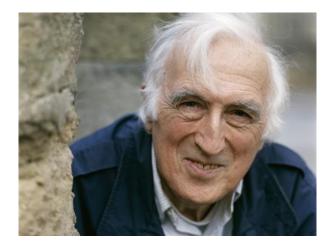


NOVEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER ISSUE 17

JUBILEE MESSAGE FROM JEAN VANIER

"L'Arche is 50 years old! To be able to celebrate our Jubilee year is an amazing gift. When I welcomed Raphael and Philippe from a violent institution, little did I know that L'Arche would grow into the worldwide network it is today. So many people over these years have come to L'Arche and discovered the deep value of people with intellectual disabilities, who if accepted, loved and honored have much to give to our world. Let us all go forward into the next 50 years with much hope and intentionality, growing but also deepening our vision and letting ourselves be continually transformed by the relationships we share in our communities so that we may become an ever more inspiring presence for our world."



~Jean Vanier





The rain is pouring down outside as I write this. It reminds me of many tears shed in community and how letting go of pain and sadness are an integral part of our lives together. Our little community has lived so much over these past 5 years, especially the last few months. Many of you have already heard the sad news that we lost Jackie. She passed away on August 17th after a brief illness. Jackie's bedside was surrounded with love, food, prayer and song during her last days with us. It was a beautiful testament of faithfulness and never once was she alone. Jackie lived a wonderful life and had a peaceful death-what more could we ask for our friend? And still, we miss her each day. Our lives are different without her. Yet with Jackie's passing there is a gift offered, a place for someone new to come and find their own place of belonging. And with the grieving there is now a rejoicing. The spirit is once again changing our lives through the smiles and body-shaking laughs of May, our new core member. This is the true mystery of L'Arche: in order for a new person to come and share life with us we have to say goodbye to someone whom we already love and do not want to lose. We have no choice in the losing but we do have a choice in the welcome. And we choose to open our broken hearts to the possibility of friendship, of love, of a new sister. This year marks 50 years of L'Arche in the world. 50 years of members, mostly core members, choosing to welcome strangers into the intimacy of their lives. It is painfully beautiful. It is real, raw and vital to life in our homes. And we give thanks for it all. "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Ecclesiastes 3.

> Kelly Geddes Community Leader

TRIBUTE TO JACKIE PERRIN by ANNA GARDIN March 12, 1953 – August 17, 2014

My friend, Jackie

When I first met Jackie it hit me that she was like a big sister to me.

I knew Jackie for a long time before we lived in L'Arche.

We were always hanging out together with Cathy MacMillan-we even went to Angus and Heather's wedding!

We moved into Vanier House in January 2010-Jackie said she was the first one to move in.

Jackie had a big bag of crayons for coloring and doing her puzzle books and she loved her tea.

Jackie always said, "Keep it up-looks good!"

We were always having lots of fun, going for walks, joking around, laughing and man, she sure liked to dance!

When we would go out for lunch, Jackie liked going to Cousins.

We would go to church together, too.

We would watch our favorite TV shows, The King of Queens, the news, Jeopardy, and Wheel of Fortune.

When I would go home for the weekend I would always say, "I'm coming back on Sunday."

I even got so close to her that Jackie she would come home with me for the weekend and to our cottage. Jackie was really happy and had lots of fun. She called my Mom "Mom" and my Father, "Dad."

Jackie knew lots of people and if someone said something and didn't say her name, she would say, "What am I-chop liver?"



When Jackie came home from work I would always greet her. I would say, "How was your day?" and I would wait till she got up in the morning and say, "How did you sleep?" Jackie would say, "I slept like an angel."

I helped her with things that she needed and would tell her I love her very much.

I was always going in to see Jackie at the hospital, holding her hand and talking to her. I said, "It's OK, I am ready, you can go now, I will meet you again."

Jackie was very caring, sharing and loving to everyone.

I will be lost without Jackie. I won't have another friend like her. I loved her very much and had fun with her these last 4 ½ years.

Anna Gardin





6TH ANNUAL L'ARCHE HALIFAX GOLF TOURNAMENT



The Board of L'Arche Halifax would like to once again thank Scotiabank for its ongoing support of L'Arche Halifax. Scotiabank was one of the early supporters of L'Arche Halifax's Welcome Home Campaign which raised funds for our first home. Since 2010 representatives of Scotiabank have sat on the L'Arche Halifax Golf Tournament Committee to help plan the annual fundraising event.

A very special thanks to Frank Carson, of Scotiabank Corporate Banking, the first Scotiabank representative on the Committee. Frank has been on the committee for the past 4 years. We also appreciate the work of the other Scotiabank representatives on the golf tournament committee: Katherine Boone, Small Business Account Manager, joined the committee in March, 2012 and Blair MacKeigan, Manager of the Scotia Square Branch, who is in his second year on the committee.

In addition, other Scotiabank employees join with the committee members to lend a hand at the annual golf tournament itself resulting in a Scotiabank matching grant of \$5,000 per tournament. In the last 5 years the annual golf tournament has raised over \$150,000. Thanks again to Frank, Katherine, Blair and Scotiabank – we really appreciate your support.

Brian Hebert, Chairman







PREMIER STEPHEN MCNEIL'S VISIT







The **Friends of L'Arche** and **L'Arche Halifax** invite you to join them for fellowship and fun.

Where: St. Agnes Church Hall

Time: 1:30 pm

Dates: January 11, February 8, & March 8, 2015

You may donate financially to L'Arche Halifax by:

- 1. Mail a cheque to L'Arche Halifax, 5512 Sullivan Street, Halifax, NS B3K 1X7
- Credit card Phone (902) 407-5512 and provide the following Information: Type of card, card number, expiry date, name on card or by completing the following and return it to the above address:
 Type of card: _____ Card Number: ____
 Expiry date: _____ Name on Card: _____
- 3. Through CanadaHelps.org Go to website: www.canadahelps.org, search for charity and complete online information
- 4. United Way Pledge through United Way and request your pledge be allocated to L'Arche Halifax
- 5. Monthly Giving call Office at (902) 407-5512
- 6. Leave a Legacy call Office at (902) 407-5512

Thank you for your generous support!

Please keep us up-to-date with changes to your information by emailing or calling us!