

Spring & Summer 2019



Jubilation!

Jubilation! is the newsletter of Jubilee United Church
40 Underhill Drive * 416-447-6846 * www.jubileeunited.ca

Notes from Norm

In the Gospels of Mark, Luke, and Matthew we are told that after the miraculous feeding of at least 5000 people out in the wilderness, Jesus **“made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd.”**⁴⁶ After saying farewell to them, he went up on the mountain to pray.



“When evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land.”⁴⁷ When he saw that they were straining at the oars against an adverse wind, he came towards them early in the morning, **walking on the sea. He intended to pass them by...**⁴⁸ (Mark 6:45-48).

Many have pondered the meaning of this passage; to me, it seems clear: Jesus had worked hard all week, teaching and feeding the multitudes, and it was cottage time. He sent the lads on ahead of him (who wants to sit in traffic?) and then later took a quick short cut by running across the water on foot. He really wanted to get to the cottage.

It is possible that if you were to mention this interpretation to my seminary professors of long ago, they might try to revoke my degree. But it does speak to me: the desire to just get away sometimes. Get away from the busy-ness of the world. Get away from the angry rhetoric in the media. Listen, instead, to the wind in the trees; water on the shore. To be in the midst of the harmony of nature when I feel out of harmony within my own relationships. My kids are older and

different... my wife is retired and different... my friends don't seem the same... the world seems less friendly and hopeful.

God, I wish I had a cottage.

Alas, I do not.

But my parents do.

A little more than a year ago, I made a commitment to myself to get away to my parents' cottage for a couple of days every month to recharge: Think, wonder, pray, and be alone; maybe write things like “Notes from Norm” for Jubilation. In the past year, I've managed it four times (not as promised, but a start). Each time I go, I feel more and more like running across the water to get there... I can't wait. Please understand that I love my job. I love my family. I love my friends and my coworkers. I love Toronto. But getting away becomes more and more important all the time... The world just seems crazier by the day, and I crave the time to just shut it off. I just want to run across the water like Jesus and get away.

The first time I went, I did something that I probably shouldn't tell you about (but if you're not going to report me for saying that Jesus was in a hurry to get to the cottage, perhaps you'll indulge me again). To be clear: I'm not advocating or recommending this, but when I went to the cottage, I took a cigar and some Irish Whiskey. Not typical or frequent practices of mine, but something I felt like doing. At the end of the first day on my own – a day filled with reading, writing, music, talking out loud to God and eating very healthy snacks, I decided to sit on the deck to watch the evening come in. I sat with a small glass of whiskey and a cigar. Of

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course, nothing is real anymore unless you post it to Social Media, so I took a lovely picture of my cigar on the whiskey glass with the sun going down over the lake behind them both. It was a lovely picture, if I do say so myself. Naturally, I posted it to Instagram and Facebook (as one does). Almost immediately, I got a message from a friend in B.C. My friend is a retired United Church Minister and practising psychotherapist; a brilliant woman with a broad and deep education, with stories and anecdotes about some of the most remarkable minds of my lifetime. She sent the following message: **Your picture reminded me of one of the wisest things that I was ever taught - sometimes the best solution is a glass of whiskey and a cigar.**

Immediately, I began to wonder from whom she had received such sage advice. What wise guru's teaching had I intuitively channelled and photographed? What other great wisdom might I have lurking in my subconscious? What theologian, pastor, therapist, or philosopher had imparted such deep knowledge to my friend? In whose wise company did I belong? (I do get carried away when I'm on my own). I messaged her back right away, asking simply, "Who?" and awaited the revelation that I was to be counted among the Tillich's, Freud's, or Dr. Phil's of this generation.

She replied: My dog trainer. He told me that if I was having trouble training my dog, I needed to sit on the porch with a glass of whiskey and smoke a cigar, because the problem wasn't the dog.

Well, my intuited wisdom may not put me in the company of theological or therapeutic giants, but it's still pretty good. Every now again, when the world is getting crazy, I need to stop and take some time to just sit and think; wonder and pray – because sometimes the problem isn't the world. Are politicians really dumber than they used to be? Are my neighbours really angrier than ever before? Are my kids really that hard to understand? Is the world really hopeless?

