### **Centre Advisory Board Members**

In addition to Andrew, Stuart, Brian and Anne, the following people assist with providing direction to the Centre's ministry:

Rev. Dr. Dorcas Gordon, Principal of Knox College
Rev. Dr. Peter Wyatt, Principal of Emmanuel College
Rev. Dr. David Neelands, Dean of Divinity of Trinity College
Rev. Joe Ramsay, United Church of Canada representative
Rev. Susan Shaffer, Presbyterian Church in Canada representative
Rev. John Buttars, United Church of Canada clergy
Ms. Betsy Anderson, Emmanuel College representative
Ms. Virginia Leech, Beatty Ryckman Trust representative
Rev. Dr. Jim Czegledi, Member at Large
Dr. Don Posterski, Member at Large

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# Update on the Ministry and Work of



Spring 2008

Director: Rev. Dr. Andrew Irvine

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

Administrative Assistant: Anne Miller, MRE

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

*Being housed* on the University of Toronto campus means that this time of year is filled with anticipation. Convocations are being planned, and graduating students are beginning to seriously pursue a call to ordained or other ministry.

This is a time when we are reminded of the importance of what we do. These graduates are soon to leave the cocoon of seminary and some are already showing interest in programs we offer, such as Starting Well. They are recognizing their need for support and networking to be effective in their role.

During this transitional time, as always, we look forward to continuing to support clergy, other leaders and congregations to enable them to fulfill their calling in the risen Christ!

### Happenings through the Centre

# Discovering a Healthy Response to Difficult Behaviour in the Church with Dr. Arthur Boers

A group of 50 students and clergy from a variety of denominations met to learn, discuss and network about this common and relevant concern. We are grateful to Trinity York Mills Presbyterian Church for hosting us and to our workshop leaders who provided insightful material—Rev. John Buttars, Rev. David Howes and Dr. Joan Wyatt as well as our own Centre Director. Arthur's plenary addresses were definitely the highlight for everyone. We look forward to offering similar events in the future.

**Take Care: Mid-Career Stretch!** with Dr. Andrew Irvine This event at Crieff Hills is quickly approaching with a focus on clergy in their 8th, 9th or 10th year in pastoral ministry.

### **Starting Well 2008**

Plans are well underway for this annual event with a 3 year modular design. We are pleased to have the original planning group now as a committee of the Centre and to support clergy in their first five years of pastoral ministry.

## **Current Research Projects**

- First Five Years Study— 80 participants have completed our survey and after the data has been analyzed we look forward to sharing the findings hopefully by the summer
- Census Research Stuart and Brian's article "Simply 'Christian': Canada's newest major religious denomination" has been published in the Fall 2007 *Toronto Journal of Theology*.
- Post-World War II Stuart and Brian continue to think about the church in the 1950s and 1960s. They are currently looking at several research projects to help us better understand the church today and how it was shaped in those crucial decades.

### **Upcoming Centre Events Calendar**

**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 Rev. Jim Cairney, Rev. Carolyn McAvoy & Dr. Anne Simmonds Particularly for clergy in their first five years of ministry.

Commuter - \$435 3 Night Stay - \$635 4 Night Stay - \$700

**Making the Most of Retirement** November 12th-14th, 2008 Crieff Hills Community

For clergy approaching retirement, or newly retired, along with their spouses if they wish. More details to come!

The Starting Well and Making the Most of Retirement design team are considering regionalizing these events.

Our thanks to the Beatty Ryckman Trust for sponsoring Take Care 2008.

To register for an event or to learn about activities of the Centre please see the back of this brochure for our contact information.