

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

Our newsletter this week looks to an exciting future filled with plans and projects, and also celebrates the lives of three special people.

Forum

Come to the meeting of Forum on Tuesday next week (Sept 6) to hear about these plans and to contribute your ideas. By Zoom at 5 pm, with the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84755840311>

Season of Creation September 1 to October 2

This Sunday marks the beginning of the Season of Creation, which will extend through the Feast of St. Francis on October 2nd.



The Church consecrates this time for focused reflection on our relationship with the natural world and our obligation to care for and protect it. (Recent headlines make it only too clear how deeply such reflection is needed, and the necessity of allowing it to bear fruit in changed lives, renewable systems of energy, and a reduction in our consumption of unnecessary goods.)

Our liturgies will be marked with prayers intended to prompt such thoughtful lives, including, this year, the first use of a brand new Eucharistic Prayer written for our congregation and authorized by Bishop Mary. Our celebration of the Season will conclude with two special events: **A Blessing of the Animals** which will take place during the 10:30 service on Sunday, October 2nd (all pets are welcomed, and should be suitably restrained with leashes, cat carriers, bird cages, etc.) and a **creation-themed Evensong** that evening at 4:00. More details on both events will be provided closer to the date.

Young Adults at the Cathedral

If you are between the ages of 18 and 35ish, we would like to learn from you how we can best support your spiritual life. Do you want us to have a group for young adults? For Young Professionals? For parents of young children? Or would you rather be part of intergenerational offerings? What kinds of classes or activities would interest you? What kinds of ministries would you hope to participate in? Deborah Meister would like to gather you for tea and cake on Sunday, September 25th after the 10:30

service. Weather permitting, we will aim for the garden behind the cathedral. (Weather not permitting, we will gather in the St. John's chapel, to the left of the main altar.)

Last Sunday in the Month Lunch – a report and a plan for the future

Adrian King-Edwards writes:

*First I would like to **thank the two Cathedral members who generously sponsored the August lunch.***

***This month's lunch felt like a marathon race!** I should have realized what was likely to happen on Friday when I passed out twice as many handouts advertising the lunch at Atwater as I usually do. I checked on our line up around 9:45 and there were well over 25 people waiting. By 10 when Donna and I started giving out the takeouts - pork and cheese pizza along with coffee and tea - there were considerably more. Usually the line up lasts until about 10:30. This time it continued right through to 11:30.*

I also miscalculated the number of help I needed in the kitchen. Instead of thinking we could manage with Carol Manning away, I should have realized I needed at least two people to replace her. So, let's say it was quite exciting running up and down the stairs to the kitchen to constantly bring down fresh supplies. Towards the end we had run out of coffee. We gave out over 135 lunches and we all felt quite proud of our accomplishment. Many thanks to Flo, Jo, Donna and of course John our cook who also performed emergency surgery on our ancient dishwasher.

The big news is next month on Sept. 25th the Dean has asked us to reopen our sit down lunch.



This will be a huge transition. I am now looking for 25 volunteers to help. Please email me directly if you can help (wordbook@securenet.net) It is not a large time commitment. If you show up at 11:30 on Sunday September 25th you should be finished by 1pm. There are essentially two jobs: running the food to the tables and sitting at the table and serving the food.

Other smaller jobs you might consider are helping set up the tables in Fulford Hall at 8 am., helping in the kitchen and washing the dishes in the dishwasher. Please consider asking your friends if they would like to join you in helping. I can assure you it is quite a rewarding experience. All volunteers will have a chance to sample Peggy's homemade cookies, of course.

I am also launching an appeal for sponsorships. Please email me directly if you can help. With our return to sit down lunches the cost to feed 125 people is \$500. (Donations over \$20 get a tax receipt.)

Despite inflationary pressure we are trying to continue to offer sponsorships at this pre-covid amount. It would be immensely helpful to me if I could have all the three Fall lunches covered. An immense thank you in advance for considering this.

Blessings,

Adrian, Donna, Jo, Flo and John

Journées du Patrimoine religieux

During the weekend of September 10th and 11th our doors will be open to people interested in Montreal's rich religious heritage. We will be offering information about our history and architecture. Diana Bouchard is looking for volunteers to greet our visitors. She says the job is mainly to count people as they come in (we have a clicker) and to wander around answering people's questions and keeping an eye on things. Please choose one or more two-hour time slots. We need a minimum of two people on each slot, but three would be better. Time slots available:

Saturday: 10 AM to 12 Noon
 12 Noon to 2 PM
 2 PM to 4 PM
 4 PM to 6 PM

Sunday: 12:30 PM to 2 PM
 2 PM to 4 PM

Please help us reach out to the community around us and welcome everyone to the beauties of the Cathedral.

