

OUTREACH – ONE CALL; MANY OPPORTUNITIES AND NEEDS

This fall, the worship and service of Leaside United Church rekindles itself under the new ordained team leadership of Reverends David Bruce and John Smith. Members and adherents, young middle-aged and very life-experienced, return to rededicate themselves to the lay ministry of our church.

We are grateful for the:

dedicated, skilled and hard-working staff of Leaside United Church, and bountiful resources of talent, money and life-choices of most church members.

We celebrate the:

excellence of our Sunday experience grounded in fellowship, preaching, music and liturgy, and myriad of programs and activities based at Leaside United Church.

There is much for which to give thanks and also to celebrate.

As a Christian church we are also called to service. There are so many aspects of Outreach generated by God's spirit through Leaside United Church.

The Awesome Sales for 2007 generated over \$37,000 dollars (\$19 000 from Fall) for the operational and outreach work of our church.

Did you know that:

-almost one quarter of the people who volunteer to work at the sale, are neither members nor adherents of our church but believe in the value and principles involved in this great event?

-two five-ton trucks from Oasis were filled to the brim? Many of these leftover goods are purchased and sold by Value Village – thus providing worthwhile employment and affordable goods for a multitude of others;

-6 to 8 cartons of paper-back books from the sale will be delivered to the Toronto West Detention Centre by Reverend David?

-7 cartons of children's and non-fiction books are also being shipped to Nigeria?

-8 to 10 large bags / boxes of children's toys, clothing and linen have been taken to Massey Centre on Broadview Avenue? These items are very helpful for the Teen Mom's Program;

-10 to 12 bags / boxes of warm blankets, games, and other useful items will be delivered to Lake Scugog Camp? It is a United Church of Canada camp for inner city families and youth;

-6 to 8 large suitcases will be used by other organizations to transport needed supplies to developing countries? Thanks Karen Whitewood for delivering the suitcases.

*Leaside's on-going partnership with and support for **Lester B. Pearson Place**, a 53-unit project for affordable housing by the NUC-TUCT Non-Profit Homes Corporation continues mainly now through the sale of items noted later in this report.*

*Semi-annual support for **Echo Bay Pastoral Charge**, near Sault Saint Marie, is again an outreach priority. This area near Sault Saint Marie has high seasonal unemployment (up to 40%), which results in social and family challenges. Jeanette Halcrow, Outreach Chair, wrote that Leaside's support enabled them to "".*

*With a legacy of 25 years of **Refugee Resettlement**, Leaside United officially completed a year's sponsorship of **Ibrahim Wado**, a 27 year-old Ethiopian. Ibrahim has been in Canada since April 26, 2006 and is now healthy of body and spirit and living in Edmonton. Now, our church is*

formally sponsoring **his two sisters, Kadija and Misra**, who are waiting for good news in their Kakuma Refugee Camp in Western Kenya. This process may take several years. We certainly hope not!

There are many ways to support the Outreach work of Leaside United Church during the upcoming weeks and during the Advent season.

The 36th Annual Fall Community Ecumenical Food collection will take place in the Leaside, Bennington Heights, Moore Park, and Upper Rosedale areas on **Saturdays, November 17 and 24th**. The collected canned foods are distributed to the downtown outreach centers of the Anglican, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic and United Churches.

Flyers are distributed on **Saturday, November 17th**. On the following **Saturday, November 24th**, canned goods are collected from the same areas and are returned to Leaside Presbyterian Church. Participants, whether individuals, families or larger groups, should go to Leaside Presbyterian Church between 930am and 12 noon, either day to help out. It is a worthwhile community outreach experience.

This year, to better advertise this important community event, organizers have asked **of each area church, for 20 volunteers** who will permit a **Food Drive sign** to be placed on their lawn **for one week only from November 17 to 24th**. If interested in helping by having a lawn sign, please contact Bob and Lis Lister at 416-757-1491 or at aelister @ sympatico.ca. Leave your name, address and phone number, which will be forwarded to the Food Drive organizers

During Advent, a myriad of outreach opportunities present themselves. This year's **White Gift Program** is designed to encourage the donation of both a food gift and also, a specific, helpful item each week. Monetary support for the White Gift Program is needed and appreciated. Please use your regular envelope or the "multipurpose" pew one, to contribute.

The specific items needed with the weekly emphases for **Advent and White Gift** are as follows:

Dec. 2	Advent I	Non-perishable food and toothbrushes/toothpaste
Dec. 9	Advent II	Non-perishable food and men's dark underwear, undershirts
Dec. 16	Advent III	Non-perishable food and men's dark sport socks
Dec. 23	Advent IV	Non-perishable food and toiletries (soap, facecloth, deodorant, comb/brush, shaving cream, razors)

NEED CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS?

The following items are available on weekdays from the Church Office and on Sundays from members of the Outreach Committee.

ITEM	COST	ORGANIZATION	TIME LI
Friendship Broaches	\$10	NUC-TUCT Non-Profit Homes Corp.	

Hasty Notes	\$10	NUC-TUCT Non-Profit Homes Corp.	
Calendars	\$5	Mission & Service United Church of Canada	No
Toques	\$10	Raising the Roof (Affordable housing)	Star

The positive acts of worship and service at Leaside United Church do make a significant difference in both local and world communities.

2008 will be the 80th anniversary year of Leaside United Church. A significant new 80th Anniversary Outreach Project is being planned.

Let us remember as we approach this Advent season that:

God calls us to make every season, a season for outreach, a season for caring and sharing!

*Bob and Lis Lister,
Co-chairs, Outreach Committee*