



KIDSTUFF

Anglican Diocese of Montreal—The Committee for Children's Ministry

LENT 2003

Volume 5, Issue 01



Inside this issue:

A Sutton Way of Doing Things	2
New Curriculum Idea	2
The Eggheads	3
Fun in the Sun	4
Chocolate Nests	4
Job Opening	5
New Regional Representative	5
A Framework for Promoting Child Participation	6
2003 Calendar of Events	7
Website Links	7
The Children's Charter for the Church	8

PLEASE

PASS ME ON:

- Sunday school teachers
- Priest
- Youth workers
- Interested parents



The Most Reverend Andrew S. Hutchison

Archbishop of Montreal and Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada

Dear Valerie,

Bishop's Lenten Project

Thank you for your note concerning our conversation at Synod. Your suggestion commends itself for a number of reasons.

First, we have already established a connection with Estere Cernat through KIDSTUFF, so the project has a human face.

Second, to my knowledge we have not been involved with Romania (or for that matter, Eastern Europe) before.

Third, of course, is the obvious need of Gypsy families for the knowledge of God's love.

I am very pleased to designate Estere Cernat's ministry as the recipient of our prayerful support and the generous hearts of our children in 2003.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Montreal

The 2003 Bishop's Lenten Project will focus on Estere Cernat's ministry with Gypsy families and orphanages in Romania. We hope that your congregation will be anxious to join in with other churches promoting this project which is so kindly endorsed by our Archbishop.

Last year over \$2,000 was raised for our 9/11 project. This year we hope that we can, at least, equal that achievement as we reach out to the gypsy children of Southern Romania.

Please contact Valerie Taylor if you need any information or if you have suggestions and comments. Every blessing to you and the Children in your care as we approach the Season of Lent.

A Sutton Way Of Doing Things

Bev O'Donoghue

Do you like good old stories? This is one that dates back to Nov. 30,2002. It is the story of a successful and much-enjoyed day camp reunion with an Advent preparation theme.

It started taking shape when Valerie prepared a bundle of program material for us. Then a group of young people gathered at the Baptist Church for a planning meeting and pizza supper. Amanda Schweizer gathered 6 youths around a well-layed out day, and shared the tasks among them. Then I got on the phone and called all of last summer's campers. Two parents joined on to make a crafts team and soon men were cutting and splitting birch logs for candleholder centrepieces and the materials for tin-piercing and felt-bonded-to-carton tree fridge magnets were being prepared.

Then I got a KIDSTUFF newsletter in the mail. That inspired the preparation of a big take-home ziploc bag that contained a candy cane and the story of "The Witness of the Candy Maker", a pouch of hot chocolate, Advent wreath lighting prayers (a full copy of page 6), a Canadian Bible Society pamphlet, and for the younger ones a picture to color of the stable scene.

The special Saturday came and we were ready. All the campers from last summer arrived (except the few who had previous engagements) and a few friends. Keith Russell was in the kitchen making sure we would all get fed at snack times, Tim helped get everyone focused at the morning meeting and the whole day was good.

So, Mary and I and the team of seven and our friends from the Catholic and United Churches were happy thereafter with the outcome of the day and as we all hung out in the kitchen sipping hot chocolate, well, we were glad.

Thank you for the very essential support.

New Curriculum Idea

In the last issue of "TOGETHER Ministries" newsletter, was a long explanation of the James Ossuary and this was one of the responses they got to that.

The idea:

Richard, I just wanted to share with you that for the last three years Betty Panza and Diane Geerlinks in our Meadowvale Community CRC part of the body, have developed a comprehensive and very hands-on Sunday School curriculum, based on our Jewish roots--the tabernacle (and the kids each built one), the Biblical Feasts (and this culminated in a congregational (about two hundred of us!) Passover feast led by a Messianic Jewish family and ended with Jewish dances led by Belma Vardy, and this third year, the theme is how we are grafted into the tree (Derk my husband serves as a teacher this year and loves it!). The little kids of God have blown the real shofar as part of worship after learning about it (they all made one too).

