



Summer 2015  
Volume 39, Issue 4

# Out on a Limb

The Newsletter of Applewood United Church



## *Boldly Go...*

I'm heading to Newfoundland in August and I will admit that I'm a little less than thrilled. Sure, I'm touring the awe-inspiring Gros Morne, amidst wonderful hospitality. The thing is, is that I'm there from August 8-15 for our United Church of Canada's triennial General Council meeting, and there is a lot of hard work to do.

Change the Church, they said. It'll be fun, they said. Cut 11 million dollars, they said.

Oh wow. It's hard to get my head around it. In these days of secular attitudes, declining membership and more, what in God's name are we going to do?

These days, a bold face in the liberal evangelical preaching circuits is Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber. She's a heavily tattooed, former drug addict, Lutheran-ordained, spiky-haired mom – surprise! At first she drew in young urbanites, and now the Denver church is flooded with people of all ages, backgrounds, orientations and more. Why? She was real. Authentic, no fancy gown to carefully cover the tats, even swears from time to time, (often). And as she was real, the people could be real, and they could connect and begin to authentically worship and work together, welcomed at an open table, one like ours. The church is called the House for all Sinners and Saints. Weird, and wonderful.

Our recent confirmands remind me of Nadia Bolz-Weber - they smell authenticity a mile away, they seek faith that inspires, and they want to be affirmed just as they are. They want to be grounded in something that feels like God is changing their world, and to feel like they can be a part of that. Their experience ought to shift and nudge Applewood's evolution. So be it, Amen.

My United Church denomination is a source of pride: courageous to speak truth, willing to grow in faith, persistent on issues of justice. The UCC is unique from many churches, and social clubs, and from just any charity. It does need to shift and evolve though. In August, the UCC will decide on some bold ideas for substantial cuts and change, while remaining bold in their faithful action for mission and Aboriginal relationship, with their hearts in God, and their heads... well, let's say we'll do our best. (Take me as I am!)

From the top down or the bottom up, whether it is by a denominational mishmash of committees or a tattooed pastor or by each of us at Applewood putting one extra bit of love and Spirit into our time together, we can touch people. Even if the world hardens, our bold ways and quiet ones will touch people in God's love, so I will go to Newfoundland with hope.

Peace,  
Carolyn Smith

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2015 Applewood United Church

## *Little Free Library -*

*by Kathleen Paiero*

An exciting new project is being developed at Applewood United Church. The Visioning Committee has approved funds for the installation of a Little Free Library. The Little Free Library is a community book exchange program. This is exactly what it sounds like – a small structure (not unlike a bird house) on a post, filled with books. The structure is similar to, but larger than, a birdhouse and comes in various styles. The idea is "take a book, bring a book". Initially the plan is to start with some popular fiction and children's books. After that, it will be driven by the community and what they bring in. As the neighborhood becomes familiar with the library, it is expected to become self sustaining.



The Little Free Library was developed in Wisconsin and is gaining in both awareness and popularity. There are many known benefits. It builds on a love of reading, encourages walking, encourages community spirit and pride, and for Applewood United Church, is a form of community outreach.

Installation is planned for early summer. We also hope to have a ribbon cutting celebration soon after. If you would like to read more about The Little Free Library while we are waiting, check out the website [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org). Special thanks to Lynda Kudrewatych, Carol Culbert, and Elaine Borlace for their assistance. For more information, contact Kathleen Paiero.

## *The Affirming Committee -*

*By Marilyn Hayden*

We were pleased to mark our first anniversary in April as an Affirming Congregation. Just this spring, five other congregations in Ontario held Affirming celebrations. We are now one of over 110 congregations across Canada to hold this status.

We would like to thank all those who participated in the Recycling Event held in May. Seventy-seven vehicles passed through the parking lot, dropping off items to be recycled or used clothing. Two of these vehicles were a stroller and a wheel barrow. Thanks

also to Christina for organizing the "How to Have a Healthy Home" seminar. Bettina Hoar had lots of very interesting ideas for us to think about.

In the Fall, please look for three opportunities to come out and share in movie watching and discussion. These sessions will address radical hospitality, environment and LGBTQ issues. Hope to see you there.

## *Special Thank You!*

Applewood United Church is losing one of its valued members, Peter Moore, who has manned the Sound Board for the past several years. Peter is relocating to Cobourg, Ontario in July. The congregation thanks Peter for his dedication to the church and for his services as a member of the AV team. We all wish Peter and Eleanor the best in their new venture.

## *Did You Know...?*

Did you know the unemployment rate in Peel has risen again? No surprise, given the closings of Target, Sony retail outlets, Future Shop and several Sears and Home Outfitters locations – just to name a few of the more well known, big-name brands which have shut their doors lately.

Recent months' growth in jobs has been almost exclusively part-time. This move from full-time to part-time positions is reflected in the RGSW membership where our members, who have lost full-time permanent jobs, are either not yet working or working part-time - cleaning offices, stocking shelves in grocery stores, taking night shifts, doing inventory control, serving in a bakery or a call centre while continuing the search for full-time work. None of these part-time positions are permanent and none provide consistent hours or benefits.

