

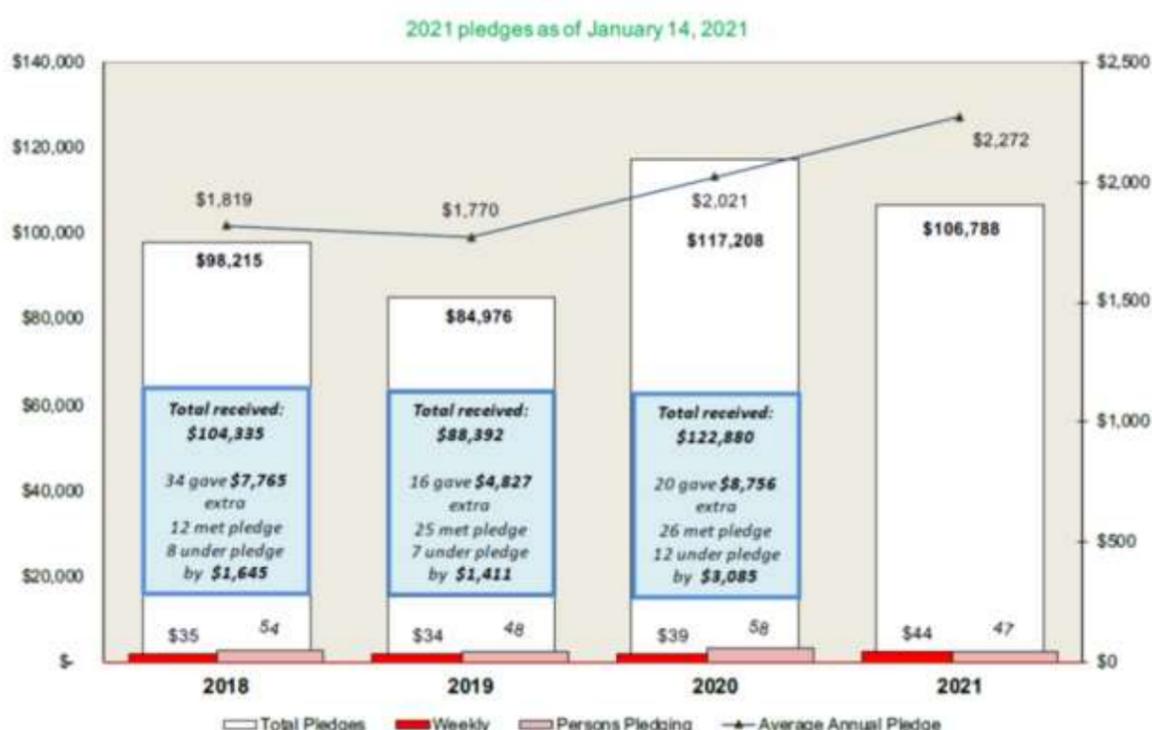


Dear Friend of the Cathedral

We were delighted to learn last Sunday that Bishop Mary has appointed **Ralph Leavitt Honorary Assistant at the Cathedral**. Ralph has been worshipping with us for about a year and we have already enjoyed hearing him preach and reading his contributions to the Daily Bread series of blogs. Before he was ordained in 1993, Ralph was President of Canada New Zealand Casings Ltd. His ministry in Montreal has been to churches in downtown Montreal, the West Island and the Laurentians. He was Chaplain to the Grenadier Guards 1996 – 1998, Archdeacon of St Andrews from 2012 until his retirement in 2016 and a Spiritual Director in the Diocese from 2000. As spiritual director he led a memorable weekend retreat for Cathedral Members, focused on Ignatian Spirituality. We are delighted that Ralph has joined the Cathedral's ministry Team and offer him a warm welcome.

Cathedral Forum met on Tuesday, discussing among other things the Cathedral budget for the coming year. If you would like to have a copy of the budget please contact ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca. Without tourist revenue or plate offerings, this has obviously been a challenging year. We have lost more than 2/3 of our non-identifiable income. Some operating expenses have been cut but there is still a deficit of \$70,654 when expenses are deducted from income. Because of COVID support from the government and the diocese, this deficit has been turned into a positive balance. However, this support is temporary, so we need continued generous giving from parishioners as well as vigorous fundraising to stay afloat. Jane is pleased to note that pledged amounts are increasing. Have a look at the graph below and you will see that although the number of people pledging is down from last year – several Cathedral members have moved from Montreal – the size of pledges has increased, so the amount pledged is trending up. That's great news. If 12 more people send in a pledge we'll beat our record for the annual number of pledgers – so here's a challenge to anyone who hasn't already made a pledge. Small pledges are as welcome as large ones, especially as they often represent a bigger sacrifice. They do help the treasurer and bookkeeper anticipate the resources at their disposal.

