



the **Church**  
of **St Peter** and  
**St Simon**-the-Apostle

# JUBILATE!

## Choir Tour Echos

Robin reflects on Choir's experience in England. See page 2 for photos from Choir members.

## Interview

Larry Krotz speaks to Olatubosun Olanipekun (Ola) and Lewis Ngwamba Kabonde, who both arrived at SPSS via the side door. Hear their stories of how they moved from the Shelter, to our parish, and into their new lives in Canada. See page 2

## Ministry Fair

The Ministry Fair is returning on September 29th. Coordinator Stephanie Woodside tells you what to expect. See page 5.

## The first 100 years

Read part one of David MacPherson's history of St. Simon's. See page 6

Incumbent: [Geoffrey Sangwine](#)  
Assistant Curate: [Michael Perry](#)  
Honorary Assistant: [Jennifer Matthews](#)  
Musical Director: [Robin Davis](#)  
Newsletter Editor: [Peggy Needham](#)  
Newsletter Production: [Michael Perry](#)



## A few Choir Tour Memories

*Robin Davis, Choir Director*

Back home, back to work, wonderfully fulfilled and a little exhausted.

Our choir did the parish very proud at both Gloucester and Chichester Cathedrals, being well received and made to feel very welcome by clergy, staff and congregations. Our days were full with morning rehearsals, afternoon rehearsals in the stalls, and evening services, then off to the local pub for refreshments. Three experiences from this tour have stuck with me and I'd like to share them.

One of the highlights of the evening pub social is engaging with



A Parish of the  
Diocese of Toronto  
Anglican Church  
of Canada



The Anglican Church of Canada



Ola Olanipekun, photo submitted  
by Larry Krotz

## Ola Olanipekun and Lewis Ngwamba, Interview

### Larry Krotz

Olatubosun Olanipekun and Lewis Ngwamba Kabonde each arrived at St. Peter and St. Simon Church via the side door. That is, their introduction to our congregation was through being residents of the Shelter and our introduction to them was when each emerged from the Shelter on a Sunday morning to join in worship and then remain after for the fellowship of the coffee hour.

As much as 40% of what we commonly refer to as 'homeless shelters' in Toronto are now occupied by refugees, and Ola and Lewis fit that profile.

Ola, who grew up in Nigeria, arrived on a chilly night in October 2017. He was 29 years old. At the processing station he was offered a spot in the Seton House shelter downtown on George Street, but one look at what he assessed as a forbidding institution made him apprehensive. (Cont. page 6)

the locals, especially in Gloucester which has a slightly less gentrified ambiance. Through the week we got to know the regulars a bit and invited them to come to hear us at the next service. These were not the "Sunday morning type"; however, as I happened to go to the congregation to share the peace... you guessed it, there was our friend with a big grin passing me God's peace.

On a tour such as this, our group worked very hard and poured their hearts into every performance. The experience of living and working and socializing together in such a concentrated way is great for bringing together our community; however, it can also lead to some tensions or frayed nerves. We experienced some of this about half way through our second week in Chichester. It was decided that what the group needed was to pray together. Fr. Geoff led us, and the power of that time together was palpable. We were renewed and invigorated to focus on the rest of the morning's rehearsal and that spirit lasted throughout the remainder of the tour.

At the University of Chichester, where we were lodging and eating our morning meals, we had the pleasure of attending some wonderful free evening jazz performances as part of a summer jazz course taking place. We invited them to our services; however, unfortunately the only day they had free was the day we



Page 1, Chichester Cathedral, Evensong. Page 2 Chichester Cathedral, Rehearsal in Quire. Submitted by Robin Davis.



had off. I was able to play some recordings for them from earlier in the tour. It was wonderful to share and appreciate each other's musical passion across the genre spectrum.

If you'd like to hear some of the music recorded in services and see photos from the tour there's a video posted on Facebook which can be accessed through the church's website. We'll also show it after a service in the next few weeks.

A special thank you to everyone at home and with us on this tour for an unforgettable experience.

