphans, who were a part of one of the worst instances of state abuse of civil liberties.

Joanna Goodman, author of *The Home for Unwanted Girls*, is coming to Waterloo Region.

See <https://oboc.ca/2019-2/events-2/> for more info on locations, dates and times

Mount Zion's New Office Hours

Mount Zion's office will be open Tuesday to Friday from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

The office will remain closed on Mondays. The Phone will be monitored. In case of emergency, call Pastor Philip at 519 781 5602.

This month at Mount Zion

Oct 1	Shaping a Just Canada	7:30 pm
Oct 6	Presentation - Keith Myra	10:00 am
Oct 9	Mount Zion Cafe	10:00 am
Oct 13	Thanksgiving Sunday	
Oct 20	Perspectives	11:30 am
Oct 23	Mount Zion Cafe	10:00 am
Oct 25	Family Friday Nite	6:00 pm
Oct 27	Reformation and Affirmation of Baptism	10:00 am
Oct 30	Book Discussion	1:00 pm

A Fond Farewell

Lots of people came out to say a sad goodbye to Intern Leanne Darlington. We were blessed to have her with us at Mount Zion for the last year and we are eager to watch her take the next steps in her ministry.



Leanne's family were a part of the Godspeed Service on Sept 8 Photo Laura Briant



Leanne and her husband Greg, who we will also miss!



Pastor Philip, Leanne and Joy all enjoying our traditional Soup'r Sunday

Meanwhile back in the kitchen, they were having too much fun



Stephanie Von Schilling and Mary Slethaug really know how to clean up

Esselyn Bell and Martin Juergensen



Betty Behm's grandchildren, were called in to lend a hand.

Photo: Karen Gastmeier

Service Committee at Habitat Build



Mount Zion supplied lunch for a crew of hungry volunteers on September 19. Organized by the Service Committee, many members contributed or were on site lending a hand cooking and serving.

Caught in the photo below are Ann Crossman, Marie Yensen, Jane Schlegel and Gary Van Moerkerke at the rear of the line.

Thanks to everyone who worked at the luncheon, supplied goodies or made a donation to the cause.



Hungry volunteers

Photos: Brenda Wynowsky



Mount Zion's Food Bank Drive –



Donate food or cash donations
Oct. 6 & 13



Birthday wishes to Gloria Heimbecker who turned 90 on September 25.



Thanks to Brenda Wynowsky, Laura Briant and Barb Barnes for photos in this edition. Send one or two photos of your event to karen@gastmeier.ca Be sure to include photo captions with names and a few words about the event.

Open Sesame celebrates 50 years

Carol Ziegler

I believe that a good way in which to begin our new year at Open Sesame Headstart Preschool is by sharing a Thank You letter we received from a parent in June.

"When we brought our son to Open Sesame, we were hopeful that it could accelerate his learning. He was attending a different daycare for 7 hours, once a week and had been there for almost a year, but we felt like it was wasted time. I recall these days as "nothing days", because NOTHING was accomplished and I'm sad that we didn't enroll him in Open Sesame sooner. Within 2 weeks of enrollment at Open Sesame he was showing great growth. Within a month he had developed great bonds/friendships with many of the wonderful teachers and volunteers at Open Sesame. Many days he would not want to leave when I went to pick him up!! The environment is nurturing, safe and everything that I would personally build if I were to make my own preschool. The playground outside has lots of opportunity with a wonderful community garden on the other side of the fence. The gym inside is very spacious and a terrific adjunct for rainy/cold days. The teachers are great and my son has learned many things from them. I am tremendously pleased with our experience at Open Sesame and wish every parent could have this opportunity as well."

It is always gratifying to hear how we have helped a child who needed a "head start" before entering Junior Kindergarten.

We presently have 12 children enrolled with half of them considered "high needs". Our license allows us to work with 16 children. We can always use additional help in the classroom and on our Open Sesame Committee as well. If you would like more information about what this involves speak to Ann Crossman, Pat Edwards,

Anne Woolner, Joan Brunger or me, Carol Ziegler. Or, call our Administrator and Volunteer Co-ordinator Jana Kelly at 519-888-6837. A love of being with children ages 2 1/2 and 3 is the main requirement.

The Open Sesame Committee will meet on Monday, Sept. 30th at 12:30 p.m. in the Board Room.