Or is some of it me?

Me, who doesn't want to recognize that my children have changed, my wife has changed, and I have changed (that's what happens with time) and I need to recognize the changes and find the joy in the new, instead of lamenting the old. I remember when my kids were home for every holiday... and I was paying for their university, too.

Me, who loves to wrap myself in a smug cocoon and decry the stupidity of everyone with whom I disagree,

every coach of every team that has let me down, every person who has promised but failed to deliver all that I expected. At least they were ambitious... while I stayed safe and warm predicting and awaiting disaster.

Me, who preaches and fervently believes in a loving God, a student of history ancient and modern, wanting to give up on the latest crisis because apparently, I think that we're in this alone and we're never going to figure out how to work together.

So, I sit, and I ponder. I dedicate time – not an instant while waiting for the bus, or some background thoughts while I drive home listening to the radio. Real, stop the world, time when I can hear myself think. When I can hear my heart beat. When I can feel the breeze blow. When I can hear the still small voice of God...

And slowly it floods into me... I am not alone. Hope is not naïve; it is the humble recognition that I am not alone in my aspirations or my love; that God is guiding me, supporting us into the future. My sons are remarkable men who no longer require my financial support but are very open to my emotional support. My wife has changed, which is good because I've changed, too, and neither of us is left behind. As my indulgences are consumed and the night comes in, I find comfort in the change of day into evening, fully aware that dawn is also on its way. Everything changes and embracing the rhythm is far better than trying to hold things still.

This year, I am hoping that summer provides several opportunities for me to sit at the cottage with a glass of whiskey and a cigar and wonder about my place in the world. But I have already learned a couple of remarkable things:

1. I don't need to go to the cottage to get away. My backyard works, too. So does the park.
2. The whiskey can also be a cup of tea.
3. The cigar is easily replaced, even upgraded by a carrot.

All that really matters is the time and intention to wonder -

Norm





ScotiaBank Waterfront Marathon

(Marathon, 1/2 Marathon and 5k)

Sunday, October 20, 2019

We're doing it AGAIN!!!!

And we want you to take part.

So, this summer – start walking.

**Walk with Norm after Church; walk during the week...
get from couch to 5k this summer.**

Remember, all of the money that is donated goes to Jubilee.

Imagine the Jubilee Community up and running (walking) while raising money for our church and ministry in the community . You can run a marathon, ½ marathon or join us for a 5 km walk.

To Register, Donate or just investigate, go to our Marathon Website

**[www.torontowaterfrontmarathon.com/
stwm-charities/jubilee-united-church/](http://www.torontowaterfrontmarathon.com/stwm-charities/jubilee-united-church/)**

You can also talk to Rev. Seli if you have questions



Thank you to the whole Jubilee Community for your support during Jason Meyers' internship this past year.

Jason has graduated with a Masters of Divinity and has been ordained by Shining Waters Region of the United Church of Canada. He has just begun his ministry as Rev. Jason Meyers at Metropolitan United Church – but a part of him will always be here at Jubilee.

On Sunday, May 5th, **Hailey Clinton** was honoured by the Toronto United Church Council with The Baillie Volunteer Service Award. This award recognizes volunteers for commitment and dedicated service to a ministry endeavour of a United Church congregation. Hailey was recognized for her ongoing support of all the programs at Jubilee, but especially her work with our children in summer programs and weekly Godly Play. Both Rev. Anne and Rev. Norm were excited to nominate Hailey for this award, and we are all very proud of her and appreciate all that she has contributed to our community.



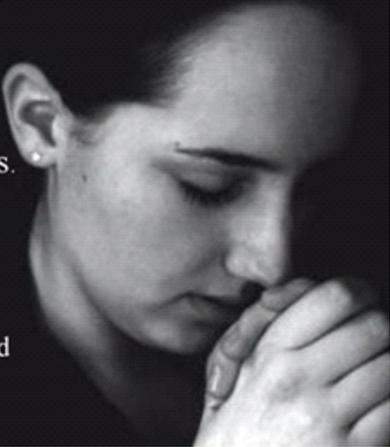
Open Doors
Wednesdays 430 – 630 pm

The sanctuary is open,
and you are invited to sit...
to pray...
to be still and know that God is.

