



HAPPY NEW YEAR

2015 will, in time, be a blip in world history. For us at Holy Trinity it will be a significant year. In that year we marked 185 years of ministry in this community. In this new year of grace, let us resolve to continue in faithful witness to our God and we give faithful service in our church and community. Let us not only serve, but let us seek to grow deeper in our faith in, and love for, God.

ACW AGM & POTLUCK SUPPER *Tuesday, January 12*

All women of the parish are invited to this fellowship.; with speaker **Zaida Bastos** from PWRDF. She will present 'Women & Gender Issues in Africa'. *When women in Africa gain more control over their own lives, remarkable things can happen. Businesses can flourish, children can be educated, and HIV/AIDS infection rates can plummet, as two PWRDF projects show.- See more at: <http://www.anglicanjournal.com/articles/supporting-the-rights-of-african-women-10880#sthash.tvqLVR1j.dpuf>. The evening begins at 6:30 pm with punch. ALL LADIES are welcome.*

CELEBRATION KING & ALEXANDER *January 17*

We will again observe the birthdays of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his "twin", Lincoln Alexander. Shania Sammone, a young Gospel Singer and song writer will help us celebrate this important day in the life of North America.

Exposed to music all her life, Shaina, A native of Toronto, creates soulful jazzy melodies that are not only distinctly her own, but are uniquely crafted for her audience. .



The Guest Speaker will be Dr. Rosemary Sadlier, President of The Ontario Black History Society. She is the recipient of several honours and awards including the Order of Ontario, the William Peyton Hubbard Race Relations Award, Women for PACE Award, the Black Links Award, the Planet Africa Marcus Garvey Award and the Harry Jerome Award. Most recently, she was awarded the Lifetime Achiever Award from the International Women Achievers' Awards



OFFERING ENVELOPES

This is a gentle reminder to

- Not use 2015 or older envelopes if your account/envelope number is between 2 and 119.
- For account/envelope numbers that start with 8 or 9 please continue using your stock of envelopes as they are not dated. Additional supply of envelopes can be requested from the church office.

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY

After the Christmas celebrations and as we start the new year, pay attention to your mood. It's the darkest and coldest time of the year. Remember to take your vitamin D and to keep as active as possible regardless of the weather. Even one resolution planned and regularly evaluated, is a worthy goal. If it is icy or too cold, indoor walking or swimming is good. Fall prevention is important and safety with winter sports and driving. If anyone is in hospital or shut-in for any reason, please contact Stephen or myself for visits and/or communion. If you know of anyone in need of pastoral care, please also let us know.

TIME FOR "ACTION" – A Non Eucharistic Service

In response to the many calls for something new and refreshing in our worship, a new non-Eucharistic service has been designed for use as one of the options of worship service in our parish. The service is named "**ACTION**" and we will be using the acronym as a flow for the service. Here is an example.

A-DORATION A medley of songs of Praise followed by a *Prayer of adoration or a reflection on praise or beauty*

C-ONFESSION (the sins of the world): We will read a recent piece of "bad" in the media and of a prayer for a broken world

T-HANKSGIVING A member will be invited to give a testimony of Thanksgiving or we will identify a piece of good news to be followed by a Prayer of Thanksgiving and a song

I-NTERCESSION A prayer hymn will follow as we pray for other concerns and conditions

O-FFERING Giving for Mission and giving of Self: We sing a song of offering as we present the offering of our labour and offer a prayer of self-dedication

N-EWS GOOD News! A Bible Reading (not necessarily from the lections appointed for the day) followed by a Homily, Sending Forth, Closing prayers, Blessing and Final Song.

The first service will be on Sunday, January 24.

ACW INGATHERING Service 10:00 am

January 31

The Rev. Riscylla Walsh Shaw will be our guest preacher and will speak on Indigenous Issues. She is currently serving at Christ Church Bolton; was a Youth Minister at HTC in the early millennium. She is



passionate about the good news of Jesus, social justice and creating space for the voices of the marginalized peoples. She served as an active listener and witness for the Anglican Church at the seven national events of Canada's Truth & Reconciliation Commission on Indian Residential Schools. Riscylla has Métis and settler heritage and was raised on a farm.

OUTREACH

As of December 15, 2015, there have been 33 deliveries of canned/packaged food and personal use items to the Richmond Hill Food Bank (13), All Saints Community Kitchen (9) and Eva's Place (11). There also have been eight deliveries of adult apparel to the All Saints 'Clothing Closet'. Thank You! for your continued interest and support, including financial contributions to purchase food items for Richmond Hill and All Saints. Much appreciated!

CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE

Thank you to all who donated cash, food items, toys, etc. to fill the 300 Christmas hampers for more than 100 families in Thornhill so that they were able to celebrate Christmas. Also we thank those who contributed time and efforts to sort, package and deliver the hampers.

OUT OF THE COLD Dinner & Shelter January 8 - March 11

The 10-week program will begin on Friday January 8 at the Thornhill United Church. We would appreciate donations of

- Warm street clothing (large, extra large), gloves & hats
- Toiletries: travel size shampoo & toothpaste, razor blades, etc.
- Non-perishable sandwiches (no mayonnaise) for the guests as they leave the shelter.

Please speak to Linda Gould if you can help or need more info.

WELCOME TEAM - Sidespersons/Greeters

A sincere thank you to all team members who assisted with, and contributed to, the 2015 Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Your interest, time and effort are appreciated

PASSING THE OFFERTORY PLATE

We have received your feedback regarding the proposed that rather than pass the offertory plate during services and are persuaded not to pursue this idea.

COMBINED SERVICES

In an effort to provide our 8:00 and 10:00 worshippers with the opportunity to meet from time to time, it was decided to have one service from on certain Sundays. This year there will be two such occasions. The first will be on **Vestry Sunday, (February 28)** and the second will be on **May 15** when Bishop Peter Fenty, our Area Bishop, makes his pastoral visit. The service will start at 9:00 a.m. on those Sundays.

VESTRY 2016

February 28

Our annual Vestry meeting will be held on Sunday, February 28 at 11:00 am. A light lunch will be served after the 9:00 am service. Please plan to be present.

ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR: Search Committee

The Search committee to identify our next Organist/Music Director has begun its work. The committee is made up as follows. Robin Parravano- (Warden) -Chair, Bobbie Creber (Advisory Board), Hazel Ogilvie (Congregation), Vic Stecyk (Choir), Canon Stephen Fields.

LENTEN PROGRAM

Our Lenten program in 2016 will seek to help our members acquire a better understanding of Islam. Working with a Abdur Rashid Taylor, an Imam who serves as the Secretary of the Canadian Council of Imams. He is also the Regional Chaplain for Ontario with the Correctional Service Canada (CSC). He has responsibility to ensure the delivery of Chaplaincy services in the Ontario Region of CSC and to ensure that offenders of all faiths receive services. The program will run for three nights February 17, 24 & March 2. The proposed schedule is as follows

Week 1 - Understanding Islam. (Islam 101)

Week 2 - Experiencing Islam (women wear hijab, men and women observe the 5 prayer times in the day and then discuss in evening session)

Week 3 - Engaging Islam (Christian-Muslim dialog)

SKYLARK TRIO — save the date

April 8

The Footlights Club will not be staging a presentation in 2016. The Skylark Trio, a group based in the GTA with "a special affinity for the sumptuous style and sound of the big band era" to be the main feature in a musical presentation on **Friday, April 8**. Our own Stephanie Birrell will be the opening act. **SAVE THE DATE.**