*If you would like to hear the Choir's recordings, please go to the [Choir's Facebook Page](#).*



Above: Richard, James and Ian  
Top right: Cloister at Gloucester Cathedral  
Right: Quire at Gloucester Cathedral

Photos Submitted by Robins Davis

# Being Rich Towards God

*Fr. Geoffrey Sangwine*

One memorable moment this summer was seeing swallows build their nest under the eaves. With blades of grass and bits of twine and twig they made a small, fragile but safe home for their young. Eggs were laid and hatched; the chicks were fed; they grew and then in the first week of August, they flew away. The nest now sits empty, but it fulfilled its purpose: the swallows built exactly what they needed, nothing more and nothing less. How different from us, who, in most cases, have what we need and often a whole lot more.

On August 4th the Gospel reading was the Parable of the Rich Fool from the 12th chapter of St Luke's Gospel. It is a short story that has a connection to those birds and their way of life - it also has a lot to say to us about Christian stewardship. We can learn from both.

Someone comes to Jesus and asks him a question: *"Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."* We don't know the situation. Has the will gone to probate? Has it been settled and the proceeds just not released yet? Is it being contested by another member of the family? There's nothing quite like money to divide a perfectly happy family.

As always, Jesus sees through the question to a deeper issue. He knows human nature and he calls it out. *"Beware of covetousness...Be on your guard against all kinds of greed. A person's life does not consist in the amount of the things they own."*

Our Lord goes on to tell them a story about a farmer or land owner who has done rather well for himself. He has so much grain, so much

product, that his current barns are inadequate. He asks himself, *"What will I do with all my crops?"* The answer comes to him, but notice the tone. He does not entertain the idea of sharing his crops, or even selling them. He wants to keep the whole lot for himself. So, his response is to build bigger barns to store it all. Then he can *"relax, eat, drink and be merry."*

God has something to say about this. The man is going to die that night. By providing only for himself, the goods are wasted because he has made no proper provision for them other than hoarding them for his own use. It's a good reminder that we do not leave this world with a U-Haul behind us!

The parable begins like this: *"The land of a rich man produced abundantly."* The land produced - Mother Nature provided all that grain - yet the man kept it all for himself. It did him no good in the end but to satisfy his pride for a short time.

It's a story about the peril of avarice, of selfishness, of greed, all of which can have a real hold on us if we are not careful.

Jesus' attitude towards money is generally at odds with society - that was every bit as much the case then as now, though the context was different. He knew that money could be used as an end in itself, with people desiring to possess it only for their own benefit, or worse, simply for the sake of having it. The criticism here is not wealth itself; rather a caution about the selfish attitude towards it and the way our material security can blind us to others and to God, and thus cut us off from real life.

The man is called "a fool". It may sound a bit harsh, because who of us have not fallen into the same trap from time to time? In the Hebrew Scriptures the fool is the person who rejects the

way of life that God has planned for the world as a whole and for Israel in particular.

Thus, the term used in Luke's Gospel is the same as in the Greek translation of Psalm 14 verse 1: *"The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God."* The person in this story has not actually said that, but what he says he says to "his own soul", to himself. In his heart his possessions and his own comfort have become his God. He is in effect denying that God is the source and preserver of his life.

This story warns us to avoid falling into the seductive snare of greed. It does not say that wealth and possessions are bad, that happiness is wrong, or that we should not have a solid retirement plan. But it does get to the very heart of Christian Stewardship by subordinating such things to our relationship with God and thus to our relationship with others.

Father Hans Urs von Balthazar, Swiss priest and theologian, in commenting on this passage says:

*"We know that in the sight of God it is not the quantity of our assets, but the quality of our being that is in question. He, who wishes to have things, collects treasures for himself; he who has a rich being renounces the self and thinks about his being in God. God is the treasure. "Where your treasure is there your heart is also". If God is our treasure, then we must be dominated by the thought that God's endless wealth is found in his self-giving a self-emptying, that is, in the very opposite of the wish to have everything"* (Light of the World, p. 336)

So it is that this parable is very much about our attitude towards money, towards our resources – how we acquire them, what we do with them, what role they play in our life? And, it is about so much more – it is about being rich towards God. One essential way we do that is by being rich toward one another – living in love and charity with our neighbour, even when, and perhaps

especially, when we must navigate the challenging waters of change, difference, disagreement and discernment. That too is very much part of being a steward, a caretaker, a servant of the Gospel.

