



THE PULSE

The Newsletter of InterChurch Health Ministries
New Brunswick – Ontario - Saskatchewan
157 Florence Ave., Toronto, Ontario, M2N 1G5
March 2006

We have moved ...

As of February 1, 2006, the ICHM National Office/Ontario Regional Office has moved from Oshawa to a more central location in Toronto (the Yonge and Sheppard area). The new address is **157 Florence Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M2N 1G5**, situated in a church building (Church of the Incarnation). We are easy to get to – from the 401, north on Yonge to the first stoplight, turn left on Florence and travel 2 blocks to Pewter. We are on the SW corner, north-east door. Our **1-888-433-9422** telephone number stands, but if you can call locally, please note this change of telephone number: **416-**

Open House Invitation

...

You are invited to our Open House on **Sunday, April 23, from 2-4 pm**. Please join us – we would like to introduce you to our new workspace. An office blessing will take place at 3:00 pm,

Our Mission ...

Fostering Healthy Communities Through Christ's Healing Ministry is our mission statement. Do you have brief stories of health and healing ministry that you would be willing to share with others through the Pulse? Email them to info@ichm.on.ca and we will try to

Recent Appointments ...

Saskatchewan Regional Parish Nurse Coordinator: **Mary Tyler** has accepted this position, and has begun to serve as Parish Nurse to the people of the Anglican Cathedral in Saskatoon. We appreciate her willingness to serve.

Saskatchewan Working Board Chair: **The Rev. David Hunter** has accepted this position. David serves as pastor to the people of Augustana Lutheran Church in Saskatoon. Thank you David for your willingness to serve.

Ontario Consultant: **Gail Brimbecom** needs no introduction to many because of her much appreciated history with ICHM. Gail has been contracted for one day a week in 2006 to help with ICHM. Her wisdom and generosity of spirit is very much

Gail Brimbecom Honoured Once More ...

Congratulations Gail!! We want the whole ICHM family to join with us in celebrating this: the Senate of Victoria University voted to confer upon **Gail Brimbecom** the degree of Doctor of Divinity, honoris causa. The degree will be conferred on Thursday, May 11, 2006 at the Victoria University Convocation (University of Toronto).

This honour is given after Gail has already received the RAO President's Award for Excellence in Leadership in Clinical Practice in April 2005. The wonder of this is how it celebrates the model of ICHM's ministry, which is both a practice-focused ministry for body, mind and spirit, with a theology of care woven throughout. Wonderful!

Affiliate Gathering ...

On February 5-8, the Regional Directors and Parish Nurse Coordinators from our three affiliates gathered, providing a time of mutual support and learning based on the ICHM model of ministry (theologically based, congregationally driven and mission/ministry oriented). Under the banner of **Roots and Wings**, the foundations of the ICHM ministry template were re-visited (the roots) in anticipation of this ministry's continuing growth (the wings). The participants included **Sister Ernestine LaPlante** and **Nancy Wiggins** (New Brunswick), **Harold** and **Elaine Hesje** (Saskatchewan), and **Gail Brimbecom**, **Tom Doherty** and **Valerie Jenkins** (Ontario). As we were reminded of the uniqueness of our model, our vision and energy for this ministry flourished. The 2007

Annual Walkathon ...

This annual fundraising emphasis will go national this year, for the first time. This year, we have more than doubled our goal from last year, with the hope to achieve **\$25,000.** for ICHM nationally. The formula for returning 50% of the money received to regional affiliates or participating congregations has been

Halifax Information Forum

Information Forum on the evening of

CAPNM Conference ...

May 26-28 in Bathurst, New Brunswick –
Email parishnursing@capnm.ca

Ontario Parish Nurse Retreat ...

Beside Still Waters was the theme for this annual retreat, this year held at the Queen of the Apostles Retreat Centre, Mississauga from February 24 –26. Under the Rev. **Beth Wagschall's** wonderful direction, parish nurses explored the use of different forms of prayer including Taize, The Daily Examen, Lectio Divina, Hymn Sing, Body Prayer and a Franciscan Prayer Walk. A wonderful time was had by all, and participants felt a sense of refreshment grow as the weekend progressed. **Marilyn Wilson** led the group in an evening of Holy Hilarity, and the saying is true: "You would have had to have been there to believe it". Others from the Caremont Parish Nurse Support Group who provided leadership included **Sandra Ackles**, **Heddi Grear** and **Karen Marks**.

Ontario Cruise Draw ...

A great big thank you goes out to the many who supported our Cruise Draw. The Draw took place on February 27, and the winners are:

The First Prize Cruise was won by **Helen Mihalcin** of Sudbury, the Second Prize Laptop Computer was won by our very own Parish Nurse, **Jane Hobbs** of Peterborough, and the Third Prize Walkman was won by **Clarence Tan** of Oakville.

Our thanks ...

ICHM shares a unique ministry amongst her partners, and we feel that God's hand of blessing rests upon us. God's mercy towards this ministry becomes concrete through the many financial gifts given. Thank you for your partnership in ministry. One aspect of this giving is channeled through **Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)**, giving ICHM a monthly cash flow that can be counted upon. To date, we have 22 households supporting ICHM in this way, and we receive \$740 per month.

God
of mercy, deliverance, freedom, covenant, compassion, hope, steadfastness,
patience, consolation