Bach Mobile

As part of the Journées du patrimoine, Director of Music Nick Capozzoli will be playing three recitals on Friday September 9 at 4, 5, and 6 PM.



The recitals will take place on the forecourt and feature the “Bach Mobile,” a project sponsored by the Concours International d’orgue du Canada (CIOC). Tourists, shoppers, and other passersby will be serenaded with light organ music and even a circus performer!

Photo by Jean-Willy Kunz

English Book Group: Change of Plan

Our original choice, *Palmares*, is on hold. The discussion in September will be about *Sweet Sweet Revenge Ltd.* by Jonas Jonasson. A satire, set in today’s political world, it’s both thought-provoking and very funny. Do join us when we meet over zoom on September 25.

Celebrating and remembering

Gertrude Davies, who was confirmed at this Cathedral when she was 10 and has been a member more than 80 years, will turn 103 on September 24th. What an amazing milestone. Congratulations, Gertrude!

There will be a funeral for **Bernice Camacho** on Saturday 3 September at 10 am at the Cathedral. She died in March 2020 but COVID prevented her family from holding a funeral. Bernice was a licensed lay reader in the diocese for many years. The Bishop will preside.

Donations in lieu of flowers to the Cathedral can be made by clicking here. (www.montrealcathedral.ca/donate)

On August 26th, 2022, **Eva Brebner** passed away peacefully at the age of 81. Eva was the Parish secretary for 16 years 1997 -2013, under 2 Deans, Michael Pitts and Paul Kennington. When she retired as secretary she remained a member of the Liturgical Dance Group, performing for the last time on Good Friday this year. Her musical and spiritual interpretation was inspiring. Here are two tributes to Eva as secretary:

Jonathan Bailey, husband of Paul Kennington wrote,

“I remember her well, both from being a smiling, seemingly always calm presence in the office, and from enjoying Rosemary’s dance group.”

Michael Pitts, the Dean who hired Eva, remembers,

“When Eva came to work in the Cathedral, we were in a process of transition. Her predecessor had been the dean’s secretary, but with the increasing use of computers and e-mails together with financial constraints leading to a reduction in the staffing levels, the job was coming to be that of cathedral secretary. Eva fulfilled that role magnificently. I often said that Eva kept the whole cathedral running. She could turn her hand to any administrative task that needed to be done. One major task was the creation of the weekly service bulletin, which was done elegantly and with precision. She worked diligently, but always with a warm and welcoming smile whenever anyone came to, or passed by her desk.

When we were all in the ranks of the retired, Eva, Kyllikki and I kept in touch and occasionally met over lunch. We shall miss her. May she rest in peace.”

Eva was a member of the parish of St Mark and St Peter in the borough of Saint-Laurent. Her funeral service will be held there on Saturday, September 3, at 2 pm.

Here is the link to the funeral livestream. (<https://www.stmarkstpeter.org>)

Esperanto service at the Cathedral

During the recent World Esperanto Congress, an Ecumenical service in Esperanto was held in the Cathedral. Former cathedral parishioners Joel Amis, rector of Christ Church Beaurepaire, and Yevgeniya Amis, still an occasional member of the Cathedral singers, worked hard organising the conference and this service which was entirely in Esperanto. Yevgeniya has sent us a link.

(<https://youtu.be/QsHDOLCXPOw>) See how much you understand!

Two more pictures from Bishop Mary

We weren’t able to include these pictures last week when Bishop Mary sent us some reflections about Lambeth. They are of Bishop Achilles Mutshindu, bishop of Kinshasa in the Congo, with his wife Gertrude, and the bishop holding a present from Montreal.



I hope you feel excited by the plans for the future and that you will be able to participate in some of the events. Here is a message from Alex about a new way of keeping you abreast of coming events:

“Say goodbye to our Saturday morning worship links email. Starting next week, we will be replacing it with a **Week-at-a-Glance** email that will go out on Sunday evenings. This email will list every event with links — regardless of whether it is in-person or online. We will also spotlight certain upcoming events and include quick summaries of the most important announcements. I hope this new email will help you keep up with what’s happening at the Cathedral, even in the busiest of times.”

Ann Elbourne,

with thanks to contributors Deborah, Michael, Yevgeniya, Adrian and Nick. Huge thanks to Alex for formatting the letter in MailChimp and to Michel for checking the French version of the letter.

September 2, 2022