One of our ministers will be there
if you want to talk

There are candles that can be lit
and time that is just for you and God

Jubilee United Church



Coffee @Jubilee
Tuesdays 11am-1230
You never know who will you meet!



You might recall that it all started with **Shrove Tuesday** – Pancakes and a Ukulele Sing-a-Long.

Then, we burned the ashes from last year’s Palm Sunday to prepare for **Ash Wednesday**.



On **Ash Wednesday**, we had short services inside with the imposition of ashes and the reminder that “We are dust and to dust we will return”. Jason and Norm also went out on the streets to provide ashes to passers-by.



Throughout Lent we heard stories from the Bible not often heard in church and we wondered together about our relationships to each other, to community and to God. Eventually we made it to **Palm Sunday**

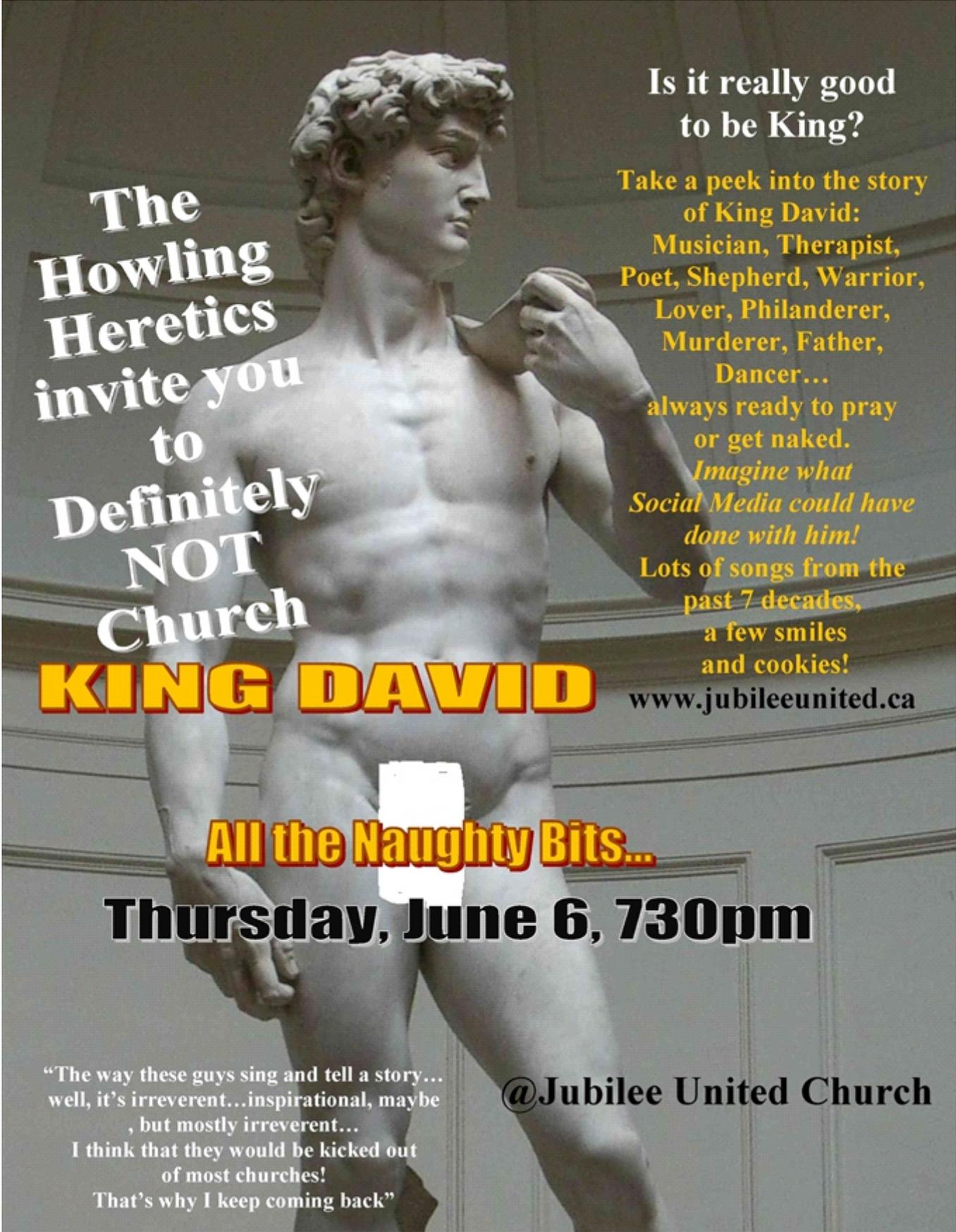


Into Holy Week, we shared Footwashing, Story-telling and a Holy Meal on **Maundy Thursday**. The story and the truth of **Good Friday**, which led us to **Easter Sunday morning**. Quite a **Journey of Faith**



that we took together...





**The
Howling
Heretics
invite you
to
Definitely
NOT
Church**

KING DAVID

**Is it really good
to be King?**

**Take a peek into the story
of King David:**

**Musician, Therapist,
Poet, Shepherd, Warrior,
Lover, Philanderer,
Murderer, Father,
Dancer...**

**always ready to pray
or get naked.**

*Imagine what
Social Media could have
done with him!*

**Lots of songs from the
past 7 decades,
a few smiles
and cookies!**

www.jubileeunited.ca

All the Naughty Bits...

Thursday, June 6, 730pm

“The way these guys sing and tell a story...
well, it’s irreverent...inspirational, maybe
, but mostly irreverent...”

I think that they would be kicked out
of most churches!

That’s why I keep coming back”

@Jubilee United Church

The Benevolent Fund



Allow me to preface this note with “This is not a plea.” There is no Benevolent Fund campaign – and never will be. Some people in the church and around our community like to contribute to this fund, and I like to share the good news with you.

People are helped.

They are helped with grocery cards and support for parking at hospitals; some need help buying books for school or food for special needs family members. Sometimes a bill is paid, or a medical need is answered.

Often people who have been helped come back to contribute to the fund to help others, but what we offer is not a loan. It's a small gift to help someone sleep at night or to help fill an empty tummy, educate a willing mind, or access training for someone looking for work.