God's endless wealth is found in his self-giving and self-emptying. As brothers and sisters in the household of God, as members of Christ's flock... so too is ours.

September is always a time of new beginnings. We have Good News to share, good news that the nest is big, that there is plenty of room for each of us – the Lord is merciful and generous. As we enter this season let us be rich toward God by giving what is needed to support the mission and ministry in this community and beyond. We do this by using our resources of time, talent and treasure courageously and well, by dealing with each other in love and charity, by following the example of the One who gave himself for us and for our salvation.

Adapted from a sermon preached on the 8th Sunday after Pentecost, August 4, 2019



Rembrandt, Parable of the Rich Fool, Oil on Canvas, 1627, Source: Wikimedia Commons



## Ola and Lewis Interview, continued from page 2

Ola said he would rather stay on the street. After a couple of calls he was directed to the St. Simon's shelter where he lived for the next 2 ½ months.

Back in Nigeria Ola worked in a bank. In Toronto he eventually found employment at a food company called Chef's Plate in their automation department preparing meals to be sent across the city.

Lewis Kabonde was born in Kinshasa, capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo, 46 years ago. His was a big family -nine sisters and four brothers. An artist and a sportsman, Lewis studied design and played football. After joining one of his brothers in the U.S. and coaching soccer at a school in North Carolina, he decided that Canada was where his future lay. In August 2018 he arrived at Pearson Airport and applied for refugee status. The Red Cross processed him and sent him to an Ontario Service Centre on Peter Street where officials picked up the phone and located a bed - in St. Simon's Shelter.

The crowded confines and mix of residents were "a shock," he confesses, but he had few options so moved in. Come Sunday when his fellow residents saw him put on a clean shirt and shine his shoes they asked him where he was going. "Upstairs," he answered, "to where you can hear organ music." Three other young men -all refugees from Nigeria, Uganda, Mexico- joined him.

Lewis' Christian background as a child in the Democratic Republic of Congo was via attendance at Roman Catholic schools. He claims to be non-denominational and just "happy in any church where Jesus is king".

It is a similar story for Ola whose connection to Anglicanism in Nigeria was attendance at an Anglican school. Once in Toronto and settled in the shelter he says, "I was looking for a church,

and then realized there was one right above my head."

That, of course, was not the end of it. Less than a year later Ola -now with his own apartment in the west end, continues to come back to SPSS every Sunday where he helps Sileen Phillips with the Sunday School. "The kids help me 'Canadianize' my accent," he smiles. His real reason for pitching in: "This is family. I want to give back. I'm happy I found this place."

Lewis, who also no longer lives in the Shelter, now nevertheless finds himself at the church pretty much every day. In April, just after he obtained his Canadian work permit, he was hired as St. Peter and St. Simon's verger. The verger, of course, is a traditional role within an Anglican church "for the order and upkeep of a house of worship, including the care of the church buildings, its furnishings, and sacred relics, preparations for liturgy, conduct of the laity, and grave-digging responsibilities."

Lewis hasn't had to dig any graves yet, but he opens the church on Sunday mornings as well as frequently through the week, oversees that everything is clean and ready for events, and attends to a hundred and one other chores.

They say God works in mysterious ways. The journeys of Ola and Lewis to find us -and us them- have surely been in that category of happy marvels.



Lewis Kabonde,  
photo submitted by  
Larry Krotz





# Part 1: The first 100 years of The Church of St Simon-the-Apostle 1883-1984

*David MacPherson*

Early in 1883 a need for a third church in the area served by two Anglican churches, St Paul's Bloor Street and St Peter's Carlton was evident due to overflowing. A new congregation was approved to worship at St James-the-Less in St James Cemetery on Parliament Street. Clergy from St James Cathedral were to conduct services every Sunday evening and the first Vestry meeting, attended by 18 parishioners, was held on October 13, 1883. The little congregation grew and flourished with a need for morning as well as evening services. Wycliffe College students fulfilled this need. After a year and a half the congregation felt that they could support their own clergyman and a Priest-in-Charge was appointed.

