

BODY AND SOUL

WOODS/BROWNE/PATERSON

Jesus, jazz and wisdom

Evenings of Jazz and Reflection with Moderator Gary Paterson, Peter Woods (saxophone) and Brian Browne (piano)

Toronto, January 23, 2015: Magic happened. Gary, Peter and Brian were thrown together, asked to create a jazz-based event, exploring spirit and life questions. It was Sunday morning, in Church. The Gospel passage had been read. Morning prayers had been spoken. As the preacher, Gary, began his sermon the chords of a blues progression trailed behind him. As he dwelt on a phrase from the psalms of King David, quiet tendrils of a saxophone riff built around the ancient words. Suddenly something changed. There was a new energy in the room. Suddenly they could have been in a nightclub after midnight. Music and meditation became rhythm and blues, heartache and humour.

Since that first event, they have taken wing together. Blending voice and narrative with song, they free folks to find resonance with Jesus, jazz and wisdom. The trip is limitless and inviting. It winds from gospel images to theological themes, into regions of soulful poetry and landscapes of spirit-filled pilgrimage. Gary, as elected leader of the United Church of Canada, comes from a unique place to reflect on spiritual questions from the broadest and most inclusive perspective. Gary's poetic sensibility, and ear for the mystical in all things living, engages audiences with passion. Brian, a legendary force in the world of Canadian jazz, finds harmonies and rhythms in jazz standards that transcend the familiar. Peter, a minister and jazz saxophonist, lifts melodies to new and authentic homes in the hearts of listeners.

Gary wrote the liner notes for Brian and Peter's recent CD Honest Company, identifying authenticity, warmth and humour as key ingredients in their musical interplay. With the development of this new project, BODY AND SOUL, Rev. Peter Woods and Brian Browne have truly found the third member of their trio, the Rt. Rev. Gary Paterson.

BODY AND SOUL is on the road in February:

GUELPH: Friday February 20, 7:30pm
Three Willows United Church, 577 Willow Rd.
Tickets \$10 or PWYC at the door
To reserve tickets call: 519-822-7690
www.threewillows.ca

BURLINGTON: Monday Feb 23, 7:30pm
Wellington Square United Church, 2121 Caroline St.
Tickets \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door
To purchase tickets call: 905-634-1849
www.wsquare.ca

TORONTO: Sunday February 22, 7:30pm
College Street United Church, 452 College St.
Tickets \$20 in advance or at the door
To purchase tickets call: 416-929-3019
www.collegestreetunited.com

—30—

For immediate release
For more information please contact:
Peter Woods
pete@petewoods.ca
613-285-0187