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 9 & 23

Nov 13 & 27 Dec 11

10 am - 1 pm

Family Friday Night

Suppers



All Kinds of food for all kinds of families

Oct 25..Nov 29

Meet Mount Zion Member

Esselyn Bell

serving through hospitality

I was born in Guyana and immigrated to Canada in May 1970 after graduating from the Carnegie School of Home Economics. I landed and lived for five years in Toronto, and attended Humber College, where I studied bookkeeping and business machines. After graduating, I did some work as a file clerk and a few other jobs. From there, I moved to Kitchener in 1975, where I've lived since with Ivan, my husband, and four children, Dwayne, Kevin, Dillon, and Deniece. From my children, I now have five grandchildren. In Kitchener, I worked at Waterloo Spinning Mills in the industrial area, and then decided to do a food preparation course at Conestoga College. I worked at the Charcoal Steakhouse for a number of years, and then at St. Mary's hospital in the food service department in January 1985, until 2007. In 2004, even though I didn't know much about business, I took a risk and started my own small business, the Caribbean Kitchen, in the Kitchener Market. That was a dream come true.

Fellowship is important to me, and it was difficult to find a place. So, while deciding on a place to worship, four of us ladies got together with Pastor Joseph Drepaul, and after quite a few discussions, we decided to start our own church, Maranatha Evangelical Lutheran Church, around 1996. I worshipped there until its doors closed in December 2017. In addition to being a place of worship, Maranatha opened its doors to the community by hosting yearly events, such as Bus Trips to Historical Sites, Black History Month services, summer picnics, and Christmas dinners, just to name a few.

In the spring of 2018, I started attending Mount Zion. What brought me here was how welcoming everyone was. I had gone to a few other churches and didn't feel like they were a good fit. At Mount Zion the congregation was very welcoming, and I left feeling like I would have a wonderful group of people to worship with. I was a member at my former



Mrs. Bell and family celebrating their oldest grandchild being called to the bar.

church for over 20 years and they were like my family, so I hope to have that same connection here, which I am already experiencing, and hope the same for others that will come along after me.

I am just finding my way amongst the regular programming, so have not participated in any committees, or councils yet. However, I look forward to learning more about opportunities to involve myself with the church in a variety of ways.

What I like most about Mount Zion isn't one thing... I enjoy the people, the music, and how the service is presented in a way that is engaging and allows me to find ways to connect the message to what's happening in my life.

My vision for Mount Zion is to see it continue to grow as a welcoming and inclusive church that I can contribute to in variety of ways.

I volunteered with the Out of the Cold Program at St. John's Lutheran Church for seven years, and am also very involved with events that take place for and within the Caribbean Community. In addition, for over 20 years I've had the pleasure of experiencing a diversity of cultures by opening my home to many Homestay programs for these newcomers who come to Canada to study. All of these aspects of my life will help me bring different ideas and perspectives to my involvement with Mount Zion, and I'm looking forward to it.

Financial Update – August 2019

A note from Finance

1. Results for the first eight months of 2019 reflect an operating **deficit of \$30,590** in the **“Ministry & Mission (current) Account”**. This compares to a budgeted deficit of \$36,629. The difference of \$6,039 was due to expenses below plan by \$3,578 and higher income accounting for \$2,461.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Better/(worse)</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 181,410	\$ 179,399	\$ 2,011
Rentals Reserved to capital	<u>(7,000)</u>	<u>(7,450)</u>	<u>450</u>
Net Receipts	174,410	171,949	2,461
Total Disbursements	<u>205,000</u>	<u>208,578</u>	<u>3,578</u>
Deficit	(30,590)	(36,629)	6,039

Comments:

- Member regular contributions of \$129,666 were **\$4,636 higher**.
- Facility and parking net income of \$40,596 was lower by **\$2,518**.
- Other income of \$4,148 was **\$342 higher**.
- Disbursements of \$205,000 were **\$3,578** better than plan.

2. Your support of **Benevolence** to the Synod and other designated needs including our Adopt A Causes was \$70,678 which compares to \$73,047 in the prior year. Included in this are grants of \$39,372 in support of The Six-Nations/Two Rivers Partnership (\$30,372), Open Sesame (\$9,000). Regular benevolence of \$16,454 was remitted to Synod, and donations to other causes totalled \$14,852.

Of note however our contribution to Synod for the work of the broader church was **\$1,470 less** than the prior year. Members are encouraged to remember the important work of the church outside our walls and support it with your designated contributions to Benevolence.

Total Fund balances at August month end

Ministry & Mission	
(Current Operating) Account	\$(25,295)
Capital Account	38,560
Rental Property (Reserves)	23,673
Music on the Mount Fund	10,484
Memorial Fund	28,309
Contingency Fund	25,654
Youth Fund	5,035
Mission Endowment Fund	113,127

See the narthex bulletin board for the full financial report

Deacon Scott's Installation Service



Mount Zion's choir joined in the celebration of Scott Knarr installation at St Matthews Sunday afternoon. Scott and Sarah Elizabeth Cardwell played the four hand four foot postlude. Peter Nikiforuk , right, turned pages

Photo: Barb Barnes