In early 1887 preparations were made to become a separate Parish with a resident Rector. A petition was sent to the local Bishop to set apart a new Parish in the neighbourhood of St James-the-Less. On May 7, 1887 the Parish of St Simon-the-Apostle was created. Its boundaries were Sherbourne Street, Wellesley Street, the Don River and "the northern limit of the City of Toronto." On May 13 The Reverend T C Street Macklem, Curate of All Saints' Church, was appointed the first Rector of St Simon's. The following day plans were made for the purchase of land and the building of the Church on Howard Street. On the fifth Sunday of Lent March 18, 1888 the Church was opened by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese and the first annual Vestry meeting was held on April 17, 1888.

The Church was attributed to architects Strickland and Symons and was reported to have been the first of several Eden Smith (who had worked on its

design) churches in Toronto. In the words of the then Toronto Evening Telegram "The Church crowns the southern slope of the picturesque Rosedale ravine and is a structure as handsome as it is unique. The style of structure is in the half-timbered Elizabethan, an adaptation successfully made in this case, though the style is unusual in church architecture."

During the four years to 1892 the Church's attendance and membership increased significantly and Vestry decided to enlarge the Church building by an extension to the west and the addition of transepts. As a result, the seating capacity was almost doubled. During the construction period services were again held at St James-the-Less.

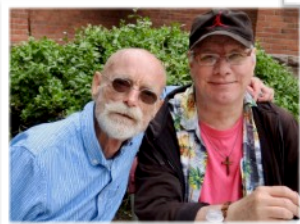
It would be of interest to many to know that, when a new organ was installed in 1889, an amount of \$12.04 was contributed towards the total cost by the Infant Class of the Sunday School "to help the old folks pay for their organ".

During the next ten years, although Church activities continued to grow, expenses and salaries had to be reduced owing to a general business depression. Although the Parish saw a need for a Rectory, plans had to be put on hold until 1906 when Vestry decided to proceed with the building of one. By this time the Parish had its second Rector The Rev Edward Cayley. The Rectory and a Parish Hall for Sunday School and other organizations were ready for occupancy in April 1907. The Rectory was to the immediate east of the Church at the top of Edgedale Road bordering on what was to become Bloor Street while the Parish Hall, designed by Eden Smith, was joined to the Church on the property between the Church and Glen Road. At the Thanksgiving service in 1911 a new organ was used for the first time. It replaced the one installed in 1889 and cost \$6,500. There were many active groups including a Men's Bowling Club.

**Part 2, The Great War to 1984 in the Advent issue of Jubilate!**



# Parish BBQ



Members of our parish enjoying our Summer BBQ. Thank you to the hospitality team, and especially Laurie. Photos submitted by Mary Anderson



## Ministry Fair

*Stephanie Woodside*

Come to the Fair! The parish will once again be holding a Ministry Fair on Sunday, **September 29th, 2019**, immediately following the 10:30 service, in the Parish Hall. The fair will showcase all the wonderful ways in which we contribute our time and talent to our parish.

Here's what's new and exciting:

- ➔ The Fair will have a theme! **"Come Find a Place to Serve"**
- ➔ We will have a passport for all visitors to the fair which will be stamped as you visit each table.
- ➔ Passports will be entered into our raffle for some wonderful prizes!
- ➔ There will be fun food and popcorn!
- ➔ We will have a prize for the best decorated table!

This year's fair will be a fun event that we hope will result in more parishioners signing up to serve!

For further information contact Mary Anderson (muffiery@yahoo.ca) or Stephanie Woodside (swoodside27@gmail.com).



Brooke, chair of the Opportunities Committee  
at her Ministry Fair Stall in 2018

## Joyful Giving Campaign 2019

*Stephanie Woodside*

The parish will once again be embarking on a Joyful Giving Campaign during the latter part of 2019. As before, the campaign will focus on the important ways that all parishioners can participate in being good stewards of our wonderful community.

Here are some important details about the campaign:

### Gifts of Treasure:

As we move toward 2020, we invite you to consider prayerfully and thoughtfully your financial commitment to St. Peter and St. Simon-the-Apostle. As always, 100% of your givings go toward supporting the ministry of this parish. Further information about ways of giving will be sent to you in our campaign letter, so please watch out for that. In the meantime, all the information you need is available on the parish website giving page: <http://stpeterstsimon.ca/give/>

### Gifts of Time & Talent:

During the campaign, we will once again be asking you to consider your gift of time and talent. Our church is made up of members who contribute in many ways, and these gifts are an important aspect of our ministry. Please speak to any member of the committee or the clergy about this as we are happy to help you find the right fit.



