

GREEN RIDGE TRUMPET

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Dianne Kirby..... 1&2
God is Good..... 2
Alexa 3
Pastor's Column..... 3
Deacons' Report..... 4

New & Newsworthy!



• Jordan was born Nov. 30th around 9pm.

to Shane and Lyson.

• Thank you to Ed Mills for mobilizing a team of painters and for diligently putting in many hours of work himself in painting the church hall.

• Hats off! to the St-Antoine protestant education class who introduced Operation Christmas Child to their classmates. The school prepared 40 shoeboxes this year!

• The children's Sunday School surpassed its objective and raised app. \$160 to buy 1 or 2 goats through World Vision. This was such a success that the offering will continue. Stay tuned for future projects.

The Trumpet is Back!

Did you miss it? I certainly did. I really enjoyed getting to know our church family through the front page profile, keeping in touch with different ministries, reading our pastor's thoughts, being reminded of birthdays and events, etc.

After a hiatus, the Communication Team is bringing back the Trumpet, this time, as a quarterly publication. We are asking for your submissions in the following areas: book and movie reviews, your testimony, your journey (God in your daily life), ministry updates (university, men's and women's ministries, youth, etc.), photography & the arts.

Our focus in the Trumpet will be to provide more in-depth articles. The weekly bulletin will continue to keep you up-to-date of current prayer requests and other vital information. We welcome your comments and ideas. To reach the Communication Team:

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Dianne Kirby: A Willing and Faithful Witness

With ever a quick smile, friendly word and willingness to serve, Dianne Kirby has been part of the Green Ridge family for more than ten years.

Raised in Compton with her two sisters, Dianne is a born and bred Townships girl with a love for the outdoors. After training and working for a few years as a Nursing Assistant at the then-Sherbrooke Hospital, Dianne decided to pursue further certification as a Registered Nurse in Montreal. Following completion of her Nursing diploma, the big city captured her for a time and she spent a number of years working there, including 7 years at the Montreal Children's Hospital, before returning to the Eastern

Townships in 1980. Upon her return she was welcomed back by her former employer, the Sherbrooke Hospital, serving in the operating room and maternity ward among others. When the hospital made the transition to a geriatric institute in the 1990s, Dianne remained as part of the nursing staff and over the years has no doubt provided both a familiar and comforting face to residents. To date, Dianne has spent more than 33 years nursing, a testament to her dedication and willingness to serve others.

While nursing has certainly been important in her life, so too has her family. Dianne married Peter Kirby in 1980 and together they raised two daughters, Jennifer and



Felicia, now both young women in their early twenties. Reflecting her family's interests, Dianne has been an active member of parents committees at school, district commissioner for Girl Guides and secretary of the local Plowing Association. Both husband Peter and daughter Jenn have competed in national level plowing competitions.

Continued page 2

“God is Good, All the Time” by Karina Loewen

“God is good, all the time,” has been the song of my heart these past few years. This is a long way from where it was five years ago when we lost our first child, Jessica. At the time, I fell into a state of paralyzing fear. The notion that God took my baby away to teach me something haunted me. “What else would He do to break and teach me?” I somberly thought. I remember agonizing over and attempting to decipher what crucial lesson God so desired for me to learn that He would allow such pain into my life.

In comes the story of Job. Unlike Job, who was declared blameless and upright by God, I could find plenty of faults that God might want me to make right. What I failed to believe and understand is that I was made “right” before God, In Christ! (I Cor. 1:30; II Cor. 5:21; Rom. 5:17) Unfortunately, Job went on to credit God as the source of his misfortune. We all are familiar with the famous quote, “God giveth and God taketh away...” which captures Job’s er-

roneous ideology (imbed within our religious culture to this day). God needed to verbally rebuke Job in order for him to recognize that he had a very limited and false view of God.

As long as I believed that God could allow or cause pain in my life, I could never fully trust him. James 1:13 assures me that God cannot be tempted nor does He tempt (test, try, scrutinize) me. I have peace with God because I am justified by faith (Rom. 5:11). This new perspective of God allowed me to experience a peace in my heart that was not related to or dependant upon my performance.

So why did Job go through such treacherous trials? I would venture to say that it was his own fears that came upon him due to his misunderstanding of God. When we allow fear into our hearts we give the enemy a foothold into our lives; remember he is the one who robs, steals and destroys. Thankfully Jesus came to give us an abundant life and in Him we also have victory

over the enemy.

Well, as some of you may know, our daughter, Keria, shares the name of one of Job’s daughters, the second time around. Just like Job, I had to repent of my unbelief (due to my misconception of God) and accept His full provision of Salvation (protection, deliverance, prosperity, wholeness, health, healing) in Christ. Are you among those who have believed this good report? (Is. 53:1a)



Dianne Kirby: A Willing and Faithful Witness (cont.)

In addition to volunteer work for many organizations, Dianne even finds herself a volunteer at her “heaven away from home” campground where she spends as much of the summer as possible. Very often, she is called on to be a liaison for English-speaking campers from out of the province.

