

what's up

Month of March 2010

Spring is finally on the way but March is much more than the changing of a season. March is the third month of year in the Gregorian Calendar and one of seven months with a length of 31 days. The name of March comes from ancient Rome, when March was the first month of year and called Martius after Mars, the Roman god of war. March is the first month of spring, a logical point for the beginning of the year as well as the start of the military campaign season. The numbered year began on March 1 in Russia and continued until the end of the 15th century. Great Britain and her colonies continued to use March 25 until 1752, the same year they finally adopted the Gregorian calendar. March does not have a holiday but many events do take place.

March begins on the same day of the week as November ie: 1 March – 1 November and 1 February in all common years. From March onwards every five months will be exactly the same as the day before the day begins five months ago thus March 1 – August 2, April 1 – September 2 ect. This is due to the fact that from March onwards, every five months equal exactly 153 days which is one day shy of being divisible by seven. Now you know.

The history and myths of some of the events that fall in March are as follows. As mad as a March hare – it seems that they behave oddly, boxing jumping etc throughout their breeding season, .and one could be “as brainless as a March hare” hence “harebrained”. And of course the Mad Hatter was also in Alice in Wonderland. Or how about the myth “in like a lion, out like a lamb” It had its origins in the constellations Leo the Lion and Aries the Ram–or lamb- and their relative positions at the beginning and end of the month. This saying has been around since 1624 and farmers relied on it. Another expression “So many mists in March so many frosts in May” also refers to planting time

Note: In 2008 Easter was Sunday 23 March and this will be earliest until at least 2030.

Joint Search Committee (JSC)

We are off and running with our Joint Search Committee and in accordance with motions passed at our Annual Congregational Meeting, your 2010 JSC team has begun their work with our first meeting on March 3rd. The required elections took place and your full committee list is:

- Rev. Diane Blanchard (Presbytery),
- Cathy Stevenson (Presbytery),
- Dan Puklicz (Chair),
- Barb Barone (Corresponding Secretary),
- Trish Budd (Recording Secretary),
- Marie Kim,
- Shirley Shikaze and
- John Fleming.

They have prepared an advertisement announcing GAUC's vacancy and will be circulating it to typical channels. If you know of an interested candidate (or wish to see the advertisement) our GAUC website will contain the ad as well as instructions on how to apply.

THANK YOU

The success of our Sunday Service is due in large part to you who volunteer to read scripture and say the Prayer for These Times. We also appreciate very much the work that the Monitor, Ushers, Greeters, Welcome & Information Table and the Counters perform each and every Sunday as you are the "first impression" of our church and you play a very important role. Our Director of Music and the choirs also do an amazing job

Thank you to the following:

Scripture readers: Nicole D'Angelo, John Cramm,

Scripture and Prayers for these times: Dan Puklicz and Rick Goodman. And wasn't it interesting that Rick had visited Jerusalem last year and the day he read scripture it was about Jesus entering Jerusalem and he showed some of his pictures of Jerusalem and related the two.

Serving Communion: June Strachan, Betty Middlebro', Candace Sunderland, Shirley and Florian Meyer, Monitor and Jeff.

And a big thank you to Pam Nixon for having looked after the counters and offerings for the past five years. She will be a hard act to follow but Kim Shikaze has taken on the challenge

Baptism - On 14 Mar Andrew O'Halloran, son of Cynthia and David and brother of Robert was baptized.

Palm Sunday - Thank you Rick and Eleanor Goodman for arranging to have the palms available for Palm Sunday.

The history of Palm Sunday.

Palm Sunday is a Christian moveable feast that always falls on the Sunday before Easter Sunday. The feast commemorates an event mentioned by all four Canonical Gospels (Mark 11:1-11, Matthew 21:1-11, Luke 19:28-44, and John 12:12-19): the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem in the days before his Passion. It is also called Passion Sunday or Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion.

According to the Gospels, before entering Jerusalem, Jesus was staying at Bethany and Bethpage, and the Gospel of John adds that he had dinner with Lazarus, and his sisters Mary and Martha. While there, Jesus sent two disciples to *the village over against* them, in order to retrieve a donkey that had been tied up but never been ridden, and to say, if questioned, that the donkey was needed by the Lord but would be returned. Jesus then rode the donkey into Jerusalem, with the Synoptics adding that the disciples had first put their cloaks on it, so as to make it more comfortable. The Gospels go on to recount how Jesus rode into Jerusalem, and how the people there lay down their cloaks in front of him, and also lay down small branches of trees. The people sang part of Psalm 118 - *...Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father, David. ...* (Psalms 118:25-26).