**Visitation:**

One of our trained parish volunteers will phone to discuss the information you will receive in our campaign mailing. Please note that any personal information discussed will remain strictly confidential.

**Intention Form:**

You will be receiving an Intention Form with our mailing. The form will have two sections: Time & Talent and Gifts of Treasure. Please review the sections carefully and check off all areas of ministry you are interested in (or would like to continue to serve in) and complete the gift of treasure section. The form should be returned by November 24, 2019. It can be placed on the offertory plate or mailed to:

**The Church of St. Peter & St. Simon-the-Apostle, 525 Bloor St. Toronto ON M4W 1J1**

Thank you from the Stewardship Committee Members!



Above, Chorister Vanessa Scott at the Choir Stall  
Below, Shelia Thomas, Wednesday Morning Group



Ian Corlett speaks to Ken Clarke, Christian Education



Fen Nanton, Head Server at his Stall



Sileen Philips, Church School Stall

All Ministry Fair photos submitted by Stephanie Woodside

## Quilt Raffle

*Fran Brown*

Tickets are available in September for all to sell to friends, neighbours and family members, or you can buy the book of ten for yourself. First prize is a beautiful quilt made by our own David Snow. There is also a dinner with Rev. Geoff Sangwine, a lovely water colour painting, a coffee table book of prints, a mystery basket and an environmental basket of eco friendly products. If you have a special item that you would like to donate as a prize please contact the church office or me. The big lucky draw will be at the Christmas Market.



David Snow's quilt, photo submitted by Deacon Michael

## What is a Friend?

*Diane Birch*

Friends

Are ANGELS

That lift us to our feet

When our wings have trouble remembering

How to fly

*Anonymous*



## This is what I know about life!

*Marie Adams, who shares thoughts from an unknown author*

- ◆ It's not what happens to you that is important. It's what you do about it.
- ◆ Always leave loved ones with pleasant words. It may be the last time you see them.
- ◆ Learning to forgive isn't easy. It takes practice.
- ◆ Heroes are everywhere. They are the people who do what has to be done when it has to be done, regardless of the consequences.
- ◆ Just because two people argue doesn't mean that they don't love each other. And just because they don't argue doesn't mean that they do.



Marie Adams with her daughter, Marcia, at the parish BBQ. Photo submitted by Mary Anderson

Diane Birch in the Narthex, photo submitted by Deacon Michael



## Christmas Market, Nov. 30th

### Fran Brown

Keep this date! Invite friends and neighbours to join us for the Christmas Market, 10 am to 4pm on Saturday, November 30th. Vendors are buying tables to sell their wares. The church has tables of homemade jams, pickles, cards and knitting, jewellery, plus other handcrafted items. The fund raising is for church repairs. But most important is the fellowship and a chance to share stories in the café. You may even get that elusive unique gift or some delicious baked goods. There will be activities for kids too. All donations of homemade goodies are welcome!

## Who doesn't like getting cards?

### Marjorie Philip and Deacon Michael



Marjorie loves cards! Each year, she sends about a hundred cards to family and friends.

She started sending them out as a parish ministry about ten years ago, taking over a card ministry that had begun at St. Peter's.

Marjorie says "you know, it is the only card some people receive each year," and that has kept her motivated to write them ever since.

But she has a problem ... some parishioners do not have the correct address listed in our Parish Records!

Marjorie says:

*I'm delighted to send birthday greetings to members of our church family. Please be sure that Darleen (our parish Administrator) has your current home address.*

*To get on the birthday list, please call me at 416-421-4942. I need only the date and month—no year, please.*

*I also send get-well cards, condolence cards, and cards of encouragement to those in our parish who may be experiencing a difficult time — so please keep me informed.*

Marjorie's favourite card was given to her by her granddaughter. In addition to painting it, she wrote a lovely message. Marjorie is so happy to have seen her granddaughter grow from a baby to charming young lady, with good values.



