

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

Wow! So much happening this month. I hope you enjoy reading all the updates and news in this week's letter.

Season of Creation



Each year the month of September is set aside as a time for Christians to honour our beautiful world and to consider our relationship with the whole created order, of which we are just one part. For many of us, nature is a primary source of renewal and wonder, and a revelation of the mind of God. It is also, of course, endangered by our own activity. The Season of Creation, which will extend from September 6th through October 4th (The Feast of St. Francis) will give us an opportunity to engage with the spiritual aspects of creation together.

Here are two ways you can participate at our Cathedral.

1. This September, ESJAG invites you to join us for a **Zoom bible study on food**. We shall explore the biblical and spiritual significance of food, look into the world's unsustainable food production practices, and how our food choices can negatively impact indigenous communities, wildlife habitats and the climate. The study will run September Thursday 10th, 17th, 24th and October 1st 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Please register by emailing Gabrielle montrealboyds@gmail.com
2. **Harvest Time**. ESJAG is hoping to celebrate the harvest of food grown by our own cathedral community. If anybody grew anything this summer, please do send us a photo. We are hoping to combine all our home grown produce into a short film. So please, any fruit, veggies, herbs, grown inside or out – send us a photo to espritmontreal@gmail.com



An update from Adrian

The lunch last Sunday was sponsored by a dear friend of the Cathedral who lives in California. How lucky we are!



It rained all day Saturday, but Sunday turned out to be a beautiful day with a touch of Fall in the air. We made up 120 sandwiches, 60 egg and 60 ham. Each lunch bag had two substantial sandwiches (Donna always insists on cutting the ham slices thick), a dessert and a bottle of water. On Friday morning I went around to The Open Door on Parc and Milton, St. Michael's Mission and Cabot Square and gave out 150 handouts advertising our takeout lunch. The last few months we have attracted about 45 clients. We had announced we would give out the lunches from 10-12. At 10 we had a line up of 8 or 9 people and just at 12 we sold out. To keep our distance I place the lunches in a shopping cart and push it out into the square. As people arrive, I show there is a choice and they take one. Thank you so much to all for supporting this ministry and a special thanks to Mary Sue Gibson for making the egg salad sandwiches. I know they're delicious because I sampled one.

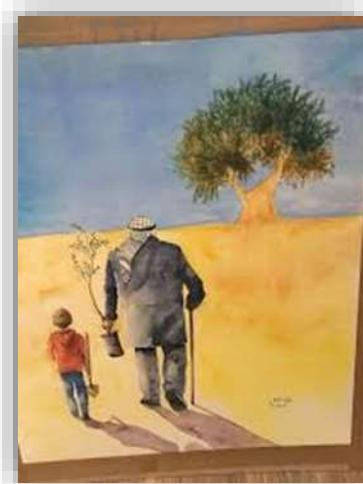
Veronica and Jim McDermott are settling down very happily next-door to their grandchildren in Calgary. Here is an extract from a letter sent by Veronica describing their new life.

Calgary is NOT Montreal, but we knew that before we moved here permanently. Take nature and wildlife, for instance. I had no idea magpies could make you laugh. Nor was I expecting to find deer in my front garden - several times. Did you know they like hydrangeas? Bobcats roam free in certain neighborhoods. There are even websites devoted to tracking their movements. AND bears in these parts have names. Last week for instance, the Calgary Herald had a two-page spread about a camper who photographed two grizzlies, Split Lip and The Boss (Yes, they name their bears here!) What was newsworthy is that the two grizzlies are rarely seen together, since it generally doesn't turn out well for one of them.

Then there is the world of cars. The car sharing service, Car2Go, left Calgary a few months ago even though you need a car2go anywhere in this city. The problem: most households have cars2give away. Take our back-alley neighbor whom everyone refers to as Uncle Dale. Last count, he has five vehicles. Mandatory for the majority of households here is an RV AND a pick up OR the biggest SUV EVER. Dale has all three, plus a few sedans thrown in for good measure. And they occupy a lot of his time. He fusses with them the way a gardener deadheads flowering plants, pulls weeds, and waters. Right now, he is outside clanging away on one of the sedans.

Fair Trade Extra Virgin Olive Oil from Palestine: A message from Lisa and Joseph

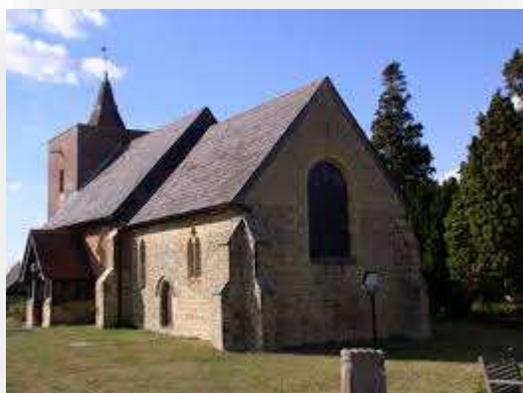
The olive tree is a symbol of Palestine's terraced highlands. Although in a state of dispossession, Palestinians have clung to their land, with the olive tree as a symbol of their ties to it. Even with a small piece of land, a farmer can plant olive trees and much of Palestinian rural life relates to the cycles of planting, pruning and harvesting olives. One tree produces enough olives for an average of 10 bottles (750 mL) of olive oil.



Fair trade olive oil from Palestine (Zatoun) is back! \$25 for a bottle of extra virgin olive oil from Palestine. Za'tar is back as well for \$6 a bag (perfect for salads, dips and marinades) and as a new trial we have Medjoul dates from Palestine \$21 for a 900 gram box (perfect for baking and snacking).