What fruit is depicted in Leonardo's Last Supper, even though it did not arrive in the Holy Land until long after Jesus' death?

Which of the following animals were the Israelites forbidden to eat by the Old Testament?

A: Sheep. B: Goat. C: Rabbit. D: Antelope

WELCOME



Betty Bunney transferred to Our congregation on 14 Feb 2010 from St Paul's in Oakville having attended GAUC off and on for the past year and a half. She is a member of the Prayer Shawl knitting group, Bible Study Group, an Usher and a member of the Worship Committee.



Dorothy Piët transferred to Our congregation on 14 Feb 2010 from First United in Port Credit. She attended a Christmas Eve service and about two years ago and felt An affinity to GAUC.

She is a member of the Prayer Shawl knitting group, Bible Study Group, and a greeter and a member of Outreach. She also telephones for LAFF.

MUSIC & CHOIRS

During Circle Time Joe Conte And Mike Beauchamp played Guitars and accompanied with Recessional hymn. Stephen McPhaden played violin with the choir anthem.

20th Anniversary Planning Committee

This committee met on 21 March and ideas were just bouncing off the wall. We do need more volunteers, if you are able to design logos, sort through pictures, have other talents, have a pulse please contact June Strachan at 905-337-9929 or email jestrachan@cogeco.ca we would love to hear from you. Your committee is:

- Phil Cooke
- Susan Francis
- Kathi Marling
- Betty Middlebro
- June Strachan
- Sylvia Verdenhalven

Others who will help when they can are:

- Lisa Booth
- Donna McNaught
- Mable Nixon
- Shirley Shikaze

Some of our suggestions will have to be approved by Council and then we will announce our plans. This is going to be a very exciting time and I do hope more of you join us

How many books are there in the standard Bible?

WE WELCOME TWO NEW CHAIRS THIS MONTH



June Strachan Chair Communication & Information

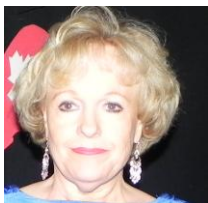
In February 1951 some of us from work walked over to the Armories in Montreal to watch the RCAF men and women line up for

King George VI's funeral parade. In talking with the airwomen I discovered you had to sign up for five years, FIVE YEARS!! a lifetime when you are 19. When they changed the policy to three years I joined the RCAF in July 1952 and 35 and half years later I retired in Dec 1987. My how time flew. I spent my last five years in the Canadian Armed forces (green uniform changes of name and colour but it would always be blue to me) at SHAPE Headquarters in Mons Belgium, (the next HQ down from NATO HQ in Brussels).

I then worked for eight years with Welcome Wagon, the last five as Area Manager with a territory from Pickering to Gananoque and north to Lindsey, Bobcaygeon and Peterborough and retired from that job in Oct 1998. I was living with my sister Nancy in Kingston and she was being transferred back to Toronto.

After looking at 75 homes we settled on one in Oakville and moved here in May 1999. I located a Weight Watchers group (an ongoing battle) that was being held at Glen Abbey United Church and as I was looking for a church I thought I would attend to see if it was what I was looking for. I transferred my membership from a church in Montreal that no longer existed (I left there in 1951) and eventually volunteered in Outreach, Welcome & Information, was secretary of the Board and then warmed a pew for a couple of years.

When asked by Jeff if I would consider becoming Chair of Worship I blithely said “yes” not having a clue what the job entailed. I took over in February 2008, right at the beginning of the Lenten period and what a learning curve I went through! He may have reconsidered had he known how little I knew about the function of the church but with his infinite patience he persevered and taught me so many things. Then he asked if I would like to take over as Chair of Communications & Information and how can you say no to Jeff. So here I am starting another adventure that I know nothing about but find the challenge exciting but I’m a little sad that Jeff won’t be around to guide me through the learning stages and to keep me out of hot water.



Susan Cutler
Chair of Worship

When my family and I returned to Canada in late 2001 after living in Virginia for close to ten years, one of my first goals was to find a Church family in our new home of Oakville. After attending a Baptist Church for many years in Roanoke, VA, and experiencing the wonderful “southern hospitality” and fellowship, it was no small task to find a new Church that offered that same kind of feeling. Within minutes of walking through the doors of GAUC, the “Welcoming Church” (I think I was

greeted by Lyndsey Thom and Mable Nixon), I knew I was in the right place! Anxious to bestow upon people the same kindness that had been extended to me, I soon volunteered as a greeter, later served as Chairman of the Welcoming and Membership Committee, Presbytery Representative, and then Duty Monitor. My youngest son, Alex, also helped out by changing the outdoor sign for almost three years, whether rain, shine, or snow! I have never regretted my decision to make Glen Abbey United our church home and my affection and respect for everyone involved has continued to grow over the years.