As most of you know, the Benevolent Fund is a modest and discreet fund that I use to help folks in greatest need. There are no reports made or records kept; it is entirely at my discretion. It is my policy to shy away from repeat requests, and to try and keep to modest amounts, so that we can reach as many as possible and not turn people away when the funds are depleted.

In the summer months, I suspect that the number of people looking for food support and transportation to seasonal jobs will increase, the opportunity to help send children to camp will present itself, and I am sure to be touched and amazed by another story shared by someone looking for friendship and compassion.

Donations can be made directly to me, but also to the Church office or in the Offering Box in an envelope marked “Benevolent Fund.” In the box or through the office assures that you will get a Tax Receipt... to me directly is not as reliable (I do forget sometimes).

You will not hear about these efforts during the year as privacy is essential – but please know that your contributions are valued and make a difference in people's lives... people you might never know, or people who might be sitting beside you on Sunday. Thank You, *Norm*

A hand holding a glowing lightbulb with a brain inside, symbolizing wisdom and ideas.

**A Musical, Muffin
and Wisdom service.**

Sunday, June 16 at 1030am.
**Coffee & Muffins
available from 10.**

A Live Band will play “wise songs”
as we share our personal wisdom
and discover God's wisdom
together

 **Jubilee**
UNITED CHURCH



ADVANCE FALL NOTICE JUBILEE BRIDGE 2019



At
JUBILEE UNITED CHURCH
40 Underhill Dr.
416-447-6846

BRIDGE INSTRUCTION BY AUDREY GRANT

Acclaimed bridge teacher and author
Member of the Canadian Bridge Hall of Fame
Member of the ACBL Hall of Fame, Chicago USA

ONE DAY ONLY: November 15, 2019

COST: \$60.00 Cash or current cheques payable to Jubilee United Church

TOPIC: To be announced

Information on Registration

We suggest you pre-register by contacting
Marie at 416-222-9329 / 416-560-0187
mmcorie@rogers.com

If this is not convenient there will be a Registration Day at
Jubilee on Friday, September 6, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

SINGLES, PAIRS OR GROUPS OF FOUR CAN BE ACCOMMODATED
REGISTER EARLY AS THIS EVENT NORMALLY FILLS QUICKLY

Sunday, June 16th

RIGHT HERE after
Muffin Church
@Jubilee

Food, Games, Friends
a general lack of order
and LOTS of FUN for all ages.