Cathedral Pledges 2018 - 2021



Fun-draising

Have you seen the movie *Calendar Girls* in which a group of women posed tastefully nude in order to raise money? While not suggesting we go to this extreme, our churchwarden Sheena has sent a special message about the need for fund raising and an invitation to contribute ideas. She writes:

I would like to invite you to **a special meeting to discuss ideas for fundraising**. In the recent past, we had rummage sales in the summer and wrapped Christmas presents in December to raise money. We need to restart this tradition, in part to bring much needed funds for our special projects like the spire. But any good fundraising project should also be fun and bring people together. I am therefore asking that you come with ideas, no matter how wild or outrageous ... projects that you have taken part in, projects that you have heard of, or simply projects that you thought up in a moment of wild imagination!

Time and place: this coming **Monday, January 25th, at 3pm**
<https://zoom.us/j/98985384770?pwd=WElybnBPS0plREkzSzZleDdZbkxHZz09>
 Tel: 1 438 809 7799, Meeting ID: 989 8538 4770, Passcode: 1857

For inspiration, see <https://www.facebook.com/BBCYorkshire/videos/3194769783933934/> (with thanks to Jonathan White and Beth Adams for the link). This includes a video of touching fundraising at Ripon Cathedral.

Book Sale on Cathedral Forecourt 2013



Sad news

We are sad to tell you that Faith Wallis' father, Douglas Corbett, died this week. Faith, Kendall and Douglas are in our prayers and we send Faith our deepest sympathy.



Neil Mancor, Coordinator of Congregational Development in the Diocese, will be facilitating a seminar and support group for people who have gone through the loss of someone close to them.

Starting on February 4th there will be 13 sessions from 7-9pm on zoom which will combine videos with group discussion. There is a cost of \$20 for materials.

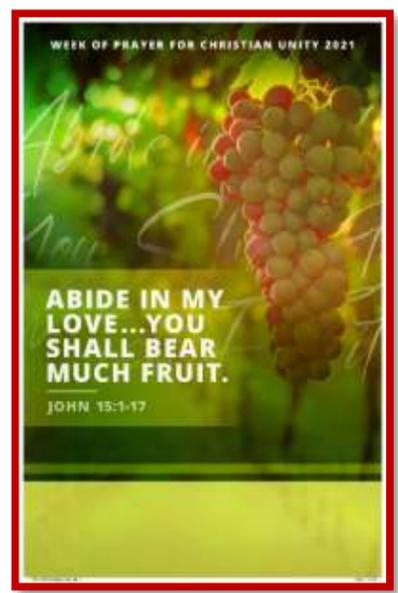
For more information contact Neil nmancor@montreal.anglican.ca

For registration information contact June Lashley at the Church of St Mark and St Peter

514-747-4566 admin@stmarkstpeter.org or consult www.griefshare.org



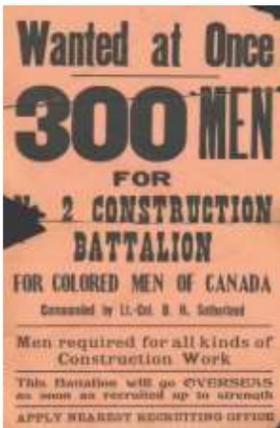
Our Dean Bertrand suggests that we join the **Ecumenical service**, organised by the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism, celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, this **Sunday (January 24) at 3pm** via zoom or YouTube. To participate register here [Prière pour l'unité des chrétiens /Prayer for Christian Unity 2021 \(google.com\)](#) and you will receive the link



Black Lives Matter

The presentation made by Robert, Ann and Peggy is now up on the website. <https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/black-lives-matter> Here is one of the slides

World War I Black soldiers segregated



You might like to view the presentation as an introduction to the discussions planned for **Desmond Cole's book, *The Skin We're In*, on two Tuesday evenings, February 2 and 9, from 7:00 to 8:30**, discussing chapters "January" through "June" on the first date, and the rest of the book on the second. (Zoom link will be on the Cathedral website.) **Ibram Kendi's *How to be an Anti-Racist* will be discussed during Lent on Tuesday, March 2nd and 9th, from 7:00 to 8:30.**

Book Groups



Meanwhile, the English book group is reading *The Jane Austen Society* by Natalie Jenner. Discussion 7 pm January 21.

The French group is reading *Le Chat du Dalai-Lama* de David Michie. Details in the French version of this letter.

Those of us in the older age groups have been wondering when and how we will get our COVID vaccination. Thursday's Gazette has good information about the plans. <https://montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/isolated-seniors-wont-be-forgotten-during-vaccine-campaign-quebec-vows>

Community collections

We love getting poems, reflections and photographs from readers. Deborah thinks it would be fun to see photographs of snow creatures made by you and your family. To start us off here are two photographs she took of snow personalities - not made by her she hastens to add.



Finally, let us take a moment to pray with our American friends and neighbours that a new era is dawning in the United States, sharing the joy expressed by Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman. You can read the whole poem and hear her recitation here <https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/20/politics/amanda-gorman-inaugural-poem-transcript/index.html>

*“Somehow we've weathered and witnessed
a nation that isn't broken
but simply unfinished
We the successors of a country and a time
Where a skinny Black girl
descended from slaves and raised by a single mother
can dream of becoming president
only to find herself reciting for one”*