

More than just fun to Jonah's story

I've had Jonah on my mind lately. There's a good reason for that. A group of children at our church, with the dedicated help of a number of adults, is busy practicing a musical based on the story of Jonah and the whale. It's due to hit the stage, or more correctly, the chancel, one Sunday next month and it's a lot of fun. But there is more than just fun to the story of Jonah, and I would like to share with you some of my thoughts on the subject.

Everyone remembers how Jonah was swallowed by a whale. (Actually, the Bible says it was a "great fish", but in so many children's versions of the story, it's a whale, and that does have a real ring to it! Sounds more exciting than a fish!) At any rate, you may remember how and why he got there. Jonah tried to run away from God, a very bad move! God had given a task that Jonah didn't like. He was told to go and preach to the people of Nineveh who were a pretty wicked bunch. Jonah was

to preach to them and make them repent, or they would suffer disaster. Jonah could see no point in trying to save such sinners who were, furthermore, long time enemies of the Israelites. So Jonah, as you recall, took a cruise in the opposite direction, and when a terrible storm arose, it became clear that Jonah was to blame. He was therefore dumped in the ocean. The ship was saved, and Jonah became a fish's supper! Now we all know how Jonah, deep inside the fish, repented of his disobe-

dience. Who wouldn't? Being inside the belly of a giant sea creature would make anyone think! And then, in God's good time, the great beast coughed Jonah up on dry land. So here we have the first and most obvious lesson from this good old story. You can't run away from God! And yet, we do try. We may not actually, physically run away, but still there are times when we turn our backs, pretending we don't really know what God would have us do in certain situations, and we

do the absolute opposite. We may not end up in the belly of a whale, but disobeying God's will is certain to have consequences sooner or later in our lives. It's the latter part of the story, the lesser known part, that I think can say so much to us today. Jonah did go to Nineveh, and he preached up a storm, telling the people that they must repent, change their ways, or be destroyed. Well, they repented all right. From the king on down to the lowliest peasant, they put on

sackcloth as a sign of their repentance. The king ordered that even the animals should be clothed in sackcloth. (I try to imagine my dog in sackcloth! Maybe it would be appropriate some times, but he'd find it very itchy!) Now you would think that Jonah would have felt good about their repentance. What preacher wouldn't be happy to have their preaching so overwhelmingly successful? Well, Jonah felt absolutely no "job satisfaction". In fact, he took him-

self out of the city and had a great sulk! Why? Well Jonah never thought that God should save these people. They were wicked, and they weren't Israelites. They weren't "God's People". At least that was what he thought. What Jonah failed to understand, and what we sometimes forget, is that all people are God's people. Christ didn't die for just a "bright selected few". Christ died for the sins of all humankind. God loves all his children, flawed though we are, and God expects us to show his love in our own lives. In his great parable, the good Samaritan, Jesus taught us about loving our neighbours.

Our neighbours may not think like us, may not look like us, but we all are God's children. Many of our neighbours may not worship God as we do. Many, sadly, do not worship God at all. Still, we are brothers and sisters, and we are called to love one another. Just for fun, I'll end with a quote from the end of our little play.

In your minds just substitute for Ninevites any of your neighbours whom you find different from yourself!

The words are, in the play, spoken by God to a sulking Jonah!

Sure the Ninevites seem strange, that's true, But they're my children, just like you. I'm not the God of just one race, Nor do I live in just one place. So learn this now that all these others Are really your sisters and your brothers. I think that just about says it!

Arts 'truly alive and well in Dufferin County!'

• From page A2
Hylands Public School Junior Choir and Grade 5 French students in a play excerpt.

Amaranth singing with ukuleles, MAPS Choir and Drum Circle. Some of the groups wore costumes, some wore school t-shirts and some came just dressed for school, but everyone who came and participated had a wonderful morning, each group learning from the others and hopefully taking away a greater appreciation for the fact that "the arts" are available in their school. For me, it put to rest the

rumours that persist that "there are no arts programs in the schools." There may not be as much funding from the boards as there once was, but there are very definitely dedicated teachers who are making sure that the arts survive in the schools. They deserve a huge vote of thanks and appreciation. It has been proven time and again that children involved in the arts do better in school. One of the greatest

parts of the week was being able to watch the faces of the children when they completed their performances and listened to the applause, realizing that they had indeed accomplished something wonderful. That, alone, was worth all of the hard work that the organizing committee and the volunteers had put in. Truly, the arts are alive and well in Dufferin County!