Our kids know better than the parents, the makeup and meaning of the tabernacle or how to say the Sh'ma in Hebrew. The two leaders are on fire with what they are learning and teaching and they would be most happy to share this material if there was some way it could be published. As it is, the word is getting around the Jewish community. Strangers show up at church to thank Betty and tell her she will never know how much this means to the Jewish community. One Messianic Jewish church has used the curriculum for their own children, saying they learned new things about how deep and rich and full and wide the love of God really is. This is what your analysis in Together reminded me of.

Anyway, for your information and encouragement I give you their email addresses:

Betty: ppanza@istar.ca

and Diane: harv@globalserve.net

Shalom,
Annita Maat
Meadowvale, Ont.



KIDSTUFF
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Editorial Note: KIDSTUFF is published 3 times a year by the Committee for Children's Ministry, Anglican Diocese of Montreal. Its purpose is to inform and encourage parents and teachers working in children's ministry in this Diocese. KIDSTUFF is sent to all Children's Ministry Representatives in the Anglican Diocese of Montreal, and anyone else who requests it. The newsletter is free of charge. The KIDSTUFF newsletter design and layout is produced by Robert Camara and is printed at the Synod Office. It is edited by Valerie Taylor. We encourage you to send submissions of ideas and articles to the above mentioned address

2003 Lent Calendar

With this issue you will receive a sample of the 2003 Lent Calendar for children. Copies for your own Parish may be ordered by calling Creative Communications for the Parish (800) 325-9414.

Titles available in “Best of Blessings”

Seeds of Hope

One 5-minute—1 hour session for children aged 3-15 or for all ages

From Ashes to Hope

One 4-hour event for children aged 4—14

Changes: Caterpillar to Butterfly

A 3-session program for children aged 3 –12

A Lenten Fair

One 3 hour session for all ages

Preparing for Easter

A 3 1/2 hour event for children aged 3 –12

Why, on This Night ...?

Understanding the Seder

A Good Friday Walk

A 1 hour service of the Stations of the Cross for all ages

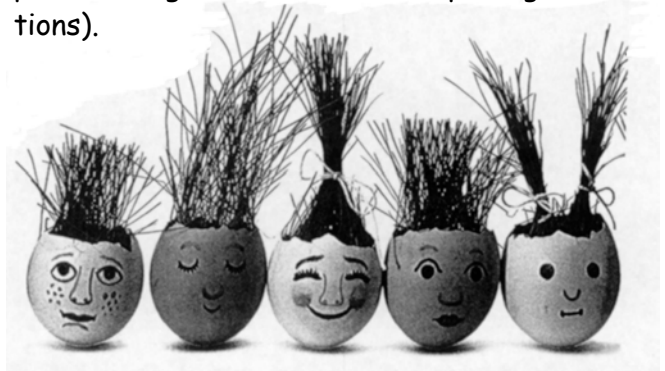
Were You There

A neighbourhood walk for families

If you would like to try one of these programs in your parish contact Valerie Taylor and she will arrange to send you a package.

The Eggheads

Have you ever looked at your Easter eggs and wondered what's missing? This year, give the bald ones a head of hair. Use a small nail to make a hole about the size of a quarter in one end of an egg, then drain the egg and rinse out the shell. Draw or paint funny faces on the shells and put them in the egg carton. It's a good idea to use permanent markers so the colours won't bleed when you water the hair. Use a spoon to fill the shells with soil, then plant with grass seeds (follow package directions).



Moisten the soil, cover with plastic wrap, and place the shells in a sunny window until the seeds sprout—it generally takes less than a week. When the eggheads have a thick, green mane, remove the covering and place them on a stand (try using empty film canisters). Style the hair into pigtails, buzz cuts, or Mohawks and water it every day.

Bishop's Lenten Project 2003 Package

Have you received your Bishop's Lenten Project 2003 package? If not, please contact Robert Camara at the Synod Office (514) 843-6577 and he will make sure that your name is on our list.

