

September 3,  
2008

SJWT



Dear Friends,

**Welcome Back! Trusting that summer has been wonderful and looking forward to seeing you again!**

**Worship with us this Sunday, September 7:** 8:30 Early Eucharist 10:30 Celebrant and Sermon: The Rev. Gary van der Meer Musician: Jaroslav Czerwinec, accordion. Readings: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20.

### Announcements & Events

#### September Hike

On Saturday, **September 6** join us for our next hike and Earth Blessing, on a trail of discovery in the Rouge Valley. We will car pool from church, leaving at 9AM sharp. The hike will take about 4 hours and we hope to be back by 4PM or so. Anyone who can hike is welcome! Bring a picnic, sunscreen, rain jacket, water and your good cheer! For more information, contact **Tom Gehrels at (416)656-9111 or mariengehrels@yahoo.com**

#### Update—Breakfast for the homeless

Thanks to all who participated in our Observer Sundays at the Breakfast for the Homeless, held at St. Stephen's Church just north of Kensington Market. We have been invited to be the Church on Duty for the 4th Sunday of each month starting in December. **Each Sunday we need 4-8 people: An early shift starting at 5:30/6:00 AM and a later shift starting at 7:00 AM, both concluding at 9:00/9:15 AM.** Tasks: Giving out food, putting out, clearing up and washing dishes, and interacting with the people who come for breakfast. Each time, we will meet afterwards at a coffee shop in our neighbourhood to debrief, and provide an update to our community in the announcements at the conclusion of the 10:30 service. Would you like to try it? **Ask the following people about their experience:** *Carrie Cardwell, Joan Knight, Andy Richens, Liz McKendry, Sue Ferguson, Alicia Vandermeer, Jackie Allison, Kristin Allison, Dominic Allison, Sally Ritchie, John Spragge, Stephanie Christakos, Jamie Christakos, Sue Heal, Tom Gehrels, Gary van der Meer.* Sign up at the Action Desk. Sally Ritchie will confirm your date on the schedule. Our St. John's dates for the Breakfast for the Homeless: **September 28, October 26, November 23, December 28.**

#### Calling together our St. John's Youth Group

We held a great first meeting over lunch at the Purple Onion, with 8 youth and 2 adult leaders in attendance. In addition to great food and conversation, we came up with a lot of ideas for the fall, including a Dance Party, a Bake-Off, Games Day, and Visit to the Nursing Home. Our next event is a Barbeque and Water Fight following Worship on **Sunday, August 17** – to be held in the Garden Chapel! You are very welcome to join us!

#### Great Upcoming Music!

September 7: Jaroslav Czerwinec, accordion; September 14: Ken Whiteley, guitar; September 21: Tim Elliott, Jazz Eucharist; September 28: Glory Glory Hallelujah, Praise Band.

#### Book Club

The next Book and supper evening will be **Tuesday, September 9.** We will still have a simple feast of French Fare before discussing Jean Vanier's book *Becoming Human.* Sign up at Action Desk. 6:00 Supper; 7:00 Discussion.

#### Our St. John's Yard Sale is Back!

We will hold a One-Day Yard Sale on **Saturday, September 27.** Put the date in your calendar. Put your items in a box and bring it to the church so that we can sort in preparation for the big day. Also, please ensure all electrical items are in working condition and that all pieces are present. For more information, contact **Sue Ferguson, 416-769-5267**

#### Safe Church—Screening Workshop

As we ramp up with Sunday School, Youth Group and all kinds of activities, we need to take care that people in leadership roles are up to date on the Diocesan Sexual Misconduct Policy. For the church's insurance policy, we need you to attend and "sign off" that you understand appropriate boundaries in church and community life. Plan to attend the Safe Church workshop, Monday **September 22,** 7:30 PM in the Church. Please contact **Ian Henderson** to confirm your attendance: **ihender@sympatico.ca, 416-767-4309**

#### Homecoming BBQ!

Come to the Barbeque! **Sunday, September 14** following the 10:30 service. In addition to BBQ, please contribute to the potluck lunch: Desserts, Salads, Drinks... Everyone is welcome – **Bring Friends!**



#### E-news Editor

We invite your interest in the ministry role of E-newsletter Editor: We are grateful for Marilyn Kluyskens' fine work over the past year as Editor of "News from St. John's." This fall, as we look to Marilyn's expertise in other roles at St. John's. Please give it some thought and prayer and get in touch through **enews@sjwt.ca** if you are interested.



