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The Stevite

OUR MISSION

To be an ecumenical community that offers sacred spaces for learning and transformation.

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From Rwanda to St. Stephen's: A Journey of Learning and Healing

Rev. Emmanuel Gatera is a DMin student from Kigali in Rwanda. He enrolled in the program in 2008. On his recent second trip to Canada and to St. Stephen's College, he participated in doctoral program courses.

Emmanuel is the pastor for Kimironko Anglican congregation in Kigali as well as the General Secretary of the Anglican Church in Rwanda.



Emmanuel learned about St. Stephen's College from Rev. Brian Pearson, an Anglican pastor in Calgary and a friend for many years.

"I had a longtime vision to train in counselling to contribute to the healing of my people – post-genocide effects, trauma, anxiety, anger, lack of hope," Emmanuel explained in a recent interview.

He likes the St. Stephen's College formula which allows him to come for two to three months for academic work and then go home to serve his church, congregation and his family. When he is away, he misses his family very much: he and his wife Athanasie have three daughters and a son, ages seven through seventeen.

Emmanuel says his experience in Canada is working out as he had hoped. "When I chose to come, I was told by various people that I may not fit, but when I came, I found the College an ecumenical place where everyone is able to have his own views and that diverse views are acceptable".

"I lived in exile for 30 years. In 1963 the wars started and we fled in January 1964. I left with my dad, my mother, my two sisters and my brother. My dad died later from the effects of torture. We lived in the refugee camps in Burundi for five years; then we were in Uganda in camps until 1993. Uganda is where I studied theology."

"In the camps we were deprived of many things so I am learning a lot about myself, discovering myself. I rely on the theories to help me capture the development I missed, become a kid sometimes."

When asked where he was at in his recapturing of childhood, he responded with a wide grin, "Oh, about 8!"

It is both a pleasure and an education for us at the College to have Emmanuel studying here. The College community is encouraged to watch for Emmanuel's return next year and to make time to hear more about his life's journey.

DON'T MISS THE GALA!

**Friday, 18 Sept 09
Sutton Place Hotel**

**Dinner • Dancing
Silent & Live Auctions**

**You are cordially
invited to celebrate
with us at the
Second Annual
Chancellor's Gala**

Our goal is to sell out again this year and raise the balance of the funds needed for Phase One of the renovation which would make the lower level of the College accessible by the building of a driveway, ramp, access door and handicapped washroom.

Please support this worthwhile renovation by purchasing individual Gala tickets (or a table for 10), contributing to the silent and live auctions, or donating to the accessibility fund.

**Tickets: \$250
(\$200 tax receipt)**

Grant for Accessibility Project

The College has received a \$21,978.02 grant from the Community Spirit Donation Grant Program which is offered by Alberta Culture and Community Spirit. The grant money will be used to cover part of the costs of the blueprints for the accessibility renovation project.

Alumni/ae Lunch in Calgary

The College hosted an alumni/ae lunch at the Venturion Shwan Gallery in Calgary on March 27. It was gratifying to see many people from the Calgary area College community. We are working to determine the best way to serve the Calgary area and the first result of the Calgary lunch is the scheduling of a course in Calgary in the fall.

St. Stephen's in the News

Gayle Simonson published an article about the history of the College which appeared in the March 2009 *EDHS* (Edmonton and District Historical Society) *Newsletter*. Gayle is the author of the College's history book, *Ever-Widening Circles* (available at the College and at Revelations).

St. Stephen's was also featured in the April 2009 *CATA* (Canadian Art Therapy Association) *Newsletter*.

Help for Students

Out-of-town students attending one-week intensive courses at the College sometimes require accommodation that is more affordable than a hotel room. If you are interested in helping by making available a bedroom in your house,

please contact Jenny Meers at the College (meers@ualberta.ca or 780-439-7311). The College would need the following information from you: name, address, phone number/email address, whether a fee would be charged and how much, whether the house is smoke free and/or pet free.

New Phone System

Thanks to a gift of \$2,500 by an anonymous donor, Stephen's College has upgraded to a new telephone system. Although calls will still usually be answered by our staff, callers now have the option to access the person they wish to speak to or their voice mail directly by simply listening to the outgoing message and entering the correct extension number. Check out the "People Locator" on our website for extension numbers and further information.

Transitions

In April Kathy Suteau left the position of Continuing Education Coordinator and Betty Marlin, a member of the Board of Governors, and a long time friend of St. Stephen's, graciously now volunteers two days a week as the Continuing Education and Community Learning Coordinator.

Jean Waters handed the role of Interim Coordinator for the Doctor of Ministry Program to Geoff Wilfong-Pritchard in June. The new position of Art Therapy Coordinator was advertised and interviews were held in August. We are grateful for the time and energy people have dedicated to the College.

Faculty

Earle Sharam	Dean
Julie Henkelman	Program Coordinator, MA in Pastoral Psychology & Counselling
Mona-Lee Feehan	Program Coordinator, Master of Theological Studies
Geoff Wilfong-Pritchard	Interim Program Coordinator Doctor of Ministry

Administrative and Contract Staff

David Allan	Business Administrator
Vecas Griffiths	Bethel Cleaning & Maintenance
Diane Harris	Business Administration Assistant
Betty Marlin	(Volunteer), Coordinator, Continuing Education and Community Learning
Jenny Meers	Executive Assistant to the Dean
Kelly Parson	Assistant Registrar
Lori Stewart	Institutional Advancement Coordinator
Shelley Westermann	Registrar

Close Encounters at St. Stephen's

Former Dean shares his vision during a memorable visit

Dr. Bill Close, former Dean of St. Stephen's College and also the Director of the DMin Program at the College for two decades, visited the College on Wednesday, May 20 for a meet and greet with members of the College community. Bill left St. Stephen's in 1997 to become President of the Atlantic School of Theology in Halifax. Those who came to visit with Bill appreciated hearing about his wife, Doris, who died recently.



