



EGLINTON ST. GEORGE'S
UNITED CHURCH

Giving to the Community and Your Grandchildren

Jean Grant is making a unique contribution to her Grandchildren's lives and her community at the same time. When the High Schools began requiring students to contribute 40 hours of community service before graduation, she proposed to her grandson Rob that they do his community hours together.

Every Saturday morning she picked him up at 10:30 and together they delivered for Meals on Wheels out of Sunnybrook Hospital. By 12:30 or 1:00 they could be found at Yitzi's munching on smoked meat sandwiches and catching up on each other's lives. Even after they had clocked his 40 hours Rob suggested they continue this volunteer commitment.

When his younger brother Jeff arrived in High School he looked forward to the same opportunity. An added bonus for both grandsons was the opportunity to practise their driving in her car when they were working to get their driver's license. Jean and Jeff have been delivering Meals on Wheels together for three years.

Recently, after a fall hiatus due to many sports commitments, Jeff suggested that they start up again. Clients appreciate chatting with a young fellow about hockey statistics and other volunteers have noted this special cross-generational partnership in volunteering.

Jean comments that these Saturday mornings have been bonus all round for her. She spends quality time with grandsons for whom she cares deeply, while sharing with them a commitment to community service that began when she and her former husband delivered Meals on Wheels more than 40 years ago.

John Macdonald and his grand daughter Alexandra have shared a similar experience serving lunch together at the Metropolitan United Church Out of the Cold program. John invited Alexandra to join him many times when she was in school. But it wasn't until she was out working that she took him up on the suggestion. After several weeks of joint volunteering, John arrived on his own one Thursday morning and was met by a chorus of "where is Alexandra?" from volunteers and guests alike. John has gotten a great kick out of sharing his vivacious grand daughter with this community to whom he offers a weekly ministry of hospitality.

Betsy Anderson
Coordinator of Lay Ministry
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