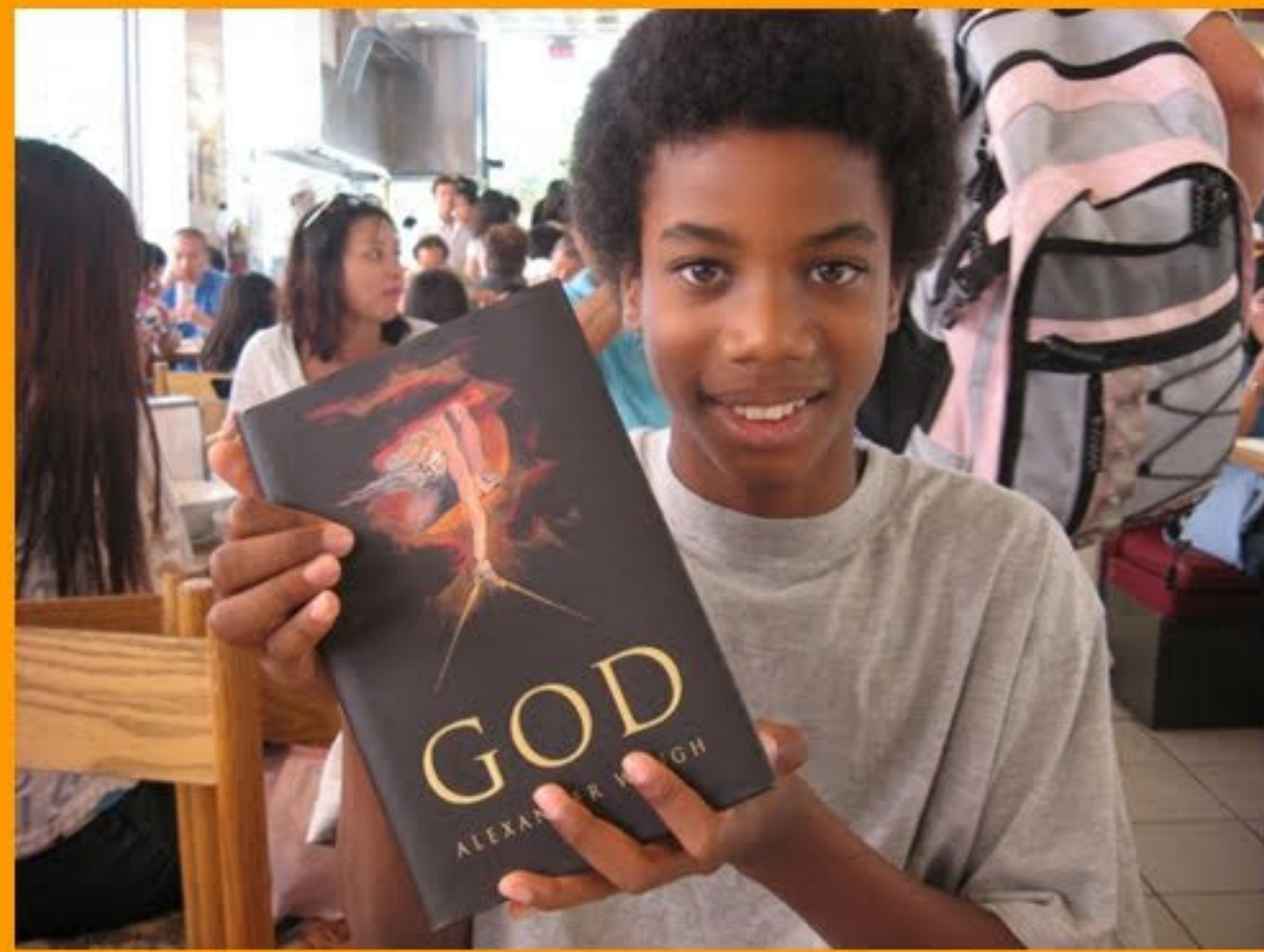
#### What Would You Say?

From Obama to Harper, elections put us in the shoes of leaders. If you were Moses, or Obama what would you say to the world?

**The Rev. Bob Shantz** preached a fantastic topical sermon this past Sunday. He challenges each of to speak good news, and he gives helpful tips so people will be open to what we say. Read the whole sermon, attached as a word document.

*Allison and Gerald – our Nashville Musicians*

## Learning and Growing in Faith



**Dominic**

Dominic has chosen **God**, by Alexander Waugh, as the book he will read as preparation for Confirmation. Dominic says: *"I chose this book because I liked the feel of it. I want to know more about who God is. I started reading the first chapter during our field trip to the Anglican Book Centre; the style of writing made it easy to read."*

Dominic has already completed the two assigned Confirmation books: **Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time** by Marcus Borg, and **Irresistible Revolution: Living as an Ordinary Radical** by Shane Claiborne. He will also attend the 5 sessions of our first **Christianity 101**, offered at St. John's West Toronto, on Tuesdays beginning October 14. Confirmations will be held at St. John's with Bishop Poole on Sunday, January 18, 2009. Everyone is welcome to attend Christianity 101 – please contact us if you would like to participate.

Dominic has chosen a challenging book. Remember him as he reads.

**...What would you like to learn about as you grow in faith?**

P.S. I hope you find it helpful to get an update like this from St. John's Church, West Toronto. If you would like something listed in the announcements, or if you know someone who would appreciate receiving this, please contact me. If you would prefer not to receive news from St. John's in this way, please also let me know.

Best wishes, Gary+

Check our website. [www.sjwt.ca](http://www.sjwt.ca)

And remember this!

#### We are not a Building!

We are an accessible, accepting, diverse community. We are young and old, able-bodied, and disabled, employed and unemployed. We are married, single, divorced, straight and gay. You will find open minds and open hearts at St. John's.

The mission of St. John's Church is to build a community of caring believers committed to Christ, to work for justice and service to all in need. We gather to praise God, and to give and receive support to meet the challenge of our daily ministries. We call on all who will to come and join us.

