

## Knitters for Jewels For Jesus' Care Cupboard



*Iris Pot, far left, holding the edge of the tub of supplies, and some of the two dozen knitting club members at Bayview Glen Church.*

We thought our supporters would like to hear about a group of enthusiastic and dedicated ladies under the leadership of Iris Pot at Bayview Glen Alliance Church in Thornhill.

Iris Pot, a long time member at Bayview Glen, after surviving a bout with cancer in 2005, wanted to do something significant with all the wool she'd stockpiled in her home. Iris put out 'feelers' in the church bulletin to see if there was any interest in a knitting club. To her surprise and delight, more than two dozen people showed up.

by Heinz W. Haischt, Chairman of the Board

Soon, 25 knitters were making teddy bears and, last year, 500 bears were donated to such far-flung places as Brazil, Costa Rica, Poland and Cambodia. Jewels For Jesus Mission Inc. was added to their list due to the regular Sanctity of Life presentations that are being made at Bayview Glen Alliance, keeping everybody informed of the work at Jewels For Jesus.

It is amazing what beautiful things these ladies design and knit: hand-knitted hats, scarves, mittens, blankets, bibs, teddy bears, and a huge variety of very handy and unique baby clothes that are loved by new mothers and are always needed.

Just recently the ladies assembled a large variety of items and held what they called "A Baby Shower for Jewels For Jesus". They invited June Haischt as a representative of Jewels For Jesus. With the homemade muffins and cakes that June is famous for, they had a lovely time of encouragement together. Even Pastor Bob Gould dropped in on the party and was amazed at the large variety of items that were on display, ready to be delivered to the Care Cupboard of Jewels For Jesus. They even arranged for a donation from Mitchell Family Books of very helpful books titled "Hugs for new moms" which we are sure will be in great demand at the Care Cupboard.

Our Care Cupboard ministry at Jewels For Jesus experiences a steady increase from needy mothers who not only are coming for help with urgently needed items for their babies, but also for spiritual help, advice and prayer. This ministry requires a considerable amount of time from the Jewels For Jesus staff but is a very worthwhile effort.

Continued next page

## 'Knitting' continued

We are always looking for volunteers who can keep the "Care Cupboard Room" sorted and organized. We give thanks to God for our many supporters who send us regularly needed items such as formula, diapers, baby clothes etc. to keep this ministry going and our Care Cupboard stocked.

A big "thank you" to all the ladies of the Bayview Glen Church Knitting Club for their dedicated work, love and kindness in donating the many items you can see in the pictures. May God richly bless them as they continue their practical ministry to those in need.

*The staff and board of Jewels For Jesus Mission are thankful to all of the groups who give so generously of their time, talents and resources. If you are a member of one of these groups, send us your pictures and let us know a little more about you – we'd love to share your story with everyone else.*

URGENT  
NEEDS

- urgent need for formula
- urgent need for size 4 diapers
- size 5 & 6 diapers
- wipes

## Some of the creative ways groups have supported Jewels For Jesus Mission

**Newsletter mailing** – Did you know that those of you who receive your newsletter by regular mail do so thanks to one faithful and hardworking youth group who stuffs, stamps and mails our newsletter every month?

**Father's Day offering** – One church had a special offering on Father's Day which was donated to the work of Jewels For Jesus.

**Finalization party** – After a lengthy and difficult journey, one of our adoptive families at last realized the finalization of their child's adoption. They celebrated with a HUGE party and asked for donations to Jewels For Jesus in lieu of gifts.

**First Birthday Party** – Another adoptive couple, realizing that their one year old son had more than he needed, asked those invited to his first birthday party to bring gifts for Jewels For Jesus.

**Staff Christmas Party** – Last Christmas season, instead of the usual gift exchange, a group of teachers chose to bring gifts for the Jewels For Jesus Care Cupboard Christmas Party to their staff Christmas party.

**Baby showers** – Many churches host baby showers for Jewels For Jesus. It's a great, fun way for ladies' groups to care for the many little ones who are clothed by our Care Cupboard.

## Ministry Update

### Relationship Compass

Praise God – We have received \$27,700 in donations toward the Relationship Compass Program. This will see us through our fall commitments. Continue to pray for this important effort to promote sexual integrity in the lives of our youth.

### Care Cupboard

Praise God for a great meeting with a local church who is considering partnering with us to staff the Care Cupboard with volunteers on a regular basis. Continue to pray for this important need. This summer we saw 70 visits to the cupboard and, with vacationing staff, this left Helen little time for her other duties.

### Pregnancy Care Ministry

The summer has remained busy and has resulted in a great deal of busyness for Jewels For Jesus Adoption

Agency. Since June we have seen six little ones settled into their new adoptive homes. Continue to pray for the moms and dads who are making decisions for their child. Continue to pray that God will lead more women and men in need through our doors. Please also pray for the many wonderful families listed with our agency who are still waiting to adopt. For every great family who is selected by birth parents there are two to four other great families who must continue to wait.