Church Picnic

Life Events:

Celebrations of Life:

Margaret Dennis March 8

Marriages:

Joseph Swindlehurst and Alaina Sharpe February 23
Mario Mabrucco and Monique Gerrits April 6

Baptisms:

Ella Melodie Macklin February 17
Nora Jane Smith April 21
Phoebe R. C. Liberatore April 21
Emily Rose Battams May 5
Bryson Villar May 5
Morgan Villar May 5

MISSION AND SERVICE FUND

The Jubilee congregation has generously supported the national Mission and Service Fund through the years. Our gifts make a better world possible and bring hope for the future by supporting programs and partnerships at local, provincial, national, and international levels.

Did you know how the money we dedicate to M&S is used? Imagine a pie worth \$100, divided into 7 slices of varying sizes: \$23 for faith formation; \$22 for innovation and local ministries; \$18 for global Mission and Service; \$16 for Indigenous Ministries; \$10 for Canadian community and justice work; \$7 for theological education; \$4 for leadership in Conferences (now Regions).

The budgeted \$26,000,000 (in 2018) provided support for the following:

- 82 M&S global partners in 21 countries
- 20 Canadian ecumenical networks
- 63 Community ministries across Canada
- 36 Chaplaincies on campuses and in hospitals
- 7 theological colleges and 3 educational centres
- 81 Vision Fund projects with youth
- 86 Local congregational grants
- 197 Embracing the Spirit Innovation grants
- 13 Conferences (through Mission Support grants) and 11 Conferences (through operating grants)
- 89 Healing Fund and Justice and Reconciliation projects with Indigenous communities in Canada

What an impact we can have through our offerings to this national fund! If giving to M&S is already a regular part of your life, thank you. If you have not yet designated offerings to M&S, please consider doing so as part of your life of faith. Remember Jesus' words: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself". (Mark 12: 31).

(Submitted by Pam Lock, your designated M&S Enthusiast)

In support of Cheryl Colford's recent service, "Our Grandmother's Story," the Jubilee Outreach Committee is excited to announce a new project. We will be collecting various menstrual hygiene products, which will then be distributed to those in need. Please consider donating maxi pads, tampons, reusable cloth pads, menstrual cups, and/or adult diapers to this much-needed initiative. Donated monetary funds will be used to purchase such items; please see Iona to make a financial contribution. If you have any questions, please contact Iona (647-229-8285) or Cheryl (416-908-1209). Thank you!



Pat Lansche is Retiring!

After more than ten years of dedicated service as Jubilee's Administrator, Pat is taking a well earned retirement as of October 31st, 2019. While she will be missed in the office, she will still be part of the Jubilee family. We wish her well as she transitions into her new retirement adventure this Fall.

A search team has been struck by M&P to find a replacement for Pat. Please see Jubilee's website for the job description and job posting details.

Valerie Winters



Many thanks to all who participated in making this major fundraiser a success, from flier delivery to clean up, and all aspects in between. The sale brought in \$12,101.95, representing a decrease in revenue from the excellent results achieved in 2018, and a slight decrease in the income in 2017 (the early morning wet weather this year may have been a deterrent). These funds will be used to support the ongoing work of Jubilee United Church in this community.

Area	2019 Results	2018 Results	2017 Results
Baking	\$ 460.00	\$ 593.75	\$ 681.85
BBQ	\$ 708.95	\$ 1,429.00	\$ 843.50
Bits and Bobs	\$ 278.60	\$ 267.00	\$ 200.65
Books	\$ 670.30	\$ 1,017.65	\$ 690.20
CD's & DVD's	\$ 303.05	\$ 157.15	\$ 156.25
Clothing	\$ 1,311.50	\$ 1,578.05	\$ 1,640.90
Electronics	\$ 1,396.75	\$ 1,367.25	\$ 1,244.75
Furniture	\$ 734.00	\$ 986.00	\$ 1,526.75
Housewares	\$ 983.65	\$ 780.70	\$ 859.80
Jewelry	\$ 1,461.90	\$ 1,095.55	\$ 1,659.95
Linens	\$ 531.95	\$ 587.25	\$ 323.00
Pictures and Frames	\$ 660.45	\$ 602.15	\$ 419.05
Plants	\$ 492.20	\$ 405.85	\$ 507.75
Sports Equipment	\$ 248.25	\$ 495.40	\$ 246.55
Toys and Games	\$ 380.90	\$ 664.40	\$ 483.35
Treasures	\$ 1,479.50	\$ 1,616.05	\$ 1,437.75
TOTAL INCOME	\$12,101.95	\$13,643.20	\$12,922.05