Marjorie's granddaughter's hand painted card, given to her on the occasion of her last birthday



Did you know that we have a Jamaican Archdeacon in our parish heritage? Can you guess who is beside Archdeacon Sanguinetti?

Photos submitted by Mary Anderson and Marjorie Philip



Fran Brown (left) never forgets a birthday. Betty Scantlebury (right) celebrating with cake at the Wednesday Community Lunch in August.



Above centre: Fen Nanton, Joy Quan-Lee, Cynthia Roosevelt, and Darleen Knowlton sharing a laugh after Quiet in the Courtyard. Join us for a contemplative service of Compline on Sept 24th. We always have treats, see above right.



Diane's final Sunday at SPSS before moving to BC and goodbye cake.



Summer flowers, Howard Street side of the church



Dillys Jones (St. Jude's Wexford) and Joy Quan-Lee at the Holy Fire Bible Study and BBQ in June.



Newcomers Soirée, hosted by Larry Krotz and Stephanie Woodside



New Server, Paul Mitchell, on his first Sunday robed and at the altar.

All photos submitted by Deacon Michael

Are you a shutter bug? Bring your phone or your camera to church and help us capture the moments in the life and history of this parish. Share your photos with Deacon Michael



# Sunshine Coast Correspondent

*Diane Marshall*



Salish Sea, British Columbia. Submitted  
Diane Marshall

Dear members of SPSS:

I'm in the process of moving and settling in, and sending a couple of photos - one in downtown Toronto of my sons Paul and Mike and grandson Kaishan who flew back east to pack me up, together with my daughter Liz. Ola was a great help in packing, and welcomed by my family!



Sons Paul and Mike with grandson Kaishan and daughter Liz help Diane move out. Parishoner Ola helped too.

The other photo is one I took of the Salish Sea looking out from the Sechelt coastline.

I'm beginning to feel settled, and will visit St. Hilda's church soon. The new priest has recently arrived as an Iraqi refugee of Chaldean background in communion with the Anglican Church of Canada.

I send my love, and I hold you all in my prayers.

Diane

## Children's Christmas Pageant

*Robin Davis*

Rehearsals are under way for this year's "All-Star" production of Once Upon a Starry Night. The musical is being presented by the young people from St. Simon and St. Peter's, San Lorenzo Ruiz and from the local community.



All children of all or no faith backgrounds are welcome. The play is Christian in its context; however, it emphasizes the universal themes of service and generosity.

Production 2015, Submitted by Robin

General Comet, Big Glow and Shooting Star along with shepherds, angels, wise men, and even a wise-cracking camel, join together to tell the greatest story ever told.

There is no cost for participation; however, we do expect regular attendance at rehearsals or notification of unavoidable absences. **Rehearsals are weekly on Sundays** after the SPSS 10:30 service, starting approximately at 12-1 pm.

# A Mystery Solved!

*Marion MacPherson*

It is generally accepted that “a picture is worth a thousand words” and this was especially true for the early Christians, very few of whom could either read or understand the words used at services – a fact which continues to the present time. A way to solve this problem was to use pictures in the form of paintings, drawings and sculptures. Churches became the source of teaching the stories of the Bible.

One of the earliest forms of teaching was through paintings directly on the inner surface of the walls especially in Byzantine churches.

By the time that St. Simon's was built, stained glass windows were put to good use using the skills of, amongst others, Robert McCausland the son of Joseph McCausland. He had worked for his father as a designer. Stained glass has the advantage of being transparent unlike the opaqueness of the surfaces of books and icons. Windows both provide protection from the elements and the letting in

of light which, as the outside light changes, so does the strength and colour in stained glass.



Parish Archives, Chancel Stain glassed window, St. Peter and St. Simon's

As Arnold Edinborough stated in his report on the stained glass of the Church of St. Simon-the-Apostle, “to sit by a stained glass window at different times of the day and under different weather conditions is to see the glass as if it were a living and breathing entity.”



The chancel window 1899 entitled “Christ blessing the children” shows naturalism, foreshortening and the illusion of the third dimension. Christ, the central figure, is depicted being surrounded by women and their children. However, at the back of the scene can be seen the haloed heads of four or five rather stern Disciples.