KIDSTUFF CONTACTS:

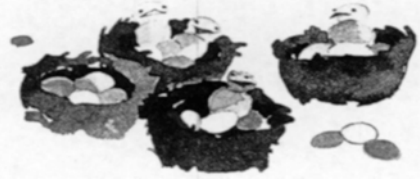
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ctm@cam.org
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The Rev. Chris Belle, Clergy Rep
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Montreal:	Nancy Greene-Gregoire	(514) 271-8491
South Shore:	Astrid Norquay	(450) 653-9582
West Island:	Debbie Shane	(514) 694-1269
Eastern Townships:	Open	
Laurentians:	Vickey Boldo-Dêschenes	(819) 324-0734

Chocolate Nests

100 g margarine
 50 g soft brown sugar
 2 rounded tablespoons golden syrup
 2 rounded dessertspoons cocoa
 100 g all bran shredded wheat
 Sugar eggs and marzipan



1. Slowly melt the margarine, sugar and syrup. Stir in the cocoa.
2. Crush the shredded wheat lightly. Mix the cereal into the chocolate mixture. Allow to cool slightly.
3. Shape into 10 small nests. Leave on a greased baking tray in a cool place to set.
4. Fill with eggs. Roll two balls of marzipan for a chick. Use cloves for eyes and coloured marzipan for a beak.

Regional Resource Libraries

We are always updating these resources with new CD's, videos and curriculum samples.

Why not call your regional representative for a listing?

Please note: Eastern Townships resources contact St. Paul's, Knowlton (this area is still in need of a regional representative. If you would like to volunteer to fill this role in your region, please contact Valerie Taylor).

Fun In The Sun

Jubilee: Fall/Winter 2002

"I can't believe everyone was so nice! I didn't want to leave!" This is what one teen said after being an Angel Tree Camper; an exciting extension of our Angel Tree Christmas work. We were thrilled to launch this programme in partnership with Camp Miniyo-we in Muskoka. The East Toronto Korean Presbyterian Church raised \$2,500 and Camp General Director Michael Ankenmann provided us with reduced rates for our campers.

Stephanie and Jerry were the first teenagers to take part in the "Prime High School Youth Camp". Stephanie is 15 and lives with her mom, 2 sisters and a brother. Her father is in prison. Jerry's mom is in prison and he lives with his grandmother and five brothers.

Stephanie especially enjoyed a 'random act of kindness' field trip into Bracebridge and Jerry loved the mountain biking, swimming, the Christian band, the volleyball, the hip hop lessons—well, you get the idea! Both were so moved by the camp experience and they have kept in touch with some of the counsellors and new friends they have made.

Thanks to Roger Luton, PFC Regional Director for coordinating the launch of this exciting new program. Angel Tree Camping allows children to make new friends, experience God's love and the reality of Christian fun!

Kidstuff sends donations, annually, to this ministry.

Prison Fellowship Canada

P.O. Box 19510

RPO Manulife

Toronto, ON M4W 3T9

info@prisonfellowship.ca

Executive Director: Janis Ryder

Phone: (416) 848-4793

Fax: (416) 214-2043

E-mail: jryder@prisonfellowship.ca

Feedback

Do you need ideas for some new activities? Do you have some suggestions that you would like to make? Do you have any questions about Children's Ministry? Would you like to share some of your stories? We'd like to hear from you! **Write to us at: Kidstuff, 1444 Union Avenue, Montreal, QC H3A 2B8, or by e-mail: ctm@cam.org**

Job Opening Pioneer Clubs Canada

Pioneer Clubs Canada, a national ministry to children in local churches, is seeking an Executive Director. The person sought will have a strong desire to give dynamic direction to all aspects of the organization. He or she will also be a visionary with solid interpersonal, communication and leadership positions. Candidates for the position will be able to show skill in growing a ministry through interaction with individual club leaders, creating new club charters and fund raising. Resumes will be accepted with interviews commencing when potential candidates are identified and continuing until the position is filled.