We continue to explore ways to make the sale run more smoothly and involve more Jubilee folks. The Garage Sale annually represents an excellent opportunity for the congregation and the community to come together to help people wanting to downsize and those looking for used but very useful items for their home and cottage at good value.

Alana Patterson, Barb Secord, Pat Lansche

Social Committee

"The Social Committee has a large group of enthusiastic and committed members enjoying a reasonably successful first year as a committee of the church.

Our St. Jacob's Day Trip scheduled for Saturday, May 25th has attracted approximately 50 guests.

The Concert for a Saturday Afternoon, featuring three talented young musicians including Jubilee's own Benjamin Gabbay, was appreciated (with a standing ovation) by the audience.

The "Bid Euchre" group under Judy Olson's leadership meets every Tuesday commencing at 12:30 pm and attracts 20 or more players each and every week, welcomes new players, and provides instructions for newcomers.

We are planning a Murder Mystery Dinner scheduled for Saturday evening October 19th, 2019 and hope that Jubilee members, their family and friends, will attend this intriguing event.

We thank everyone for their support.

Ann Howes

Charlie Scott

REPORT FROM MUSIC DIRECTOR



It has been a very busy Spring season here at Jubilee! The choir performed beautifully during the Lent, Holy Week and Easter seasons. A big thank you to all choir members who worked extra hard to inspire our congregation with their beautiful singing! An Easter highlight was our massed singing of the Hallelujah Chorus. It was a great moment and a wonderful way to finish our glorious Easter Sunday service. It also brought out many singers from the congregation and I do hope that some of you consider joining the choir! Incidentally, the choir is growing once again, and this spring we welcomed Diane Naduriak (soprano) and Iona Williams (soprano). These two wonderful sopranos will help balance the soprano and alto sections and we are delighted that they have blended so seamlessly with us! That said, we would LOVE to have a few more men in the choir. Don't be bashful: scientific research has proven the health and spiritual benefits of singing in choirs. It seems that the beneficial combination of biology, sociology and spirituality is a hugely important trinity in maintaining a healthy body, mind and soul (see this Oxford University's article: —<http://www.ox.ac.uk/research/choir-singing-improves-health-happiness--and-perfect-icebreaker>) Please contact me if you are interested in auditioning for the choir (phone: 416.709.8381, email: rubinoffdaniel@gmail.com).

I am also incredibly proud of the choir because of their successful presentation of “Beneath the Surface,” a 1930's radio drama with choral singing and soloists that took place in May. This idea was a companion piece to the choir's “Artmuse” show of several years ago, when we combined visual art with choral music. The radio drama was particularly challenging because the choir had to sing a few dozen “radio” cues in rapid succession. Many thanks to the actors and foley artists, and to Barb Secord on sound. Our focus and professionalism shone and the whole evening was a success!

After this busy time, the choir will be on summer hiatus beginning in July. We are continuing to re-organize our sizable library and dream up some new projects for the 2019-2020 season.

A very special thank you to our choir president, Cheron Christmas-Lafleur, for all of her administrative work. We are indeed fortunate to have such a well-organized volunteer. The choir and I are extremely fortunate to work with some talented choral leads. Huge gratitude goes out to: Marie Criscione (soprano), Cheron Christmas Lafleur (alto), Dylan Hillyer (tenor) and Douglas Gallant (bass). It has been a great pleasure to arrange music for these four talented singers and they have graced our worship during Offertories and other key points in the weekly service.

Here's to a safe, happy and fulfilling summer.

With gratitude,

Daniel