



A special 50th birthday present for Kevin ... [page 2](#)



L'Arche founder Jean Vanier honoured nationally with the CMU Pax award, and internationally with the Templeton prize ... [page 3](#)



Pirates of the Ark ... [page 4](#)

*"Stopped in at L'Arche Tova Café for lunch, delicious food and great company. Thanks for having us."*

Which well known national figure tweeted the above review of the Café? ... [page 5](#)

## Record Success for Olympic Building Centre's Walk with L'Arche

by Diane Truderung  
Director of Fund Development  
and Communications

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk held on May 3, 2015 was a great success. This event was attended by over 420 people and raised over \$82,000 in support of L'Arche Winnipeg, which set a new Walk record. This year we are very pleased to announce that we had over 160 new walking participants. The pledges raised will be used to maintain and improve the quality of life of L'Arche members and their volunteer assistants.

Friends, family, sponsors, supporters and even pets gathered at the Oxford Heights Community Club to enjoy this fun filled day. Participants collected pledges and then walked either the 1 or 5 kilometre route in support of L'Arche Winnipeg. The festivities began with a Zumba warm-up by Tammy Vogel, followed by special entertainment provided by the L'Arche Winnipeg Music Group. Balloon displays both large and small provided a very decorative look and created a party atmosphere. Thank you to Tova and Larry Vickar for once again sponsoring this wonderful balloon display.

After the Walk, the participants enjoyed a scrumptious barbeque provided by The Knights of Columbus. Food items were donated by the Knights of Columbus, Pratt's, Maple Leaf Foods, Domino's Pizza, Wellington Fine Coffee, Olympic Building Centre, and the L'Arche Tova Café.

The celebration continued indoors as guests enjoyed the music provided by the Andrew Brown Band. Mago the Magician once again displayed his talent by creating balloon figures. The top individual fundraiser was **Gerard Lecuyer** who raised \$10,215.00. The second top individual fundraiser prize went to **Kevin Hanson** who brought in

\$8,662.00 in pledges, and his team HUH (*Hurry up Hanson*) also took honours and the trophy for top fundraising team. This was a very special day for Kevin as he also celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday at the Walk, with a scrumptious cake baked at the L'Arche Tova Café.



Thank you to our naming sponsor, Olympic Building Centre, and to our major sponsors: Casera Credit Union, the Vickar Community of Dealerships on Regent, Enterprise Holdings Inc., TD Canada Trust, North American Lumber, Wyatt Dowling Insurance Brokers, BPG, The Benefits Planning Group, NVR Construction and the Running Room.

Also thank you to all of the participants, the L'Arche volunteers, everyone who donated prizes for the event, the Oxford Heights Community Club, Transcona Biz and everyone who made the 11<sup>th</sup> Olympic Building Centre Walk with L'Arche such a huge success.

Please join us next year for the Olympic Building Centre's Walk With L'Arche which will take place on Sunday, May 1, 2016 at the Oxford Heights Community Club. We hope to see you next year!



*Kevin is surrounded by team members as they gather to receive the walk trophy.*

**K**evin was only 13 years old when he first came to L'Arche in 1978. Thirty seven years later, we were happy to celebrate a special birthday with him. His family decided that for his 50th birthday on May 10th, a big party was needed and that it should happen at our annual Walk. Family, friends, and neighbours put together a large team - there were 44 members of Team HUH (Hurry up Hanson) - and started raising pledges for L'Arche to honour Kevin on his 50th.

Kevin is known for often wearing a white shirt and tie, and so they had T-shirts made for all team members - white, with a tie designed on the front. The spirit of celebration was evident throughout the day on May 3rd, and erupted into loud cheers in the hall when Kevin and his team were awarded the trophy for having

raised a total of \$8,662.00 for L'Arche. The birthday party continued in the hall after the conclusion of the Walk event, with the family graciously sharing a large birthday carrot cake prepared by L'Arche Tova Café.