Photo courtesy of Denis Haughey

We were touched by Bill's willingness to share his thoughts and feelings about his last few months with Doris, whom he described as "a woman of faith and a woman of courage". We were captivated by Bill's description of the music at Doris' service which concluded with Handel's *Amen* from *The Messiah*. Bill

invited us to imagine the *Amen* as portraying the stars going out at the end of Creation praising God and singing "It has been very good".

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Bill as he adjusts to life without his "star". Bill admitted that his heart is still

in St. Stephen's because the personality of the College remains from his time here but in a different form. He talked about the deep relationships with people at the College and the willingness of the College to experiment.

An obvious visionary, Bill spoke of the need to "leap forward" and it was noted that Bill ran the first online course here at the College at a time when that was a cutting edge initiative.

In the conversation, Bill went on to state that, for example, "preserving the past in an historical building can't be the end of the matter, or being frozen in a program; you need to go as far past the vision of others as you can".

Those are inspiring words to hear as the College enters its second century.

We are looking forward to future visits from Bill as we hope he includes Edmonton and the College in his retirement travel plans.

RECOGNITION FOR PROGRAM

St. Stephen's College is delighted to report that the MAPPC degree has recently received recognition from the Canadian Counselling Association (CCA) as a training program that meets CCA's requirement for a graduate degree in counselling or related profession. This recognition is required to proceed with the application for certification as a Canadian Certified Counsellor with CCA. Great news for the MAPPC program, students and alumni/ae!

HELPING ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE

As we begin our second century, you can help us ensure this important ministry continues. Your gift does make a difference! Visit our website for details of the many ways you can donate to the College, including cash or cheque, online donation, PAR (Pre-authorized Remittance) and planned giving.

DONATIONS RECEIVED

Dr. Colleen MacDougall, who recently retired and taught at St. Stephen's donated her office furniture to the College. We are very appreciative of Colleen's generosity and we wish her well in her retirement.



UPCOMING EVENTS

FREE NOON LECTURE

**“THE SPIRITUAL WIND:
SPIRITUALITY & CONTEMPORARY PRAXIS”
PRESENTED BY KAROLA RADLER**

Friday 4 Sept 2009, Noon to 2 p.m.
At St. Stephen's College

Karola Radler is an MTS (Honors) student at St. Stephen's College in Edmonton. Her particular focus of study and work is on ecumenical, international, multicultural, and interfaith aspects of religion and law. She is a council member of the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada and recently has published "Between Creed and Constitution: Freedom of Religion in Germany", sponsored by the Chester Ronning Center for the Study of Religion and Public Life at the University of Alberta, Augustana Campus.

Interested in attending?

Please RSVP by calling 780-439-7311
or email: diane.harris@ualberta.ca. Please bring a
bag lunch. Coffee and tea are available.

COGNITIVE LEARNING, SPIRITUAL PRACTICES AND CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER FOR FACULTY AND MINISTRY PERSONNEL WITH FATHER THOMAS KEATING

Friday 2 Oct 2009, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
At the Providence Renewal Centre
3005-119 Street, Edmonton

Fr. Keating is a Trappist monk from Snowmass, Colorado. In 1984, he formed a support network for Centering Prayer, dedicated to reclaiming the Christian tradition of contemplative prayer.

Cost of the morning session: \$25
Info: email retreat@providencerenewal.ca

A full retreat session is also planned for Friday evening and all day Saturday 3 Oct 2009.

MARCUS BORG & JOHN DOMINIC CROSSAN PRESENT: FOLLOWING JESUS IN A TIME OF EMPIRE

In partnership with Christ Church Anglican Parish, the Pathways Centre and Revelations Bookstore, St. Stephen's is delighted to bring two pre-eminent scholars to Edmonton this autumn. These public lectures have sold out. However, a very few places remain for St. Stephen's College students and faculty only to meet with them at the College.

Details: Friday 30 Oct, 2009, 1:30pm to 3pm
Location: St. Stephen's College Library
Cost: \$25.00

Please register with Kelly Parson at the College.
Phone: 780-439-7311, ext. 30.

Marcus J. Borg, a biblical and Jesus Scholar, is the author of sixteen books including *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time*, *The Heart of Christianity*, and his newest book, *Jesus: Uncovering the Life, Teachings and Relevance of a Religious Revolutionary*.

John Dominic Crossan was an ordained priest until 1969 when he joined the faculty at DePaul University in Chicago where he is now a Professor Emeritus in its Department of Religious Studies. He is the author of 23 books on the historical Jesus, early Christianity, and the historical Paul.

HOW TO CONTACT US:

St. Stephen's College
University of Alberta Campus
8810 – 112 St NW
Edmonton, AB T6G 2J6
Ph. 780-439-7311 or 1-800-661-4956
Fax: 780-433-8875
Email: ststephn@ualberta.ca
Web Site: www.ualberta.ca/St.Stephens/