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*The Centre exists to support the well-being of clergy and congregations and to enhance the overall ministry of the church in Canada.*

## **Update on the Ministry and Work of**



the Centre for  
Clergy Care &  
Congregational  
Health

**Fall 2007**

**Director:  
Rev. Dr. Andrew Irvine**

**Senior Researchers:  
Dr. Brian Clarke  
Rev. Dr. Stuart Macdonald**

**Administrative Assistant:  
Anne Miller, MRE**

*Fall is upon us, and we look forward to upcoming events and activities of the Centre. At the same time, we pause to reflect on where we have been and where God is calling us to be. We are grateful to our Advisory Board and all those who have joined us on this journey so far as leaders, participants and supporters.*

We welcome your thoughts and feedback! As well, we invite you to become involved with the Centre and its vision of supporting the well-being of clergy and congregations in order to enhance ministry of the church in Canada.

### *Looking Back...Recent Events and Happenings at the Centre*

#### **Red Deer Pilot Project**

This ecumenical work with clergy and laity is winding down. Since its beginning, the goal has been to strengthen local churches through awareness of clergy self-care issues and visioning. As we wrap up this work, time will be taken to consider the wisdom we have gleaned and to use it for future projects in other regions of the country. In particular, we thank Knox Red Deer for this vision they offered to us to take on this important work.

#### **Starting Well 2007**

A group of 16 clergy in their first five years of ministry from across the country gathered at Emmanuel College from June 18th—21st. Through case studies, presentations, worship and personal reflection, they found spiritual nourishment, encouragement and insights to take back to their work in their congregations. The Centre is proud to now have this affirming event fall under our mandate.

*For more information about activities of the Centre or if you would like to register for one or more of our events, please see the back of this brochure for our contact information.*

### **Current Research Projects**

- **First Five Years Study**— A survey based on focus group input will be circulated to study participants this fall. Focus groups will also assist in interpreting the data about the unique challenges facing those in this stage of their ministry.
- **Census Research**— Dr. Stuart Macdonald and Dr. Brian Clarke continue to look at this area, including the growth of the “No Religion” category and what is happening with Protestant denominations in Canada
- **Post-World War II** — Dr. Macdonald is considering what issues and factors precipitated the decline apparent in many Protestant denominations during the 1960s

### *Looking Forward...Upcoming Centre Events Calendar*

**Making the Most of Retirement**      October 22nd—24th, 2007  
Crieff Hills Community      Mary Helen Garvin and Peter Scott  
For clergy approaching retirement or newly retired and their spouses.

\$350 single room      \$310 shared room      \$250 commuter

**Discovering a Healthy Response to Difficult Behaviour in the Church**  
1:30-5:30pm February 25th & 9:00am-3:30pm February 26th, 2008  
Trinity Presbyterian Church, York Mills      Rev. Dr. Arthur Boers  
\$75 by Feb. 15th      \$90 after Feb. 15th      \$35 student rate

**Take Care: Mid-Career Stretch!**      May 26th— 30th, 2008  
Crieff Hills Community      Centre Director Dr. Andrew Irvine  
For clergy in their 8th, 9th or 10th year of pastoral ministry.  
\$400 by May 1st      \$450 after May 1st

**Starting Well** at Emmanuel College      June 9th—12th, 2008

*Our thanks to the Beatty Ryckman Trust for sponsoring Dr. Boers' event and Take Care 2008.*