Please visit our web site at
www.pioneerclubs.ca
to obtain more information about
Pioneer Clubs Canada
and our ministry.

Please send resumes to:
Executive Director Search Committee
Pioneer Clubs Canada
900 Gateway
Burlington, Ontario L7L 5K7
or by e-mail to:
committee@pioneerclubs.ca

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
www.montreal.anglican.org/kidstuff



New Regional Representative

Welcome to Nancy Greene-Gregoire, our new City Region Representative for Kidstuff. Originally from London, Ontario, she moved to Montreal in 1989, after a few years in Switzerland. It seemed like the right place in Canada to come home to, with a Belgian husband, and 4 years of learning French in Switzerland.

After an exit from church life throughout university and beyond, she started back when she arrived in Montreal, mainly because of a new addition to the family being on the way. She felt the need to do her best to bring her children up within the Anglican church she had grown up with. And to her surprise, it has been an enriching spiritual journey for herself. Leaving church when you are a young teenager and starting back when you are 30 means you really have a lot of questions to ask and answers to find.

Trinity Memorial Church in NDG welcomed her. She moved from helping in the nursery with her own young children attending, to helping out in Sunday School, and she was also asked to be part of the corporation and a Synod delegate.

In joining the Kidstuff committee she hopes to learn from those already involved in Children's Ministry how to better reach out to children who come to church, to children who don't come to church but whose parents do, and to children without any family connections to the church.

German Willow Twigs

Arrange some willow, or other branches, in a vase. In Sweden, they put birch twigs in water to blossom on Easter Sunday. Use ribbon or wool to hang decorated or chocolate eggs, eggshell baskets, pretzels and little chicks on to the twigs.

To hang a blown egg, tie a used match to a piece of cotton and put the patch into the hole in the egg. Pull gently on the cotton and the match will turn sideways.

A Framework for Promoting Child Participation

Franklin (1995)

Levels of Participation—Save the Children

Non-Participation

- 0 **No Consideration:** Children are not given any help or consideration at all. They are ignored.
- 1 **Adults rule:** Adults make all the decisions. Children are told nothing except what they must do.

Participation

- 2 **Adults rule kindly:** Adults make all the decisions. Children are told what to do and are given reasons and explanations.
- 3 **Manipulation:** Adults decide what to do and ask children if they agree. Children must agree.
- 4 **Decoration:** Adults decide what to do. Children take part by singing, dancing and performing ceremonial functions.
- 5 **Tokenism:** Adults decide what to do. Afterwards, children are allowed to decide on some of the minor aspects.
- 6 **Invitation:** Adults invite children's ideas but make decisions themselves, on their terms.
- 7 **Consultation:** Adults consult children and consider their opinion carefully and then adults decide, taking all opinions into account.
- 8 **Joint decision:** Adults and children decide together on the basis of equality.
- 9 **Children lead, adults help:** Children lead in deciding with help from adults.
- 10 **Children in charge:** Children decide what to do. Adults get involved only if children ask for their help.

Papier Mâché Eggs

This is fun but very messy, so be prepared! You need flour and water paste, a balloon, newspaper, paints and varnish.

Ask an adult to help you make the paste. Put one cup of plain flour in a saucepan with one heaped teaspoonful of salt. Slowly add one cup of cold water and stir. Bring to the boil and simmer for one minute. Cool.

Blow up the balloon. Soak strips of newspaper in the paste and wrap them around the balloon. Leave to dry for two days. Cut in half, paint and varnish the egg, or use braid and beads to decorate it. Line it with a doily and put presents or eggs inside.

Egg-dyeing Tips

- ☺ To make perfect hardboiled eggs, cover eggs with water in a saucepan and bring to a boil. Turn off heat, cover the pot, and let sit for 10 minutes.
- ☺ To blow an egg, first shake the egg to break the yolk. Then use a small nail to make a hole in the top and bottom of the egg. Blow gently until the egg is empty. To help preserve blown-egg creations, paint them with craft sealer.
- ☺ For extra-rich dye colours, use food colouring paste (available at craft or cake supply stores). Dissolve a dab of paste in a cup of hot water mixed with 1/4 cup vinegar.
- ☺ Use pasta tongs for dipping eggs.
- ☺ Wear rubber gloves.
- ☺ Make an egg-drying stand out of a paper towel tube cut into sections.