If you are working, retired but still in contact with your previous employers or having discussions with friends or family and hear of any employment opportunities please email me at [readygetset-work@hotmail.com](mailto:readygetset-work@hotmail.com), leave a note in my envelope in the Narthex or post the information on our bulletin board just outside the Ladies' washroom. Any and all leads are appreciated.

Lynn Williamson  
Ready? GET SET...Work!

## Confirmation 2015

On Sunday May 24, we Confirmed 3 young people: Renée Batte, and sisters Sydney and Mackenzie Buckland. This celebration included prayers and liturgy (the wordy parts of worship) written by the girls and songs chosen by them, not to mention balloons, kids, doves and lots of holy spirit.



Renée Batte was introduced by her mentor Anne Moore. It turns out that Anne had been the lay reader for Renée's baptism. They both share a love of reading and history and yoga. Renée loves her summer camp, and participating in swimming and Applewood's youth group. She happily joins in at Applewood and participates in worship leadership often.

Mackenzie Buckland was introduced by her mentor Jennifer Bellington. 'Kenzie is a huge Beyoncé fan and loves media and sports and being active, particularly in hockey, skiing and biking. She is going to Switzerland on an exchange this summer, and then has a German student coming to stay at her house. Kenzie brings a bright energy for loving and serving others, particularly if it makes them smile!



Sydney Buckland was introduced by her mentor Willemein Bakker. She is off to Guelph University in the fall for biomedical studies, so she & Willy had much to talk about. Sydney enjoys sports and her cottage, and has a real sense of the family feeling that strengthens us all here at Applewood.

The program was woven around The New Creed of the United Church, which begins We Are Not Alone... and a theme of shining one's own divine light within community rose to the top. Rev. Joanne wasn't able to be here with us, so she made sure there were bibles and a card along with special gifts of funky and useful LED lights that remind the girls always to keep shining.

Peace, Carolyn Smith

## Applewood Social News

On February 18, 2015, choir member, Anne Moore, welcomed a new grandson, Ewan John William Boyd, weighing in at 10 lbs. 13.5 ozs. He is the son of Jennifer Moore and Brian Boyd and brother of Emmett. A happy addition!

Family and friends salute two wonderful people on their ninetieth birthdays - Marion Carroll on June 5th and Fenton Carroll on August 4th. Birthday blessings to both of you.

Ava Rose Shantz was born on Tuesday, April 21st at 7:21 p.m. to proud first-time parents Gordon Shantz and Jackie Dupuis. Ava is the first grandchild for Doug and Linda Alcock and first great grandchild for Shirley Webb. Also welcoming Ava are great uncles and aunts, Dave Webb and Anne Graham and Steve and Helyn Webb. Auntie Allie is very excited about her new little niece.



Congratulations to Cal, grandson of Geri and Grant Jones, on receiving a marvelous scholarship to attend the University of Toronto in the Linguistics program. He is presently completing grade 12 in the International Baccalaureate Program in Kitchener Waterloo. We wish you future success.

Ann Goodwin is retiring after being in and out of banking for 41 years. For the past ten and a half years she has been at the Dundas and Hurontario branch of the CIBC bank and retires as its Assistant Branch Manager. Enjoy your new life style Ann - you deserve it!

*If you have a milestone you would like to share with the Applewood community, please speak with one of the Out on a Limb's Social Mavens, Sophie Cook and Shirley Webb.*

# Kids Adventure Day Camp

## Make our world a better place Ready Set GO!



**Cost for the week: \$100/week Grades 2-7 9am - 4pm**



This environment based day camp is an action-packed week for children and young teens. Trained staff and volunteers will lead programming inspired by The GO Project along with traditional camp

experiences like games, crafts, delicious food, singing, and lots of fun! Children's Adventure Campers will do their part to make our world a better place. Ecological clean-ups, team-building activities, growing and

sharing food, and other environmental projects and activities will spark their imaginations and give campers the confidence to change the world one small step at a time.

# Summer 2015!

**July 6th - 10th**

Contact Carolyn Smith at 905-277-4162 x3 or [carolyn@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:carolyn@applewoodunited.ca)

**Confidential Financial Assistance Available.**

For more information or to register visit [www.thegoproject.ca](http://www.thegoproject.ca)

# Summer Splash



*Cooking, Drama , Puppets,  
Art, Games, Music, Science!*

*\$40 per child*

*Max. \$75 per family*

*No one turned away for lack of funds.*

*Snacks Provided*

Presented By Applewood Family Ministries. We are proud of our friendly United Church relationship with many faiths and cultures. This is a faith-full program designed for our multicultural neighbourhood. All are welcome. [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca)



**July 20-24**

**9am-11:30am**

**Ages 4-10**

**Applewood  
United Church**

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