

## Care Cupboard Christmas Party

### Just the Facts:

- 55 children, ages 0-6, celebrated Jesus' birthday
- 48 parents &/or grandparents had a day of fun
- 27 volunteers were on hand to make sure all guests had ample food and fun
- 40 pizzas were devoured
- 1 birthday cake for baby Jesus was eaten
- 150+ gifts were distributed to needy families
- only 1 Christmas tree bobble was broken



### What do you do with 55 children ages 0-6?

- Decorate cookies
- Do a Christmas crafts
- Eat, of course
- Have a puppet show to teach them about the Lord
- And minister the grace of God and the message of Christmas to parents and children alike

### What's in all those packages?

- 1 new pair of PJs for each child
- 1 new, age appropriate toy for each child
- 1 gift bag of 'pampering products' for each adult
- 1 \$25 grocery gift card for each family



### Who made this day possible?

You – and those like you – who sacrificially donated pyjamas, toys, Loblaws gift cards, and dollars for pizzas and extras; who baked cookies and brought food; who performed puppet shows; and who volunteered their time to wrap

gifts, run the kitchen and minister one-on-one to children and parents.

A special thanks to Trinity Anglican Church, Streetsville who let us use their building for the cost of clean-up.

# Home Tour Thanks and Contributors

Our 2006 JOY of Christmas Home Tour was an enormous success due to many wonderful businesses, decorators, florists and homeowners in the Guelph area. The tour grew and grew this year, and we were thrilled to have the help and support of so many in the community. 650 people toured seven homes and \$10,000 was raised toward our ongoing ministries.

A huge thank you goes to:

▲ The wonderful JOY team, Leanne DeBoer, Lisa Dickieson, Darla Gaidies, Didi Jenkinson, Amy Perry, Lynn Rooney Smith and Kathy Gossling Spears, who, between May and the beginning of December, provided countless hours, numerous ideas and much enthusiasm.

▲ The following, who opened their homes, decorated homes, and/or promoted the tour in various ways:

- Accents For Living
- The Arkell Country Restaurant
- Arthur Chrysler Dodge Jeep
- BCR8iv Country Spa
- Buy The Yard Interiors
- Candies of Merritt
- Debra Lowe
- Donna Cooper
- Duncan McPhee Gift Shop
- Filling Spaces
- Grand Gourmet
- Greengate Interiors
- Housekeepers R Us
- Jumpstart Gourmet
- Kari Phillips Interiors
- Kosmos Event Planners
- Lakeside Bible Church
- Lou Spencer
- Lynn Bunce Interiors
- Manor & Croft Design
- Maranatha Log House and Florists
- Matteo Basket Company
- Meadowville Garden Centre
- Methodical Minds Professional organizers
- Quality offset Printers & the Bondy Family
- Royal City Nursery
- SaraNess Interiors
- Second Cup
- Shine Maid Janitorial Services
- SNAP Paper
- Sussman's Casually Yours
- Tangles Hair Design
- Taste of Country Candle Co.
- The Brenchley Family
- The Bunce Family
- The Di'llio Family
- The Levangie Family
- The Lewis House Interiors
- The Monk Family
- The Nutty Chocolatier
- Trina Koster Photography
- What's Cookin'
- Willow Manor Bed & Breakfast
- Crossroads and the Full Circle team for their wonderful promotion of Jewels For Jesus and the home tour

Friends, without all your help and support we could not have delivered such a wonderful tour. We feel overwhelming gratitude for your goodness to us and we look forward to working with you on our 2007 JOY of Christmas Home Tour. Thank you again!



6655 Kitimat Road, Unit 5  
Mississauga oN L5N 6J4  
(905) 821-7494

email: [helpline@JewelsForJesus.net](mailto:helpline@JewelsForJesus.net)  
Website: <http://www.JewelsForJesus.net>

## A Life Well Lived

Lorne Hemphill has finished his race and gone to be with the Lord. Many of our current readers won't recognize the name Lorne Hemphill but there are still those of us around who remember when Lorne and Bernice Hemphill were the heart and soul of Jewels For Jesus. For almost a decade they ministered to birth parents, as they sought God's direction for their children, and would-be adoptive parents, as they looked to God for a family. While Bernice was the official Director of Jewels For Jesus, ministry was definitely a family affair. Lorne saw it as his solemn responsibility to place each Jewel who was adopted into the arms of their new father and to insure that each new dad understood the responsibility that accompanied the gift they were receiving. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Bernice, in this time of loss.