Have you been watching the TV program where families are trying to cope with eating only food grown or produced within 100 miles of their homes? Does it look difficult? Would you be willing to try, just for one meal? Well, a group of Dufferin residents are planning to hold a 100 Mile Potluck Dinner on Wednesday, May 20, at St. Mark's Anglican church. This is a project of the Joint Outreach Committee of St. Mark's and St. John's Church, Highway 9. It is based on the book, "The 100-Mile Diet," written by two Canadians

who spawned a social movement advocating eating locally grown food in the hope of minimizing our ecological footprints. "The committee is trying to show that the church is sensitive to ecological issues and is truly trying to do something about it," says one representative. "It is one of the faces of the church." The evening will provide an opportunity for people to share experiences with the experiment, and share recipes and stories about the adventure of finding locally produced food. The evening will include light entertain-

ment from local residents John Thomson and Tony Maxwell. As for the question of why people should buy local produce, the committee says it is picked fresh and tastes great. Buying food from local farmers will help your family understand where their food comes from and will connect to the people who produce food. In an effort to help people the committee compiled a list of some area stores which stock locally produced foods. These include: Dave's Butcher Shop (local lamb, veal, chicken and beef); Orangeville Farmers'

Market (maple syrup and mushrooms); Reid's Country Market (potatoes, onions, carrots, cabbage, garlic, eggs, beef, asparagus, rhubarb, lettuce and spinach, plus preserved goods); and Harmony Whole Food Market (chicken, fish, frozen beef and venison, honey, pasta, spelt flour and eggs, sheep cheeses, yogurt, locally grown salad greens). Anyone interested in joining this evening is asked to call St. Mark's at 519-941-0604 to book a spot. Then you'll be responsible for bringing a main course, salad or dessert for six people.

100-mile potluck dinner coming

Mr. Fangrad has been speaking on the creation/evolution issue since 1994 and involved with a creation-oriented ministry in Canada since 1996. His professional training is in electronics. He has worked on advanced communication satellite systems at Com Dev, a world leader in this field. Shortly before working in creation ministry full-time in 1999, he worked at Raytheon Canada and was involved in the early testing phases of the first all-digital radar system. There will be a light lunch and a question and answer period with Mr. Fangard after the presentation.

Caledon church to host speaker on creation vs. evolution

Caledon Hills Fellowship Baptist Church will be hosting speaker Richard Fangrad for a multimedia presentation on the topic of creation/evolution on Sunday, May 24 at 10:30 am. The presentation will communicate scientific evidence for creation in layman's terms to challenge people to consider the accuracy of the Bible. "We are pleased to have Richard Fangrad speak at our Sunday worship service. Whether you believe in evolution, creation, or are undecided, our church family welcomes you to join us on this special day," said Pastor Brian Carnahan. Mr. Fangrad has been speaking on the creation/evolution issue since 1994 and involved with a creation-oriented ministry in Canada since 1996. His professional training is in electronics. He has worked on advanced communication satellite systems at Com Dev, a world leader in this field. Shortly before working in creation ministry full-time in 1999, he worked at Raytheon Canada and was involved in the early testing phases of the first all-digital radar system. There will be a light lunch and a question and answer period with Mr. Fangard after the presentation.

Dreams have been replaced with worry

stated for Phase One Melancthon. They were added after the report was released. Even the roads and bases for the turbine were approved for construction before the Melancthon OMB hearing. Is Government going to lay the foundation for future generations to live with a dream or a nightmare? Joan Lever

M&M charity BBQ raised \$1.9 M

Franchisees, staff and thousands of volunteers at more than 470 M&M Meat Shops outlets across Canada raised \$1.9 million for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada (CCFC) last Saturday. The rain, wind and inclement weather across much of the country didn't dampen the spirits of supporters who lined up to celebrate the 21st annual M&M Meat Shops Charity BBQ Day and raise funds to support vital research to find a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, also known as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

Future Shop CORRECTION NOTICE

Fido Blackberry Pearl 8100 10119326. On page 5 of the May 8 flyer, please note that this product's price of \$24.99 is on select 3-year plans, not 2-year plans, as advertised. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued customers.

Community of Christ

Grand Valley Branch - Mill Street, Grand Valley
Pastor: Elder Del Franks
Church phone: 928-3020 Pastor's phone: 940-8660
9:45 a.m. - Adult and Children's Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
Shelburne (Reddickville) Branch - Pastor: Bill Arnold
519-925-2796

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

11 am Service with Rev. Edward Bellsmith
Nursery, Sunday School & Teen Group
Music, Social events & Outreach
200 Owen Sound St., Shelburne 925-2233
www.wondercafe.ca/churches/trinity-united-church
trinityunitedchurch@bellnet.ca

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

923-2042
MASSES:
Saturday, Dundalk 5 p.m.
Sunday - Melancthon, 9:30 a.m.
(North on Hwy 10 to 280 Sideroad, Melancthon)
Proton 11:15 Sunday

DUFFERIN COUNTY CHRISTADELPHIANS

10th Line Amaranth
Contact: Chris (925-2236)
Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School
* Sunday 6:00 p.m. Bible Talk
* Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Bible Study
* Friday 7:45 p.m. Youth Group
* Please call to verify location!
• No Collection • Free Literature
• Refreshments
• All are welcome!