Outside of the Church, I very much enjoy my work at Iroquois Ridge High School. Working in a school is a complete departure from anything I have done in the past, which has been primarily of a public affairs nature, including working at Queen's Park, in the Premier's office in B.C., and for various public affairs companies. I enjoy many hobbies, but the love of my life is and always will be my two sons, Robbie, aged 21, and Alex, aged 19.

I am excited to be given the opportunity of serving as Chairman of your Worship Committee, recognizing that trying to fill the shoes of former Chairman, June Strachan, will be a huge challenge. Fortunately, there is a committee team already in place of gifted and dedicated people, Shirley Shikaze, Mable Nixon, Eleanor Goodman, Brian Lyseng, Blair Zilkey, Willard and Waveney Wallerson and Betty Bunny, from whom I know I will learn a great deal. We have some exciting times ahead of us at GAUC and I’m delighted to be a part of it.

Thank you.

Library

I understand there used to be a library of sorts but this area has not been active the past several years as many books have not found their way back. If any of you slow readers have finished the books you borrowed maybe you could return them, or donate some, so that we can once again offer interesting books for your pleasure.. And if you are still reading any book(s) that you borrowed from Jeff you have until the end of May to finish the book you just had to have and return it (in the dark of night if need be)

And speaking of a library are there any librarians out there willing to volunteer to help set up a system, cataloguing etc so that we may offer something of interest for all ages.

Our Moderators

In our on-going history of our Moderators this month we are presenting Dr McClure, our 23rd Moderator. His information is a bit sketchy so if anyone can add to this I would be most grateful.

Robert Baird McClure, 1968 – 1971

Robert Baird McClure, Companion of the Order of Canada. b 1900 – d. Nov 10, 1991

Dr McClure was a Canadian physician, medical missionary and the 23rd Moderator of the United Church of Canada from 1968 – 1971.

Born in Portland, Oregon, the son of a medical missionary, he spent the first fifteen years of his life in China.

He graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Medicine in 1922. In 1923, he was appointed a medical missionary to Henan, China and served until 1948. He was the only medical missionary in India and China who was able to provide radium treatment for cancer. He was also on the staff of the Church Missionary Society Hospital at Gaza, Palestine.

In 1971, he was made a Companion of the Order of Canada.

The 85th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada will take place in June 2010. More information will be forthcoming.

Answers

1. The Orange
2. The Israelites were forbidden to eat rabbits

3. There are 66 books in the standard Bible: 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament.

Website

Have you visited our website lately? Rick is doing a fabulous job of updating it. These monthly newsletters will have a link on the site and if you missed one you can get it there. There is also lots of other neat stuff and it will keep growing.

If you don't know the address it is:
www.glenabbeyunitedchurch.com

Upcoming Events

15 May Saturday 7:00 p.m. in the Gym

Chris and Betty Middlebro' are arranging a fun night of Cards and Dice. Sign up with Chris on Sunday mornings. \$3.00 for singles and \$5.00 per couple, snacks and prizes will be offered. More information will be provided via GAUC web site and the bulletin.

03 June Thursday from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

“Breaking through the Divide” lunch and conversation with The Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III.

Only limited seating is available for his visit so pick up your tickets from the Office or after church in the Narthex. Tickets are \$20.00

Pastor Otis Moss III is the Senior Minister of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, Illinois. Pastor Moss has done extensive research in the areas of African-American culture, theology and youth development. The African American Pulpit Journal recently named him one of the **“20 to watch”** ministers who will shape the future of the African American church.

This promises to be a most interesting session

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SGT. DAVID MOULTON
CENTRAL BAND OF THE CANADIAN FORCES

in virtuoso solos and duets with
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Intrada's renowned euphonium soloist



PAGEANTRY

SUN, MAY 16, 2010

2:30 PM

Glen Abbey United Church

1469 Nottinghill Gate, Oakville

Admission: FREE

Tickets available from Church office: 905 825 5292
or at-the-door, subject to availability.

A free-will offering will be accepted at the conclusion
of the concert. Half of proceeds will be donated
to Kerr Street Ministries



Kerr Street

MINISTRIES

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