

# TSP *matters*

## Toronto Southeast Presbytery Matters

November 2011, Issue # IV

### Justice and Global Issues

*Chair Jennifer Janzen-Ball*

For the upcoming year, our focus will be on ecology, both locally and globally. This is a huge area still, so we are planning to focus still further on environmental and economic issues related to natural resources – particularly water and food – for our local awareness-raising. The global focus will be on mineral extraction in Canada and the global dimensions of that issue and implications for the economy. A separate but related initiative is in supporting congregational capacity to express their faith in ways that include a consciousness of the justice issues in our society. We are co-sponsoring a late fall workshop with the Social Justice Project of the presbytery, “Talking to People in Power”. We will also be joining with other teams for a Congregational Day, likely in early 2012. This is an event designed to support congregations by bringing people together to worship, celebrate, share stories and learn. We look forward to living out these commitments with others in the presbytery throughout the year to come.

**Want information on  
Camp Lake Scugog?**  
go to [www.lakescugogcamp.org](http://www.lakescugogcamp.org)

### Committee Chairs!!!

Please send future articles to: John Lloyd 416-706-9270 e-mail [john-lloyd@lpgraphics.on.ca](mailto:john-lloyd@lpgraphics.on.ca)

### Is Your Church Talking?!?

A prime opportunity to have a conversation with your congregation on faith and the beliefs of the church! All United Church presbyteries and congregations across Canada, have received documents on the remits before the church in 2012, related to the Doctrine Section of the Basis of Union. Remits are required whenever an amendment to the Basis is proposed by General Council. The Basis is “the constitution of our church, containing the doctrine and polity intended to govern its corporate life”.

Over the years, as our theology has responded to our context, statements have been added and adapted each reflecting the changes in our faith that express the beliefs of our times, such as a new awareness of our call to be better stewards of the earth.

Three questions about doctrine are being asked of us and we, as a reformed faith community, have the invitation and duty to reflect, affirm, and renew these statements of faith - an invitation to extend the Doctrine as a living document, with faith statements reflective of the present time.

This invitation should be engaging congregations in a dialogue about the church’s formal beliefs, both present and the past, and the importance of doctrine as a living expression of faith within our church.

In the spring of 2012, United Church presbyteries and the sessions of all pastoral charges will be asked to vote on these remits. An affirmative majority is required to amend the Basis of Union. Is your congregation prepared?

**For more information or assistance, please contact  
TSP Office: 416-241- 2677 or our website:  
[www.torontoconference.ca/torontosoutheast](http://www.torontoconference.ca/torontosoutheast)**

### Toronto Southeast Presbytery is called to:

- support good, faithful and healthy communities of faith
- develop opportunities for cross-congregational initiatives
- encourage mutual support, collegiality and shared ministry
- provide a place where lively worship is affirmed
- attend to administrative responsibilities of personnel and property
- engage in public witness and programme

## Report of Finance and Property Team (October 15, 2011)

Chair Tom Clarke

Following the approval of the Executive last December that Dentonia Park Pastoral Charge request to relocate to Hope United Church, Finance and Property approved the listing for sale of the church property at 107 Dawes Road. The approval of the sale in the amount of \$1,625,000 is now pending. Proceeds of the sale will be used to support continuing and new ministry for the congregation subject to a plan of disposition which has yet to be presented and approved by the Team. The move to Hope is scheduled for November 27th.

At the request of the congregation and after consultation with representatives of the Presbytery, the Executive approved the closure of Centennial – Rouge United Church effective June 30, 2011. The property is now in the hands of Toronto Conference and will be sold.

Bedford Park United Church was given approval to apply for a demolition permit of the church building as part of their redevelopment project. In the meantime the Bedford Park congregation has moved from the church building and is worshipping at Eglinton St. Georges.

There are other church redevelopment plans in the Presbytery at various stages of progress. Over the past months the Team has received briefings from representatives of Cosborn, Bloor Street, Leaside and Metropolitan churches.

*Thomas Clarke,*  
Chair

## Spotlight on Pastoral Relations

Chair John Joseph Mastandrea

The fall begins with a momentum of a rushing river and with it our many faith communities gather, to build again, pray again, and listen again to the voice of vocation in the calling of the Spirit. Many face the startling news of transition.

In the work and ministry of the Pastoral Relations Commission we shepherd the process of Change in Pastoral Relations, Visioning, JNAC, JSC, Appointments and discipline.

Pastoral Relations Commission is responsible to implement many of the following tasks which are implemented by Committee members and the membership of presbytery. There is an emerging vision that hopes to include the development of Mission Strategy in the visioning process during times of transition.

The Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee shall be available to members of the Pastoral Charge and to Ministry Personnel for consultation and advice regarding the pastoral relationship.

**Bereavement Leave.** Bereavement Leave with pay shall be provided, upon required notification, to full and part-time Ministry Personnel upon the death of a member of the Immediate Family or a Significant Person.

### Compassionate Leave

Compassionate Leave with pay shall be provided to Ministry Personnel, to be determined in consultation with the Ministry and Personnel Committee and the Presbytery Pastoral

Relations Committee or its designated representative. Compassionate Leave shall normally be fourteen (14) days or less.

### Disability

(a) Under Care. Disabled Ministry Personnel shall remain under the care of the Pastoral Charge, the Presbytery, and the United Church for the duration of the disability or a period of six (6) months from the date of the disability (last day worked), whichever is the shorter, providing:

### Joint Needs Assessment Committee

Mandate. The mandate of the Joint Needs Assessment Committee is to study and to report on the Ministry Personnel needs of the Pastoral Charge, through an open and participatory process of information gathering and analysis, concluding with adoption and presentation to the Official Board or Church Board or Church Council of the Pastoral Charge of a report including summary statements

### Joint Search Committee

(c) Mandate. The mandate of the Joint Search Committee is determined by the decisions of the Presbytery authorizing Ministry Personnel search and selection based upon a needs assessment report and recommendations and Pastoral Charge decisions.

### Pastoral Charge Supervisor

The Committee shall recommend to the Presbytery the appointment of a Pastoral Charge Supervisor for each Pastoral Charge that is without a settled or appointed member of the Order of

Ministry or an appointed Designated Lay Minister who has been recognized by the Presbytery, or in any other situation where the Presbytery deems the appointment of a Pastoral Charge Supervisor appropriate.

### Pastoral Charge Supervisors

(a) Appointment. The Presbytery shall appoint one (1) of its own members as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor to supervise any Pastoral Charge that is without a settled or appointed member of the Order of Ministry or an appointed Designated Lay Minister who has been recognized by a Presbytery.

- i. giving sympathetic support to the Supply
- ii. ensuring that there is a Chairperson elected for the meetings of the Pastoral Charge;
- iii. ensuring that the sacraments are appropriately administered
- v. preparing a report on the state of the Pastoral Charge for the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee.

***Thank you for your continued support with the work of the Toronto South East Pastoral Relations Commission***