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Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church of Canada

Social Justice and Advocacy Update October 2019

NEWS FOR OCTOBER 2019

There are many events taking place this month - please read carefully!

1. **LAST CHANCE to register for the Outreach Conference**
2. **Federal Election Resources and Events**
3. **Uxbridge Poverty Coalition meeting, Oct. 5**
4. **Season of Creation at Redeemer**
5. **Doctrine of Discovery documentary (Oct. 6, Lindsay; Oct. 26, Port Hope)**
6. **Climate Truth & Reconciliation at Ascension Port Perry, Oct. 7**
7. **Environmental Film Night with Dr. Stephen Scharper, Oct. 18 (Collingwood)**
8. **Outreach and Advocacy Prayer Cycle**

1. LAST CHANCE to register for the Outreach & Advocacy Conference!

Our Outreach & Advocacy Conference, "Grounded and Growing in Christ: Church as a centre of resistance and hope," takes place on Saturday, October 19 from 9:30 to 3:30 at Havergal College, 1451 Avenue Rd. (south of Lawrence). Registration and refreshments will be available at 9:00 a.m. How can we as Christians engage with the world around us in faithful and hope-filled ways, when all around us we see a world in crisis and despair? Our keynote speaker, Thea Prescod, will speak from her experience working with street-involved people in downtown Toronto, while workshop leaders from all over our Diocese will share examples of responding to social and ecological issues in their communities. A youth option is available. Cost (\$30/\$15 students/low-income) includes lunch.

Registration closes Sunday, October 6 - [sign up today!](#)

2. Federal Election Resources and Events.

The federal election takes place **Monday, October 21, 2019**. Our Primate, the Most Rev. Linda Nicholls, together with the National Indigenous Archbishop and the National Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, have issued a [statement](#) calling Anglicans and Lutherans to use this election period as an opportunity to seek the general welfare of our nation. Resources from a number of ecumenical organizations can be found both appended to the Primate's statement and at our [Diocesan webpage](#). To find out if you are on the voter's list, where and when to vote, and what kind of ID is needed, see the [Elections Canada website](#).

This **Thursday, October 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**, Citizens for Public Justice (CPJ)'s Fall Election Tour will provide a non-partisan look at major issues in the federal election. The

event will be hosted by Christ Church, Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St., Toronto. Free: see [here](#) for more details and to register.

All-candidates' meetings are a great opportunity to ask the candidates of various parties about their platforms. Look for notice of all-candidates' meetings in your riding.

Please remember that partisan political signs and/or campaign materials may not be distributed or displayed on church property.

3. Uxbridge Poverty Coalition meeting, October 5. The fall meeting of the Uxbridge Poverty Coalition takes place on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, 59 Toronto St. S., Uxbridge. The Rev. Christian Harvey, executive director of the Warming Room Community Ministries in Peterborough, will lead a session to focus the group's efforts on tangible outcomes for the community. Free, but please [register](#).

4. Season of Creation at Redeemer. Church of the Redeemer is holding a series of events throughout October to mark the Season of Creation. The series begins on Sunday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m. with a service of music, sacred and secular readings, and prayer, along with guest preacher the Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil. On Wednesday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m., join parishioner Paul Pynkowski for "Woods, Landscape, City: The Prophetic Spirituality of Thomas Merton." On Wednesday, October 23, there will be two screenings (2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.) of the documentary *Riverblue* with discussion of the environmental impact of the fashion industry and consumerism. Free; all are welcome: [registration](#) is requested for the October 16 and 23 events so that sufficient materials are available for all.

5. Doctrine of Discovery: Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts (Oct. 6 and 26)

The Doctrine of Discovery: Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts is a powerful documentary produced by the Primate's Commission on Discovery, Reconciliation, and Justice. It will be screened this month at two locations in Trent-Durham.

- **Sunday October 6, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. St. Paul, Lindsay.** (45 Russell St. W., Lindsay) The Rev. Leigh Kern, Diocesan Reconciliation Animator, will introduce the film and lead the ensuing discussion.
- **Saturday, October 26 from 9:00-noon at St. Mark, Port Hope** (51 King St., Port Hope), with conversation facilitated by members of St. John, Port Hope, St. Mark, Port Hope and St. Paul, Perrytown.

6. Climate Truth and Reconciliation at Ascension, Port Perry, Oct. 7

On Monday, Oct. 7 from 4-5 p.m., Church of the Ascension (266 North St., Port Perry) will host speakers Ginny Colling and Deborah Pearson, who will explore the causes and impacts of the climate crisis on all of us, and especially on Indigenous communities. Free. All welcome.

7. Environmental Film Night with Dr. Stephen Scharper, Collingwood, Oct. 18

On Friday, Oct. 18, from 7-9 p.m., All Saints Collingwood and Trinity United Church invite you to an environmental film screening (title TBA) and commentary with Dr. Stephen Scharper at Trinity United Church, 140 Maple St. Collingwood. Dr. Scharper is an associate professor of religion and ecology at the University of Toronto/Toronto School of Theology, as well as a prolific author and columnist. Light refreshments will be served. Free. All welcome.

8. Outreach & Advocacy Prayer Cycle for October

***** Please note that we are currently updating the Prayer Cycle for the 2019-2010 Church Year. Check this year's cycle [here](#) to make sure we have your parish included and your outreach ministries up to date. *****

October 6, Pentecost 17 - Pray for St. Stephen, Downsview, St. Stephen's Community Ministries, the homework club, mentoring, and recreation programs of the Downsview Youth Covenant, and the St. Stephen/St. Felix Café, providing free lunches to those in need;

for St. Stephen, Maple, its community pantry and community garden;

and for St. Stephen-in-the-Fields, Toronto, its weekend community breakfast program, community garden, Friday drop-ins, support of the Toronto Seed Library, and environmental and anti-poverty advocacy.

October 13, Pentecost 18 / Thanksgiving - Pray for St Theodore of Canterbury, its weekly Thursday community drop-in, daily preparation of snacks at RJ Lang Elementary and Middle School, summer and fall food drives and Christmas fundraiser for the North York Harvest Food Bank, annual backpack and school supply drive for the Salvation Army, refugee support, and monthly music outreach at the Thorne Mill retirement home;
and for St. Thomas à Becket, its support of SHARE Halton/Peel, the Deacon's Cupboard food bank, Open Door ecumenical centre at Square One, and other local outreach initiatives.

October 20, Pentecost 19 - Pray for St. Thomas, Brooklin, its Food Cupboard, AIDS response team, back-to-work bursary, refugee sponsorship, and its support of St. Vincent's Kitchen, The Refuge, and North House Shelter;
and for St. Thomas, Huron Street, Toronto, its refugee sponsorship, weekly meal program for the homeless and marginally housed, and the parish garden which helps to supply it.

October 27, Pentecost 20 - Pray for St. Thomas, Millbrook, its monthly community dinners, prayer shawl ministry, driving for Community Care, support of the local food bank and participation in a community garden;
and for St. Thomas, Shanty Bay, and its support of Barrie Out of the Cold, the Busby Street outreach van, its community garden, and education for reconciliation;

For more information about social justice activities across the diocese, to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, or to share information on events, please contact me at the email address or phone numbers listed below. If you would like to receive more frequent updates on our activities, consider liking our [Facebook page](#).

In faithful witness,

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