For Muriel Hanson, Kevin's mother, it was all well worth it. There were many members of the team who were experiencing the L'Arche Walk for the first time. *"They all thought it was a wonderful event, and they were all very impressed by how well the event was organized"*, says Muriel. As for Kevin, a man of few words, his exclamation *"I got a trophy!"* spoke volumes about how happy he was with the celebration and being in the midst of so many friends and family members.

*- by Hubert Pantel*

photo by Monique Pantel

### A Walk For All Ages

**H**ortense Lamoureux, a Transcona resident who turned 91 in May, was probably the eldest person walking with L'Arche on May 3rd. *"I loved the walk, it was very nice and I plan to do it again next year"*, says Hortense, who is actually more known for her running than her walking.

*"I've run about 10 half-marathons (Manitoba Marathon), the last one I ran was in 2013 when I was 89. I was going to run the 2014 marathon for my 90th birthday, I had trained well for it, but I had a freak accident - fell and broke my hip, so I couldn't do it"*, says Hortense. When she ran the Manitoba half-marathon in June 2009 she broke the Canadian Masters Athletic Association record for women in her age group with a time of 2 hours and 15 minutes. *- by Hubert Pantel*



*Some of the volunteers at the walk - over 50 volunteers helped make the 2015 walk such a huge success.*

## Templeton Prize and CMU Pax Award for Jean Vanier

Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) presented its inaugural CMU Pax Award to Jean Vanier at their Celebration Banquet on April 8th at the Victoria Inn. The Award was created to honour people who lead exemplary lives of service, leadership, and reconciliation in church and society.

*“Jean Vanier turned a minimalist sense of caregiving and turned it into a movement that recognizes and appreciates the gifts of people with developmental disabilities,”* said CMU President Cheryl Pauls, who presented the Award; *“Out of the experience of living in a L’Arche community, he’s done incredible writing and helped society as a whole gain a new depth of care and understanding of people with developmental disabilities.”*

Jean Vanier was not present to receive the award, but had recorded a video message which was viewed at the banquet. You can view it here:

<https://youtu.be/-RV9Ssysa078>

Several L’Arche Winnipeg members were present at the banquet to receive the award on his behalf. CMU also presented a donation to L’Arche Winnipeg in honour of this award.

### Templeton Prize

On May 18th Jean Vanier was awarded the prestigious **Templeton Prize**, one of the world’s largest annual awards given to an individual. It honors a living person who has made exceptional contributions to affirming life’s spiritual dimension, whether through insight, discovery, or practical works. Vanier joins a distinguished group of 44 former recipients, including Mother Teresa, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, and the Dalai Lama.

The Prize is valued at \$1.7 million US dollars.

Upon accepting it, Jean Vanier said that *“100% of the Prize money will be used to benefit people with intellectual disabilities, who are among the most oppressed people on the planet. The Prize money will be gifted to*



*Paul, Jim, Hazel and Russell from L’Arche Winnipeg, receiving the Pax Award from the hands of CMU President Cheryl Pauls, on behalf of Jean Vanier and L’Arche.*



*Below: Jean Vanier receives Templeton Prize Medal in May.*



*L’Arche, Faith and Light, and through them to other organizations in financially poor countries who are working to lift up the lives and reveal the unique gifts of people with intellectual disabilities.*

*The largest amount will be used to fund new and innovative L’Arche projects in financially poor countries. I hope that the Templeton Prize will inspire others to join me in financially investing in the lives of people with an intellectual disability.”*

There are 147 communities of L’Arche in 37 different countries, and 1,500 communities of Faith and Light in 81 countries around the world. Video of Prize presentation:

<https://youtu.be/6zXq5zso0oo>

### Identity Statement of L’Arche

- We are people, with and without learning disabilities, sharing life in communities of faith.
- Mutual relationships and trust in God are at the heart of our life together.
- We seek to build a world that recognizes the unique value of every person and our need of one another.

### Mission Statement of L’Arche

- To make known the gifts of people with learning disabilities, revealed through mutually transforming relationships.
- To engage in our diverse cultures, working together toward a more human society.
- To foster community that is inspired by the core values in our founding story and responds to the changing needs of our members.