It was in 1995, when Jenn and Felicia were beginning their teen years, that Dianne discovered Green Ridge and has since become a faithful servant here. Every second Sunday following the service, she can be spotted with the counting binder and offering plates in

her role as assistant teller. Although Dianne had grown up going to church, it was only while attending a convention in Florida during the early 1980s that she responded to the alter call and accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Saviour. Dianne explains that she feels she has grown the most, spiritually-speaking, in the last ten years. She credits the Adult Sunday school class for fueling that growth most recently.

Her faith has been a source of strength throughout the current health difficulties she is facing. In April 2006, while dealing with a particularly aggressive

patient, Dianne sustained a near-crippling back injury. She was immediately switched to light duties at work, but by July, when her doctor saw no improvement in her condition, she was ordered off work. Since then, like much else in her life, Dianne has thrown herself whole-heartedly into healing. On-going prayer for healing would be appreciated.

Regardless of circumstances, Dianne is quick to point out and declare, “The Lord is Good!” something we are all blessed to be reminded of through her faithful witness.

Green Ridge is partnering with Renaissance Campus Ministry at U de S on the project COATS FOR KIDS. Please bring your used coats and place them in the bin outside the doors off the parking lot. Thank you.

Alexa Cheryl Bernice Fafard

When talking about baby names, Marc and I decided I would choose a girl's name and that he would choose a boy's name, as we didn't know the gender yet. I've loved the name Alexa since working at the daycare at Mont Sutton. That's where there was a little girl with that name. Cheryl is Nadine's middle name and just so happens to also be my godmother's first name. Bernice is my grandmother's name and is also my mother's and

my middle name! Alexa is strong and has quite the temper. She lets you know when something's up! From birth, she's held her head really well, discovered her tongue and when she's awake she's very alert! Her smiles and facial expressions are enough to make anyone laugh!

Alexa's birthday:
September 30th, 2007



Pastor's Column: Are you Ready?

I'm starting to feel the annual build-up of anxiety that I experience every year coming into the Advent season. I always feel like I'm critically behind on the things that I need to get done for Christmas such as shopping, planning services, getting decorations put up, and planning my financial survival.

It is very strange how this happens. I know it is coming every year. I've had 11 months to prepare just like every other year. The Christmas catalogue has been out for months. Television ads are starting to feature Christmas themes. There have even been Christmas movies like, "Its a Wonderful Life"

on television. The Toronto Santa Claus Parade has been broadcast with its cheesy commentary. Christmas lights have already shed their cheerful colours around our neighbourhood. When we were in Rhode Island last month, the gorgeous Vanderbilt mansion known as "The Breakers" was being decorated in festive finery. And isn't it amusing, that in tourist districts there are even stores dedicated to Christmas decorations that are open year-round.



It makes no difference; I'm feeling like I've been caught again. My train is leaving the station and I need to run quickly to make the leap onto the lower step of the car to make it on time.

If I can be so unprepared year after year for an event more reliable than the delivery of the Gazette, imagine how unprepared the people were for the birth of their Messiah in Bethlehem some 2010 years ago. The king wasn't ready. The Inn wasn't ready. The priests weren't ready. The neighbours weren't ready. Only a few

Magi from a distant land were prepared along with the alignment of the planets and stars and the Angel Hosts of Heaven.

Ever since we have celebrated the Incarnation of our Saviour, we have often done so in grand style, fanfare and expense. Nevertheless, were Jesus to return this month many would be caught by surprise and unprepared because they had not yielded their lives to Him in faith and welcomed him with the

time that they had.

What a wonderful season for us to examine ourselves in order to assure that while we hustle to celebrate Christmas in full readiness, we are also fully ready to welcome the Saviour personally to our lives and our world when He comes.

YIELDING LIFE IN CHRIST

"Our primary purpose is not to defend right from wrong, or truth from untruth – it's not even to defend Him. God can do that, remember.

Our ultimate goal is to be fully yielded to Christ. If we are primarily focused on the obvious sins of the world, we are diverted from our sins – pride, a lack of grace, self-centeredness. The list is sadly long, and these failings may be even more fundamental than the immorality of our neighbors. But if we are striving, above all, to be fully yielded to Christ, then He can do whatever He wants through us, including reaching our neighbors. Let us not forget that."

**from The Veritas Conflict by
Shaunti Feldhahn**

Deacon's Report

Our annual meeting last February set out five goals to guide the work of the Deacon's Board this year. Here is a brief progress report:

Fostering cell groups: material support is now available from the church library and at least one new group has been formed this Fall. This is your chance to get to know each other more personally. Coordinator: Judi Janzen.

Mission support and encouragement: a task group is in charge of mission promotion. A group including teenagers went to mission Fest in Montreal this past October. Coordinator: Casey Gallagher.

Fellowship team: activities were organized to foster Christian fellowship. There has been outings, pot-lucks, celebrations and support provided for funerals through this initiative. Coordinator: Nancy Beattie.

Encourage a broader involvement of the congregation in Sunday morning worship: you have helped with scripture reading, sharing a testimony and preaching.

Ensure a vibrant children's and youth program: the classrooms have been enlarged and there will be a Christmas presentation. Coordinators: Karen MacDonald and Nancy Buzzzell.

In addition, renovations to the parsonage windows and door were undertaken, and the church itself has been painted. We thank Ed Mills, Craig Drew and their crews for their hard work.

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If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please call one of our deacons.

For any questions or information about our various ministries, please contact the individuals below.

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