

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. Mark Toulouse, 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

Rev. Carol Loudon, Presbyterian Church in Canada clergy

Ms. Betsy Anderson, Emmanuel College representative

Ms. Virginia Leech, Beatty Ryckman Trust representative

To contact the Centre:

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www.CaringforClergy.ca

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

Spring 2009

Director:

Rev. Dr. Andrew Irvine

Senior Researchers:

Dr. Brian Clarke

Rev. Dr. Stuart Macdonald

Administrative Assistant:

Anne Miller, MRE

I am always amazed at the transformation outside my window from winter to spring. Sometimes we are teased by a day or two of warmer weather, only to be plunged back into winter cold. As I write this, it seems that the greenness, light breezes and cheery songs of the birds are here to stay for this new season.

Ministry can have its times of winter greyness, of wondering and struggling to keep seeing the face of God in our work and the relationships around us. Without an awareness of our well-being and need to care for ourselves, we can absorb that greyness and sink into worry, despair, isolation and burnout.

The Centre continues to provide safe space through its programs and ministry - space to acknowledge our humanness, to better understand ourselves and to be rejuvenated. May you find spring within and around you as you serve the risen Christ!

Happenings through the Centre

Work of Andrew, Centre Director

Andrew was the plenary speaker for the Bishop's Conference of the Lutheran Synod of British Columbia in late April. The topic was "Self Care: Reaching towards the Fullness of God's Intent" and the event was held at Charis Camp near Rosedale.

Andrew is leading an event in the Peace River Presbytery in mid-May and will be speaking at the Atlantic Synod gathering in September. He continues to be busy with a variety of projects.

Starting Well

Space is still available for both our Toronto and Vancouver locations. The registration deadline for Toronto is May 31st and for Vancouver it is June 20th.

Watch our website for details of other upcoming events!

Research News

- **congratulations to Stuart** for his chapter, "Religion and Secularization in Canada: Education and the Impact on Mission", in *Christian Mission and Education in Modern China, Japan, and Korea* just published by Peter Lang, Germany
- **research on the context of ministry in Canada**— Anne is working on compiling as comprehensive a list as possible of existing research completed on clergy care, congregational health and related issues. It is hoped that out of this, key areas needing attention can be identified and completed work can be made more widely available to those looking for it.

Upcoming Centre Events Calendar

Starting Well—Toronto June 15th-18th, 2009
Emmanuel College with Rev. Carolyn McAvoy,
Rev. Dr. Anne Simmonds, and Rev. Jim Cairney
Commuter - \$435 3 Night Stay - \$635 4 Night Stay - \$700

Starting Well— Vancouver July 13th-17th, 2009
Vancouver School of Theology with Rev. Susan Shaffer,
Rev. Dr. Ed Searcy, and The Venerable Stephen Rowe
Commuter - \$435 4 Night Stay - \$720

Both Starting Well events are particularly for clergy in their first five years of ministry. Choose your location!

Making the Most of Retirement November 4th-6th, 2009
Crieff Hills Community with Mary Helen Garvin and Peter Scott
Commuter—\$250 Shared room—\$335 Single room—\$370

This event is for those approaching retirement within 10 years or retired with the last 5 years. Spouses welcome!

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