## Did you miss seeing Jewels For Jesus on 100 Huntley Street?

Jewels For Jesus was featured on 100 Huntley Street's Full Circle program on December 22. If you missed it you can still catch it online at [www.crossroads.ca](http://www.crossroads.ca). Thanks to all at Crossroads for spreading the word about Jewels.

## Sanctity of Human Life Month

January is Sanctity of Human Life Month. Thanks to generous funding from a wonderful couple, Jewels For Jesus Mission has once again published a bulletin insert to commemorate this time and to continue the battle for the lives of unborn children. A copy is enclosed with this newsletter. This publication is designed so that it can be used for Sanctity of Human Life Month, Mother's Day, Father's Day, or at any other time you choose. Let us know if your church would like a supply of this year's publication, free of charge.

## Golf Tournament and Silent Auction

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend our 2nd Annual Golf Tournament, Dinner and Silent Auction on Saturday, May 12th, 2007! More details will follow in the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Office Space for Rent

Jewels for Jesus has 375 sq. ft. of office space available for rent.

For more information contact Helen at 905-821-7494 or [helpline@jewelsforjesus.net](mailto:helpline@jewelsforjesus.net).

### NEEDS CORNER

- Wipes
- Girls' winter clothing (sizes newborn - 4)
- Funds (as ministry opportunities increase, so do expenses)
- Prayer for God's sovereignty over Jewels and in the lives of those we serve

## Margo's Thoughts



"If your gift is ... giving, give generously." (Acts 20:35) "It's more blessed to give than to receive." (Roman 12:8) "Anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." (Mark 10:14)

Giving and receiving are two God-ordained practices that are woven into the tapestry of life. We are all at times givers and at times receivers. Though we can sometimes think of giving as the right thing to do, and receiving as a little less noble, God encourages us to do both and to find joy in both. And God gives hints as to how we can find joy in each of these exercises.

We should 'give generously' because giving is even better than receiving. Our goal should be to give as a doting parent who lavishes good things on their child or to give as God gives to us, pressed down and overflowing. But, at the same time, we should 'receive as a child', with childlike joy and abandon. Children display none of the airs of propriety when they receive a gift. They don't say, "Oh, you shouldn't have." In their innocence they allow themselves to be absorbed in the excitement and pleasure of the gift. God, Himself, enjoys giving and receiving. God is the giver of life, salvation and daily provision; He gave us His Son, the ultimate gift. But God also enjoys receiving and revels in our worship, trust and company.

So which brings greater joy, giving or receiving?

This month I had the wonderful experience of standing between the giver and the receiver in a very dramatic way. What I discovered was that I'm hard pressed to decide who experienced more joy. In the month prior to our Care Cupboard Christmas Party we saw an unprecedented amount of toys, pyjamas and 'pampering products' pour into the office. Everything needed was donated, right down to the wrapping

paper and hands to wrap. What impressed me more than the tidal wave of gifts (if anything could) was the joy that flooded through our doors with these items. A business woman donated an unbelievable amount of cosmetics for the moms. A school staff donated toys instead of exchanging gifts at their staff Christmas party. A ladies' group wrapped. A junior high group performed a puppet show. All did so with such delight that, during those exciting days, I thought many times that it really is more blessed to give than to receive.

Then party day arrived with the excitement of presents, food, fun, friendship-building and entertainment. For the next three hours I watched the happiness of children and families as they engaged in one fun activity after another. With total abandon they received the good things that you had worked so hard to give them, and the joy was unmistakable. Some of our adoptive families volunteered to help out that day, along with their little ones, and I realized that these little people in particular were once the receiver of Jewels' ministry. They were now giving back to others.

As I took part in that day I felt I was the envoy standing between you, the givers, and our families, the receivers. From that vantage point I was able to see the immense joy that God brought to each: the joy in receiving with the simplicity and abandon of a child and the joy in giving with God-pleasing generosity.

I hope you experienced the joy of both giving and receiving this Christmas season. Thank you for being part of the ebb and flow of giving and receiving that makes up the tapestry of life at Jewels.

Margo Semple  
Executive Director