## Annual Volunteer Appreciation: “You Are Our Treasures”

by **Liz Gauthier**  
Volunteer Coordinator

What a year we've had! Many wonderful volunteers have taken part in so many activities that bring us into our larger community where many new contacts were forged and memories were made.

This year end was celebrated by our houses, office and many volunteers with a very successful barbeque in Dayspring's back yard at the Volunteer Appreciation "You Are Our Treasures" event on June 10th. About a hundred people enjoyed hotdogs and the many tasty salads, and each volunteer chose from a basket of beautifully decorated thank you cards provided by our L'Arche homes for them. The program included a skit relating the founding story of L'Arche, with a twist: the poetic narration depicted the founders as pirates discovering “treasures” - the treasure being members with a disability, the assistants, the friends, and of course the many volunteers who are part of this gift of community.

### A Full Year

Over the past year there have been career and volunteer recruitment fairs at many educational institutions, speaking engagements, and many bake sales.

The United Way Day of Caring sent us three volunteer teams: Boeing Canada, Great West Life, and U.P.S. Supply Chain for projects at Elpida and The Anchor houses, and at the office. Also Duane Stepiak of Stepiak Painting & Decorating provided a professional touch to a bedroom at The Anchor just in time to welcome a new community member to L'Arche Winnipeg.

Volunteers continue to come just when they're needed and offer support in volunteering. It is not unusual to pass by Dayspring and see Dennis up on a ladder pruning apple trees; or hear that Darcy was by tilling the garden; or to "bump" into a neighbour of The Ark, Ron, who rototills, weeds and advises, and has done so for years; or to get a



*The only thing these pirates “stole” was your heart, as they creatively mimed the story of the founding of L'Arche.*

call from Murray and his friends (another) Murray and Dallas, that they will come by L'Ainé an afternoon each week until they're done tearing down the old garden and creating a whole new one! And in July C-Spin, a summer program for newcomer youth from 14 - 18, will be coming out to clean Dayspring's garage as well as weed and water the garden.

The annual Walk with L'Arche was a huge success with over 50 volunteers who assist in making this event run smoothly and make it a day of fun and sharing. The Railers, Blue Bomber Fan Ambassadors, and Girl Guides added to our volunteer base and made a big difference! Mago the Magician donated his time, skill and imagination doing balloon art.

What stands out in my mind from this year in a really big way is the family (house leaders, assistants, members) at L'Arche, and the people who volunteer at the L'Arche Tova Cafe and as house and special friends. You support one another on a regular basis at the L'Arche Tova Cafe, in your homes and on outings, and form really special relationships. My hope is that over the next year your friendships will be a blessing to one another and everyone will continue to have fun!



*The Volunteer Appreciation BBQ was an occasion to meet many volunteers.*



*UPS Supply Chain volunteers Patricia Reid, Derrick Mavins and Brenda Smith painted one of the L'Arche offices on March 26th. This was a United Way Day of Caring project under the direction of Melissa Burgess.*

For more information on volunteering at L'Arche Winnipeg, or to apply to become a volunteer, you can call Liz Gauthier at 204-237-0300 ext. 20 or email her at [volunteer@larchewinnipeg.org](mailto:volunteer@larchewinnipeg.org)

# L'Arche Tova Café Celebrates 3rd Anniversary

by Diane Truderung  
 Director of Fund Development  
 and Communications

The L'Arche Tova Café opened its doors in 2012. On April 2nd we celebrated our 3rd anniversary with complimentary cake and coffee for all our customers to thank them for their continuing support of our Café.

This social enterprise, located at 119 Regent Ave. West, is open Monday to Saturday from 8 AM to 2 PM. The Café has a full menu which serves breakfast all day, lunch items, desserts and beverages. Catering service is available as well. Let us cater to you! You may view the Café menu, as well as the catering menu at [www.larchetovacafe.com](http://www.larchetovacafe.com)

The L'Arche Tova Café provides training and employment for individuals with a developmental disability. Many of our participants have come to the Café through special education programs in high schools.