The fair trade kiosk is delivering to your doorstep - no order is too big or too small. Please check out the cathedral inventory here (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1RMenh5mth8204T6DQmq5IAPzUN38SiatEn4iXwMb69c/edit#gid=0>) and email Lisa and Joseph of the Fair Trade Group at fairtrade@montrealcathedral.ca to place your order.

The Thursday travel group led by Jane and James has taken a two-week holiday, but will be back next Thursday, September 10 at 2:30 pm when we will talk about "Saints, Scholars & Stories" and look at photographs taken during our cathedral's pilgrimage two years ago when we visited some remarkable English Cathedrals and other interesting places close by, like the little church at Tudeley where all the stained glass windows were by Marc Chagall. The zoom link for Thursday is on the CCC website.



All Saints Church, Tudeley and one of the windows designed by Marc Chagall

An update from Jean Daniel re ministry to children and young adults

- Beginning September 2nd we have a weekly student Bible study in English for Cégep and undergraduate university students on Wednesdays at 7 pm.
Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6267777185>
- Beginning September 3rd we have Le Dîner Biblique, a weekly young adult Bible study in French at noon on Thursdays.
Via zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85223589422>
- Also beginning on September 3rd is a weekly Bible study in English for graduate students and "older" young adults (post-undergrad) on Thursdays at 7 pm.
Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89813915940>
- Beginning September 6th we will offer bilingual children's church by Zoom at 10 am each Sunday.
via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88527432149>
- Finally, each Sunday we now have a contemporary time of worship and prayer led by young adults and open to all ages, Cathedral at 6. That is already ongoing and continuing.
via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89559749619>

Diocesan Seminars about zoom ministry

Most of us are getting quite comfortable, even blasé, about using zoom so now is a good time to delve into ways of meeting the challenges to ministry.

Lee-Ann Matthews writes

"We know that the world is changing, and that the new ministry landscape requires innovation. Let's engage with experts on how to approach digital ministry, ask questions and get answers!"



You are invited to attend a Series of Webinars with tools and Information to improve digital worship for church leaders. I think we can all consider ourselves to be leaders! Certainly, the topics concern us all.

- **Week 1. Friday September 18, 10 -11:30 am EST** Presenter: Dr. Jonathan White
Theme: **Music & Worship**
 - **Week 2. Friday September 25, 10-11:30 am EST** Presenters: Jen DeTracey, Tyler Schmidt, Reid Emerson August Bode and Dr. Jonathan White
Theme: **Safety & Ethics**
 - **Week 3. Friday October 2nd, 10-11:30 am EST** Presenters: Rev. Dr. Joanne Mercer and Rev Rob Cooke
Theme: **Formation & Community**
- ✓ The event is free but registration is required. Click “going” on the [FB event](#) for each session.
 - ✓ Find the Facebook event for week 1 here <https://www.facebook.com/events/655474181764587>
 - ✓ Please note that login details will change weekly so **you will need to re-register on the Facebook event each week**. If you have registered via email then once you have sent a message you will be contacted each week with new login details 📧 📧 📧 📧 lmattthews@montreal.anglican.ca

Book groups: a reminder

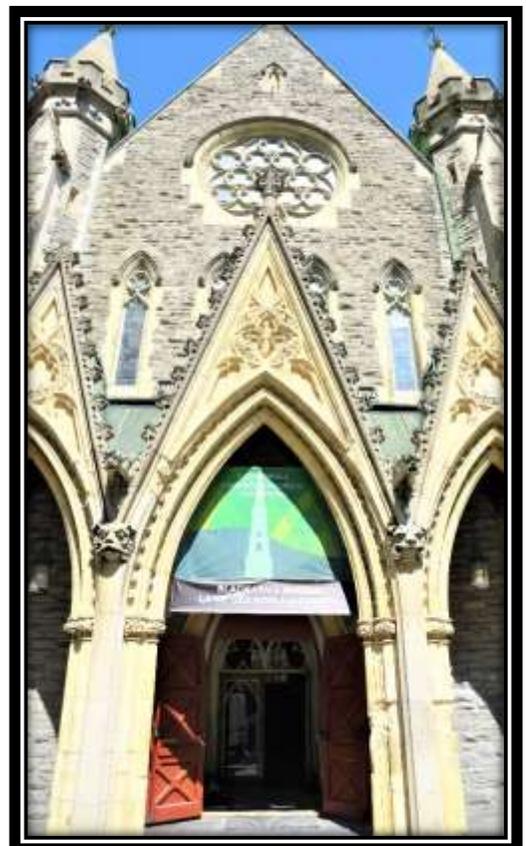
- English book group September 13: *Girl, Woman Other* by Bernadine Evaristo. Jane provides the zoom link.
- Club de lecture 19 septembre : *Manikanetish* by Naomi Fonatine

Battered, but soldiering on

Our doors are open again – with many precautions in place - and people are visiting the building. Please pray for our visitors and for the group making plans to open the church for Sunday worship on September 20. You will be receiving more information.

Please pray too for students, teachers, support staff and parents, now that schools have reopened.

Please also remember that more than ever the cathedral needs your financial support. Would you like to honour someone with a small donation to the flower fund? The newsletter will name the person and post your photograph or a picture of flowers.



Ann Elbourne

(with thanks to Elizabeth Shama, Raymonde Proulx, Deborah Meister, and the other contributors)

September 4, 2020