2003 Calendar of Events

March 2003

↪ Bishop's Lenten Program begins. This year we focus on the Ministry to Gypsies in Southern Romania

↪ **March 5th** Ash Wednesday—check for Childrens' programs in your Region. City Region ' Ashes to Hope" 4-6 p.m. @ St. Matthew's - Worship. Crafts ,supper for families Call 487-2517 for info and to register

↪ **March 6th**—730 pm Kidstuff meeting West Island Region @ Church of the Resurrection Valois. Open to all West Island Churches.

↪ **March 15 or 22**—Potential workshop on after school programs - more info TBA

April 2003

↪ **April 3rd**—Kidstuff core group meeting 730 pm

↪ **April 15**—Deadline for Pentecost Newsletter

↪ **April 18th**—Good Friday programs - check with your Regional rep. for locations and times

↪ **April 20th**—Easter Sunday



MAY 2003

↪ **May 1st**—Kidstuff meeting 730 pm Eastern Townships Region -possible location: Trinity Church, Cowansville

↪ **May 15th**—Publication of Pentecost Newsletter

JUNE 2003

↪ **June 5th**—Kidstuff core group, dinner mtg. 6 pm

↪ **June 8th**—Pentecost Sunday

↪ **June 21st to August 3rd**—Crosstalk Ministries Day Camps call 484-1414 or email ctm@cam.org to receive info on locations around the Diocese

July 2003

↪ **July 5th to mid-August**—Inspiritus Day Camps - call 485-7743 for details

August 2003

↪ **August 10th to 17th**—Crosstalk Ministries Junior Camp (ages 8-12) Contact # (514) 484-1414 or email ctm@cam.org to receive info

Website Links

Prayers for children during Lent:

www.cptryon.org/prayer/child/lent/index.html

Stations of the cross:

www.cptryon.org/prayer/child/stations/index.html

From www.wf-f.org/AshWed.html

The Alleluia is not recited or sung during Lent. On Ash Wednesday, children could make an Alleluia card or banner to be "buried" during Lent and displayed prominently during the Easter season. This could be made of gold paper and decorated with ribbons or flowers, as elaborately as they like. The Alleluia would reappear on Easter morning with their Easter baskets.

Sunday School Lessons

www.sundayschoollessons.com/lent.htm

Sermons For Kids

www.sermons4kids.com

The Children's Charter for the Church

NURTURE OF the child

THE CHURCH IS CALLED:

- ℞ to receive, nurture and treasure each child as a gift from God;
- ℞ to proclaim the Gospel to children, in ways that empower them to receive and respond to God's love;
- ℞ to give high priority to the quality of planning for children and the preparation and support of those who minister with them;
- ℞ to include children, in fulfillment of Baptismal Covenant, as members and full participants in the Eucharistic community and in the church's common life of prayer, witness and service.


MINISTRY TO the child

THE CHURCH IS CALLED:

- ℞ to love, shelter, protect and defend children within its own community and in the world, especially those who are abused, neglected or in danger;
- ℞ to nurture and support families caring for their children, acting in their children's best interest, and recognizing and fostering their children's spirituality and unique gifts;
- ℞ to embrace children who seek Christian nurture independently of their parents' participation in the church;
- ℞ to advocate for the integrity of childhood and the dignity of all children at every level of our religious, civic and political structures.

MINISTRY OF the child

THE CHURCH IS CALLED:

- ℞ to receive children's special gifts as signs of the Reign of God;
 - ℞ to foster community beyond the family unit, in which children, youth and adults know each other by name, minister to each other, and are partners together in serving Christ in the world;
 - ℞ to appreciate children's abilities and readiness to represent Christ and his church, to bear witness to him wherever they may be, and according to gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world, and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the church.
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