## Café Receives a Lite Grant

LITE (Local Investment Toward Employment) grants funds to organizations that create jobs for those individuals that face barriers to full employment. The L'Arche Tova Café is



Nolan, working in the Café kitchen.



Café staff and volunteers with the Prime Minister

## Prime Minister Visits the Café

L'Arche Tova Café had a special visitor on Friday, April 24th. We were very pleased to welcome the Prime Minister of Canada, Stephen Harper, who came in for lunch with a number of his Manitoba colleagues.

very grateful to have received a grant for Nolan. Nolan, who came to the Café for work experience through the culinary program at River East Collegiate, is now a part-time employee at the Café. We hope that you come into the Café and meet Nolan, who is a cook extraordinaire!

## Transcona Biz Market Garden

L'Arche Tova Café will once again be participating in the Transcona Biz Market Garden this summer every Thursday beginning July 2 from 11 AM until 3 PM. There will be fresh

bread, scones, squares, butter tarts, and a variety of other baked goods for sale. Drop by the Transcona Centennial Square (just 3 doors west of the Café) to purchase your fresh baking. Hope to see you there!

## Café Volunteers

The Café is presently looking for two volunteers who could alternate with each other helping out on Fridays, or to be occasionally available weekdays and Saturdays. There is also a need for volunteers on Thursdays to help with baking sales at the Biz Market Garden in July and August.



## Many Hands Make a Brand New Garage

by **Jim Lapp**  
Community Leader

For several years Ron Delaquis and I discussed replacing the garage at L'Ainé, the home where his sister Nicole had lived for many years. He offered to help build it. After finally obtaining the necessary permits from the city, construction began this spring and we hope to be done by the end of June.

With the assistance of many friends of L'Arche, the garage has been built for about a third of the cost of a new garage. We would like to thank the following individuals and companies.

Bill Hicks of Battlefield Equipment gave us free rental of a container to store the



Part of the work crew building the garage: (l. to r.) Ron, Denis, Gerry, and Philip

contents of the garage during construction and Greg of Crane Towing delivered it at no charge.

Phil and Ron Delaquis demolished the garage with the assistance of Tri Core, Phil's employer, who let him use their backhoe, midhoe and gravel truck without charge.

Peter Toews of P.V. Construction built the concrete garage pad at a discounted rate. Dawn Fraser and Aaron Anderson of LaFarge donated the concrete for the pad. Olympic Building Centre (Blaine Reimer) donated the complete garage package.

Rental Experts gave us the use of a Zumbloom to erect the new garage, including walls, trusses, and roofing.

The volunteer construction crew includ-

ed Etienne Grenier, Denis Hebert, Gerald Mabon, Bob Hebert, Remi Grenier, Philip Delaquis, and Ron Delaquis. We are very grateful for all the assistance we have received. We particularly want to thank Ron and Philip Delaquis for all the work they have done including finding many of the donated items and services and a dedicated construction crew.



(from left) Kathy & Hazel serving customers at the L'Arche Tova Café.

### Friends Volunteer Together, Travel Together

Hazel & Kathy have been volunteering together at the L'Arche Tova Cafe every Wednesday for the past three years. They enjoy each other's company so much that they even planned a holiday together. Naturally, they worked their vacation around their Cafe schedule, so as not to miss a day of work. Recently, they travelled by car to Naicam, Sk. to visit Kathy Draude, a past L'Arche Winnipeg assistant, her husband Ed & their son, Chris. Hazel admits that a highlight of the trip was driving Ed's tractor on the family farm. A highlight for Kathy was surviving twelve hours on the road, each way - a testament to Hazel and Kathy's friendship!

### August Art Show

You are invited to an art show on Thursday, August 20th at L'Arche Tova Café, 119 Regent Ave. W., from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Come enjoy artwork created by people with intellectual disabilities! Refreshments will be served. Take in the show and the nearby Transcona Biz Market Garden at the same time!

## GRATITUDE FROM WINNIPEG

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