NEW HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

690 Riddell Orangeville
943-1203
Worship Service
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Majors David and Donna Kennedy

DUFFERIN AREA Church Directory

ST. MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
5 FIRST AVENUE, ORANGEVILLE
519-941-0640
FIND OUT MORE AT www.saintmark.ca
WE INVITE YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US!
8:30 a.m. Traditional Service,
10 a.m. Contemporary Service
(Sunday School and Nursery)
Rector: The Rev'd Canon Peter Scott

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
312 Owen Sound St., Shelburne 925-2923
Pastor: Rev. Susan D. Wilson
Sunday, May 17 - 10:30 a.m.

Grace Church of the Nazarene
at The Ministry Centre
736 Steeles Street, Unit 3, Shelburne
10:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship and ACTS for Children
Pastor: Rev. Bob McLellan - 519-925-056C
Website: www.ShelburneGrace.com
Come Grow With Us!

BROADWAY TABERNACLE
Lead Pastor: Paul Carroll
Sunday Services 10:00 a.m. Young Adults Program 7:11 pm
Programs for all ages
Broadway welcomes you!
Located: 1/4 kilometre West of C-Line, Orangeville
519-941-3981 www.broadwaytab.com

ORANGEVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner of Hwy. 10 and Hockley Rd.
Sunday Worship Services at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
There's a place for you and your family at OBC.
Come join us!
For info about programs for children, students, and adults, visit www.orangevillebaptist.com or call 519.941.4790

ABIDING PLACE MINISTRIES
A Church with a Difference, making a Difference
Auditorium, Dufferin Oaks, Shelburne
"C" Door off Centre Street
Sunday Services - 10 a.m. & Children's Church
Bible Study & Prayer - Wed. 7 p.m. @ Pastor's Home
Pastor Rev. Gord Horsley (519) 925-3651
Come and be blessed, all are welcome!

HOCKLEY VALLEY BIBLE CHAPEL
SUNDAY SERVICES
10:30 a.m. Family Worship, Sunday School
Hockley Road (between 2nd & 3rd Line, Mono)
Office 942-8200 Pastor Mark Condon

JEHOVAH JIREH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES
"Preparing the Way of the Lord"
Hwy. #10, 3 km south of Orangeville
Sundays @ 11 a.m. Wednesdays @ 7:30 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Carol McLean 942-2338
Everyone is Welcome!
www.jjcm.ca

FAITH FELLOWSHIP
SUNDAY: Service 11:00 a.m., Evening Celebration - Praying for the Sick - 6 p.m.
THURSDAY: Floating Bible Study, 7 p.m. Call for Location.
Hwy. #9 East of Hwy. #10, Orangeville (beside Toyota Dealership)
Church Office: 942-4414
Affiliated with the Independent Assemblies of God International

WESTMINSTER UNITED CHURCH
247 Broadway, Orangeville 941-0381
Rev. Sandra McLauchlan-Abuja
Worship Service, Sunday School Classes, 10:30 a.m.
www.westminsterorangeville.ca
"Westminster United Church; Seeking and Sharing the Love of God"

BETHEL BIBLE CHAPEL
419 Main Street East, Shelburne
Sunday Services - 9:30 a.m. Lord's Supper
10:45 am Family Bible Hour, Sunday School
Chapel - 519-925-3910 or 519-925-0541
www.bethelshelburne.com All Welcome

St. JOHN'S CHURCH
3907 Highway 9 Caledon, ON 519-941-1950 519-941-5817 (f)
anglican@bellnet.ca www.stjohnshwy9caledon.ca
Just east of Orangeville
Every Sunday morning
9 a.m. Church Lite: all ages worship
9:45 a.m. Café St. Jean: Coffee & Breakfast - Veggie Tales Sunday School
11 a.m. Anglican Classic Choral Eucharist

COVENANT ALLIANCE CHURCH
www.TheHeartofOrangeville.com
Worshipping every Sunday @10:30 a.m.
3 Zina St., on the corner of First and Zina!
519-941-2707

CHRIST CHURCH WHITFIELD
Centre Rd. & Dufferin 17
925-2923
All welcome to a Traditional Anglican service in a small, friendly country church.
Sunday, May 17 at 8:30 am

BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF GRAND VALLEY
152 Main Street North 928-5658
10:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting
Pastor Greg Meadows

Camilla-Laurel-Mono Centre
A Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada
St. Andrew's, Camilla - 9 a.m.
Burn's, Mono Centre, 10:30 a.m.
Laurel, 12 noon
Minister: The Rev. Cheryl-Lynn MacPherson
519-941-0972