But where is the biblical connection ? I posed this question to David Smith, one of our organists, who kindly took it upon himself to climb up and investigate! Concealed by a later installed reredos was the reference to St. Matthew chapter 19, verse 14 which in the Bible reads “But Jesus said, “Suffer little children and forbid them not, to come unto me; for of such is the kingdom of Heaven -----“ a definite biblical connection !

This scene has always reminded me of the familiar words of a hymn from my childhood,

*“When mothers of Salem their children brought to Jesus”* written for a Sunday school anniversary at St. Paul’s chapel in Wigan, England. I wonder if the artist had this hymn on his mind when creating this beautiful window!

## Look it’s a bird

*Deacon Michael Perry*

In Matthew 6.26, Jesus said, *“Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them.”* ... Well in fact, you can feed them too, if you want to ... and it turns out that it is really a lot of fun too.

Three years ago, Yvonne and I got a bird feeder. Yvonne’s parents have a feeder, and she thought

we could use one, too. I will confess, I was unsure of the idea and expected a flock of sparrows to show up and freeload. Instead, I became a passionate bird-lover, always checking to see which birds were hanging around the feeder. Cardinals, blue jays, and robins I knew and recognized right away. But I stepped into the world of black-eyed juncos, house finches, and red-winged black birds, and so many more. Toronto happens to be a bird migration hot spot and SPSS is just a short bike ride away from one of the most coveted parks: The Leslie Street Spit. What a blessing to have a place so close to home where one can observe the majesty of God’s creation.

Now in addition to our bird feeder, Yvonne and I enjoy birds when we are out on our holidays. The two accompanying photos were taken this year. The winter photo in is a black-capped chickadee from a cross-country skiing holiday in Arrowhead Provincial Park. We had left seed out the night before, so that in the morning we would have entertainment. Birds, like people, are very diverse. The white-breasted nut-hatches would not come near us, but the chickadees were brazen, feeding for about a half hour right from our hands. The second photo is a yellow warbler that passed through on the spring migration in mid-May. Yvonne and I had canoed out to Toronto Islands and as we paddled through the canals we were treated to a bird paradise, filled with barn swallows, Canada goose goslings, and these colourful visitors.

The warbler fall migration is in full swing in September. Most of them pass through in the first two weeks and we hope to get out and see them as they head south for the winter months. There are many different species of warbler, so hopefully I will discover a few new ones this time.



So how do I feel about being a birder? Well, it is definitely not a common choice for my age demographic. It has a reputation as being a hobby for nerds. And I am not sure how I would feel if you called me an ornithologist. I think I enjoy it so much because it was a beauty that was hidden right in front of my own eyes for so long. The Gospel is always calling us to open our eyes and look at things differently, from the perspective of the Kingdom of God. When I watch birds I see a small glimpse of God's work. I see the beauty of the created world. I hear the melodic bird song. I am given greater appreciation for the intricacies and diversity in nature. I feel gratitude that our heavenly Father feeds us. Sometimes we just need to open ourselves to God's creativity.