### Finances

While we praise God for the generous donations toward The Relationship Compass Program, the financial support of our regular ministries has been a concern. Please pray for funds to continue these important ministries offered by Jewels For Jesus Mission.

# Getting Ready For Christmas

## Care Cupboard "Christmas Wish List"

This year the care cupboard has serviced 104 families, including 240 children. Once again this Christmas, it is our hope to provide a gift for each member of each family. If you can help with any of the items on our "wish list", we would greatly appreciate it.

### Gifts for kids

- a pair of pyjamas for each child 0 – 6 years
- a toy (\$20.00 value) for each child up to the age of 6
- a \$10.00 Chapters gift card for each child over the age of 6

### Gifts suitable for moms

- pretty mugs
- small photo albums
- candles
- Christian novels
- bath items
- socks

### Gifts suitable for dads

- mugs
- Tim Hortons gift certificates
- socks
- nice pens

### General

- we would like to give each family a \$25.00 Loblaws gift card
- large Christmas gift bags

If you're too busy to shop, or you don't like shopping, but could make a financial donation, the Jewels staff would be happy to shop for you. Also, don't forget that gift cards can be ordered through Jewels

## Third Annual JOY of Christmas Home Tour

- Date:**
- Friday, Nov. 16 – evening candlelight tour
  - Saturday Nov. 17 – daytime tour

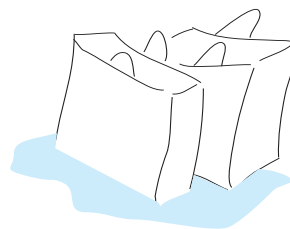
Once again, a selection of some of the finest homes in the Guelph area will be featured in this not-to-be-missed event. Look for additional information in next month's Reflections and at [www.JewelsForJesus.net](http://www.JewelsForJesus.net)

## For Your Shopping Needs

If you haven't joined in with this fun and inventive program that combines fundraising for Jewels with shopping now is the time. With Christmas fast approaching, why not consider the following ideas:

- purchasing gift cards as Christmas gifts
- purchasing gift cards to do your Christmas shopping
- having restaurant gift cards on hand for those spontaneous outings
- keeping some gift cards on hand for weddings, showers, birthday gifts and your personal day-to-day shopping

See the enclosed, updated order form for the wide variety of cards available.



### Board Members

Heinz Haischt, Chairman  
Gordon Dueck  
David Ellis  
Andrew MacLean  
Jeffrey McDougall  
Michael Streun

### Executive Director

Margo Semple

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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>

## Margo's Thoughts



I have noticed one thing, at least, that is good. It's good for people to eat, drink, and enjoy their work under the sun during the short life God has given them, and to accept their lot in life ... To enjoy

your work and accept your lot in life—this is indeed a gift from God. God keeps such people so busy enjoying life that they take no time to worry over the past. Eccl. 5:18-20 (New Living Translation)

As was mentioned earlier in this edition of Reflections, the summer has been busy and our staff has worked hard. We've even joked about who should win the prize for most overworked. I felt, at one point, I should – pulled between feeling I'd never make it to vacation and feeling there wasn't enough time to get everything done before vacation. Then Kelly ousted me from my certainty of first place as she struggled to service many clients with challenging situations, while drowning in Relationship Compass bookings and planning, all as she prepared to go teach sexual integrity in Kenya. Next there was Holly with clients scattering the province, late nights finishing paperwork and providing hospital support and university course work to complete.

The three of us quickly took a backseat to Andrea's full caseload, and Louise and Pam's long, challenging days minding the shop while others vacationed. Not to mention Helen, who was working full-time just to handle the Care Cupboard, Karen running in every direction drumming up Relationship Compass funding and Hedy stoically dealing with the accounting chaos created by the rest of us.

I was ready for my vacation - we all were. I definitely needed a rest. What was even better than the rest, though, was the perspective God gently provided when I finally found time to sit in still-

ness before Him. I was working my way through Ecclesiastes and realized that the message washing over me was that the ability to find satisfaction in the ebb and flow of hard work and rest was a very precious gift from God. To work hard at the job before you, using the resources God has given you, and then to take time to find satisfaction in what has been accomplished is one of the most meaningful gifts God brings to everyday life.

I realized that I'm happy with what God has given me and I find joy in the accomplishments of my work at Jewels – the clients helped, the assistance given, the opportunity to encourage and support. And as I sat in the sun enjoying my break, I realized that the rest from work, along with the satisfaction in work, was a very special reward from God.

The staff aren't the only ones who work hard on Jewels' behalf. Our partners and supporters do as well, as they use the abilities and resources at their disposal to work at the job needing to be done. Some with capable hands and extra wool have provided outfits and blankets for our clients and others, with monetary means, have made the Relationship Compass Program a reality for this fall.

To all of you who have worked hard as part of the Jewels team this summer, I encourage you to find joy in working at the tasks God has put before you and using the gifts and resources He's given you. And, just as important, I encourage you to find time for your well deserved rest, when you can sit back and celebrate the accomplishments God has brought about through you and your hard work.

God Bless,

Margo Semple  
Executive Director