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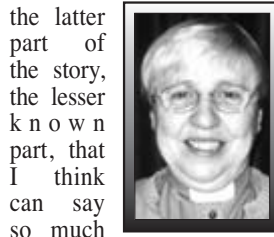
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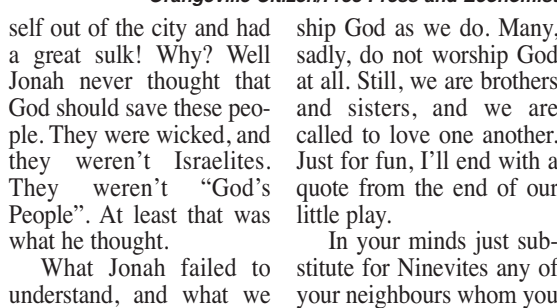
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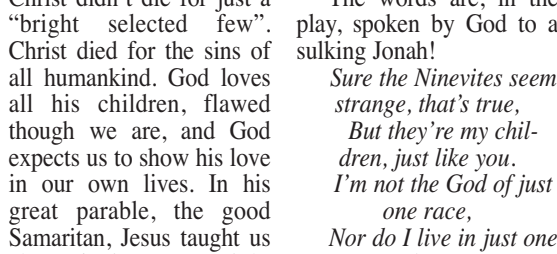
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Christian Perspectives
Rev. Mary Ranger



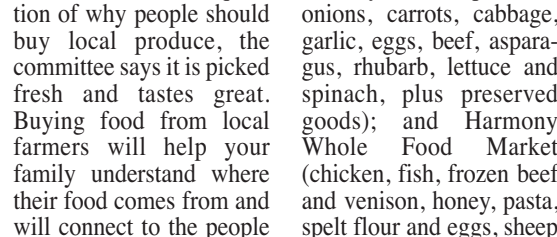
Photo/DAN PELTON
BRAD WENFELDER, senior account manager and team leader at RBC in Orangeville, speaks at Headwaters Health Care Centre after RBC Royal Bank made a donation in the amount of \$10,000 for continuing nursing education at Headwaters Health Care Centre.



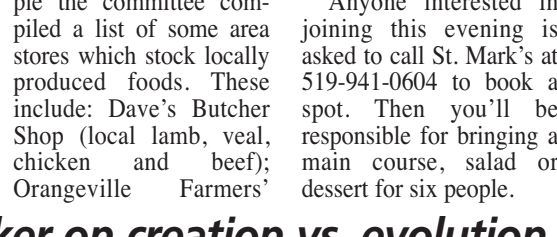
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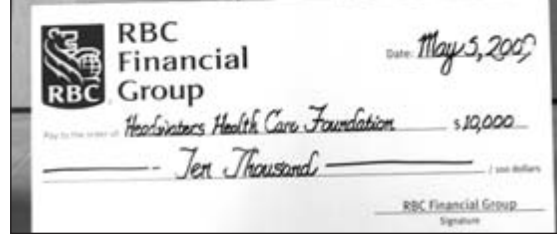
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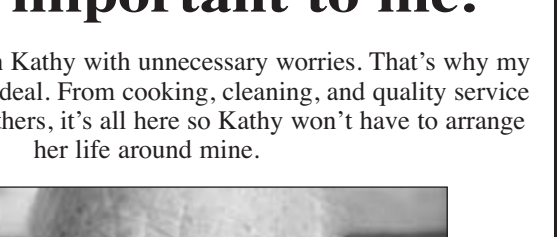
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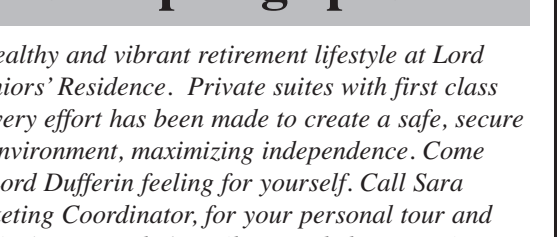
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My daughter knows I have everything I need. That's important to me.
I don't want to burden Kathy with unnecessary worries. That's why my new home here is so ideal. From cooking, cleaning, and quality service to the friendship of others, it's all here so Kathy won't have to arrange her life around mine.
Ask about our spring specials!
You can enjoy a healthy and vibrant retirement lifestyle at Lord Dufferin Centre Seniors' Residence. Private suites with first class dining awaits you. Every effort has been made to create a safe, secure and comfortable environment, maximizing independence. Come experience the Lord Dufferin feeling for yourself. Call Sara Cronkwright, Marketing Coordinator, for your personal tour and complimentary lunch. Accommodations (long and short stays) are currently available
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