Top: black capped chickadee, Arrowhead Provincial Park

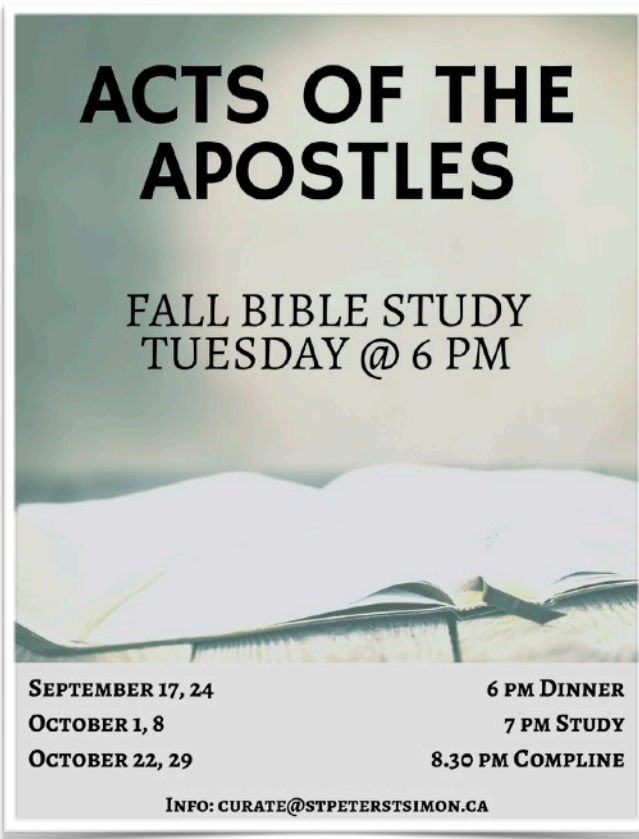
Bottom: yellow warbler, Toronto Islands

Photos submitted by Deacon Michael



*In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ~Acts Chapter 1:1-2*

Mark your calendars and join us Tuesdays for a potluck dinner and a season of Scripture as we study through the Acts of the Apostles. We will study five excerpts, but there is an accompanying reading plan so that you won't miss a word of the account of the Early Church.



**ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**

**FALL BIBLE STUDY  
TUESDAY @ 6 PM**

<b>SEPTEMBER 17, 24</b>	<b>6 PM DINNER</b>
<b>OCTOBER 1, 8</b>	<b>7 PM STUDY</b>
<b>OCTOBER 22, 29</b>	<b>8:30 PM COMPLINE</b>

**INFO: CURATE@STPETERSTSIMON.CA**

The scheduled Quiet, candlelight prayers will continue on Tuesdays the 24th and October 29th. They will become part of the Acts study and as we shift our rhythm from eat 6 pm, study 7pm, pray 8:30, to pray 6pm, eat 6:30 pm, and then study 7:30. It might even be good for our concentration to pray before we eat!



HOLIDAY FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

St. Peter St. Simon Anglican Church

**Christmas Market!**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30**  
OPEN FROM 10:00AM - 4:00PM

St. Peter St. Simon Anglican Church,  
525 Bloor St East (between  
Sherbourne and Parliament)

**FILL YOUR BAG WITH  
CRAFTS & GOODIES**

- CAFÉ
- KID'S CORNER
- BAKE TABLE
- QUILT RAFFLE
- JAMS & PICKLES
- KNITTING
- JEWELRY
- CARDS
- MUSIC

& MUCH MORE...

For more info visit [www.stpeterstsimon.ca](http://www.stpeterstsimon.ca). OR call 416 923 8714

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- ◆ Do some of your Christmas shopping with us.
- ◆ Invite family members and friends to support a local cause.
- ◆ On Saturday, November 30th St Peter and St Simon's will hold a Christmas market.
- ◆ We plan to have jams, jellies, pickles, baked goods and lots of other items for sale.
- ◆ We will also have a raffle for the magnificent quilt that you can see on page 12 in this newsletter.

## Fall Events

- ❖ Sept 28th, 6 pm, *Caribbean Night*
- ❖ Sept 29th, after 10:30 service, *Ministry Fair*
- ❖ Oct 5th, 10 am, *Blessing of the Animals on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi*
- ❖ Oct 27th, 4 pm, *Choral Evensong with wine & cheese reception*
- ❖ Nov 3th, 10:30 am, *All Saints with the Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil, Bishop of Toronto*
- ❖ Nov 10th, 10:30 am *Remembrance Sunday*
- ❖ Nov 24th, 10:30 am, *Stewardship Commitment Sunday*
- ❖ Nov 30th, 9 am - 2 pm, *Christmas Market*
- ❖ Dec 1, 4 pm, *Advent Lessons and Carols*

## Next issue of Jubilate! Advent

Our parish has so many stories to share and ***Jubilate!*** is the perfect place to tell the wonderful stories of what has been happening or about an upcoming event, study, concert or liturgy. But more importantly, it is a place you can write about and reflect on something that has been meaningful to you in our common spiritual journey in the past months. We are always looking for contributors of **articles** & **photos**! Please send photos and articles as separated attachments. Helps us share our Good News!

**Next Submission deadline:**  
**November 14th**

**Next Publication deadline:**  
**November 24th**

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***Jubilate!*** is a newsletter for the parishioners and friends of  
**the Church of St. Peter and St. Simon-the-Apostle**

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