



\_PHOTOGRAPH: DIANE MONGE

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WED JUN 15, 2011

PLACES

# I live next to... Paradise Strip Club

## Sin and salvation, cheek by jowl.

BY: JIM KELLY

Toronto is full of weird and striking juxtapositions, but few are weirder than the one between these two Bloor West landmarks. Just steps from the subway station sits the Bloor Lansdowne Christian Fellowship, an evangelical outreach church that's been serving the area's down-and-out for the past 70 years. Grinding its flank is Paradise, one of the neighbourhood's landmark peeler bars. "They're there to make money; we're here to save souls," says church board member Steve Mickelson, who's often reminded of Martin Luther's notion that where God builds a church, the Devil puts up a chapel next door. "It's there, just like sin is there in the world," says Mickelson.



# Bloor Lansdowne Christian Fellowship

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**SUNDAYS**

**WORSHIP - 11:00AM**

**WEDNESDAYS**

**BIBLE STUDY AND  
PRAYER TIME - 10:30AM**