



# KINGSTON COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY

New Year's Greeting

February 2015

It is already the third week of February and I offered, sometime last November, to write a New Year's greeting from the Kingston Community Chaplaincy. Time seems to be such a precious resource for non-profit organizations.

Looking back over the past year, I recognize a lot has happened in that time. By the beginning of 2014, the Kingston Community Chaplaincy had rebounded from the loss of our CSC funding and the retirement of David Hale in 2013. We entered 2014 with three new board members: Brian Hetherington, Bev Hummitzsch and Madelyn Iler. During 2014, we established a sound financial position, created a KCC website, and printed two editions of our newsletter. Kara Braun, our chaplain, established contact with the chaplains in each federal institution, where she visits every six weeks. Her time is also spent providing support on a daily or weekly basis to several men who wish to reintegrate into the Kingston community. By the end of 2014, we welcomed Joanne Roston and Scott Woodall to the board following the resignation of Reverend Wayne Soble and Carol Groten. Kate Johnson, Pat Callaghan, and myself, Gordon Darrall, are the board veterans. Without any administrative support, every board member has contributed hours of his or her time to keep the Kingston Community Chaplaincy vibrant.

This has brought us to a new year, and if we can find the time, we have several ideas that we would like to grow. These are - to continue with our newsletters twice a year, update our bylaws, maintain a great website, develop some new programs in the community, and improve our networking with local faith groups. As someone once said: *"So much to do and so little time!"*

None of this would be possible without the support of our donors. So whether you have donated \$5 or \$5000, we thank you for your support. Because of you, the KCC Board will be able to continue fulfilling our mandate: promoting safe and healthy reintegration into the community.

Two of our goals for 2015 are the following:

- 1) Diversify our funding,
- 2) Increase the awareness of KCC in the community.

Therefore, the board is sponsoring a Theatre Night at Domino Theatre on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. The play is “Silver Dagger” by David French. It is described as a thriller with adultery, blackmail, murder, and a figure lurking in the rain – sounds perfect for us! You can support this venture by purchasing a ticket (*or five*), selling a few tickets, or volunteering to help.

Contact me, Gordon, at [darrallg@kos.net](mailto:darrallg@kos.net) or Bev at [santoshabev@hotmail.com](mailto:santoshabev@hotmail.com) if you wish to participate in this exciting theatrical event.

Recently, we learned that Corrections Service Canada had announced a date for Requests for Proposals (RFP’s) to provide and manage community chaplaincy, similar to what Kairos does for institutional chaplains. Surprisingly, Kingston was not named as a site requiring community chaplaincy. In time, CSC’s plan may become clear.

Finally, I would like to thank two people for their support of KCC over the past year. Tyler Fainstat, Executive Director of the John Howard Society, has given us support in so many ways – from speaking at our 2014 AGM and letting KCC use a room at JHS for our meetings, to always being available and willing to share information. Secondly, a big thanks to Daniel LaFreniere, a Queen’s University student, who has volunteered his time to manage our website. Again, it is time – such a valuable commodity to donate.

These times of uncertainty and change can be difficult for anyone, but for those re-entering the community after time in prison, they are especially so. We look forward to providing even more support and quality programming for our clients in the coming months. On behalf of the KCC board, I thank everyone for their continuing contributions to this important work.

Best wishes for 2015,

Gordon Darrall, Chair, Kingston Community Chaplaincy