



WHAT'S UP?

ST. GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Summer 2014 Issue

ST. GILES' MOTTO: "Called by Christ, Committed by Faith, Connected by Community."

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Garden

Whenever Spring arrives I look forward to working in my garden. As many of you may well know gardening is hard work, but it is also very rewarding.

When I lived in Innisfail I had a huge garden. My veggie garden was large enough that I could plant 144 corn plants (did I ever eat corn that year), quite a few potatoes, carrots, onions, lettuce, strawberries, and enough tomatoes to feed a small army. Then there were the flowerbeds around the house. I have a particular taste in flowers and the majority of flowers were Dahlias and Lilies. I also planted three rose bushes. Needless to say, I had a lot of sun exposure in Innisfail. The vegetables (and even the corn) and flowers flourished every year.

When I moved to Calgary things changed.

My yard is much-much smaller. All of sudden the great sun exposure is not there anymore thanks to my neighbours house that is a little high. The biggest chunk of my tiny garden is in the shade. The only place that gets good sun is my deck.

For three years I made observations. How much sun is really getting to my flowerbeds? How can I move things around a little? How can I use my deck and flowerpots?

This year I decided to do what will be the best – at least that is the hope. I bought *Begonias*, *Impatiens*,

Ligularias, and *Hostas* and I moved the daylily so it gets more sun. I have several flowerpots at the ready stage for Dahlias (although I'll have to be content with only 3) and *Gazanias*. The Topsy-Turvy bags are ready for the tomatoes.

What's - Inside?

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Church is like a garden. One difference is that over time the conditions change, which makes it necessary to adjust to have a great garden. That means moving things around, perhaps even plant different types of flowers.

Something like this happened last year. After quite sometime of observation, discussion, and discernment we adopted a new Mission statement, Motto, a set of six core Values and six Vision statements. When we look at these we see the different elements of our garden at St. Giles.

Now, what are we going to do?

My friends, we are encouraged to plant our garden – the different seeds are Worship, Community, Inviting Others, Spirituality, Humanity, and Education. We are also encouraged to water the garden – we accomplish this when we remember that we are God's people: enabled by the Holy Spirit, saved by Grace and nourished by Scripture. We are to fertilize the garden – we do this by nurturing a vibrant Christian life; [as we] seek to grow in our relationship with God, care for community and dare to follow Christ into the world. Last, but certainly not least we have to remember to pull out the weeds – we do this by remembering that we are Called by Christ, Committed by Faith, and Connected to Community.

May God bless each of us as we continue to grow and mature in our relationship with Him and as we continue to work in His Garden, the Garden called St. Giles.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Rev. Dewald (Dewey) Delport

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MISSION STATEMENT: "St. Giles' mission is to nurture a vibrant Christian life; we will seek to grow in our relationship with God, we will care for the community and we will dare to follow Christ into the world."

EDITORIAL

Dear Friends and Members of St. Giles:

*To everything, turn, turn, turn.
There is a season, turn, turn, turn.
And a time to every purpose under heaven.*

When I read this issue of What's Up? I found that this song kept bubbling up in my thoughts. (The fact that on a recent road trip to British Columbia we had listened to the Forest Gump soundtrack may have been a factor.) "Turn! Turn! Turn! (To Everything There Is a Season)" was covered by the folk rock band The Byrds in the 60's.

According to Wikipedia, the lyrics, except for the title which is repeated throughout the song and the final verse of the song, are adapted word-for-word from Chapter 3 of the Book of Ecclesiastes, were set to music and recorded in 1962. The Byrds' version distinguishes the song as the #1 pop hit with the oldest lyrics, dating back to the Book of Ecclesiastes. Many biblical scholars believe Ecclesiastes 1:1 implies King Solomon as the book's author, thus, if true, giving Solomon (born C. 1011 BC) lyrical credit for a number one hit.

This issue is blooming with articles that will invite you to reminisce on times past, celebrate the current happenings and anticipate upcoming events over the summer and into September.

In this season take time to laugh, plant, heal and love, but also embrace others as they mourn, weep, and break down in order to build up.

I would like to thank all for their service to St. Giles over the year and to wish you a summer blessed with delightful experiences with friends and family.

Susan Carmichael for the Editorial Team

Book Review of Sorts

I was just filling time at Vancouver airport as many of you may have done. I was browsing a bookstore. I noticed TIME Magazine had an almost black cover with pronounced headline "Finding God in the Dark". Followed by "Beyond Enlightenment: Acclaimed preacher Barbara Brown Taylor argues that strength, purpose and true faith are found in the shadows".

Barbara Brown Taylor was the Commencement speaker at our son's graduation. I was fascinated with her then. So much so that I bought two of her books and read them! I bought the Time magazine and read the article. It intrigued me. For some reason I thought that it might be a good book to buy for Joanne for Mother's Day.

I did buy it. The gift brought a polite thank you. I noticed the book ended up in stack on her bedside table. At this time, I was into my hour and a half walking every day routine. I sometimes like to listen to audiobooks and to my pleasant surprise "Finding God in the Dark" was in iTunes so I bought it!

I had four days of enjoyable walking and listening! I found that Barbara challenged me to think differently than I had ever been required to do in the past. I was intrigued, sometimes confused, but in general very pleased that I had listened to Barbara's book. Maybe you might enjoy it!

John Watson

NOTE-WORTHY

Dear Friends of St. Giles,

Thank you very much for the generous use of your marvellous facility. We truly appreciate it. Without kindness like St. Giles, our festival could not have been such a success!

CSSA (Calgary Suzuki Strings Association)

ST GILES ENTERS A FLOAT IN THE STAMPEDE PARADE, 1975

BY JANET ASTLE

I first approached Marjorie Crawford for information about this subject in January, 2013. She immediately visited Joyce Evans, and the two had a great time reminiscing and recalling all sorts of details for me, for which I am very grateful.

I wish to dedicate this article to the memory of Joyce Evans, secretary of St. Giles from 1970 to 1982, who died August 1, 2013.

When Marjorie Crawford decides to celebrate something, she does not do it in a small way (For those new members in the congregation, Marjorie is the widow of the late Rev. Dr. David Crawford Sr. who was Minister at St Giles from 1968 to 1995). In a previous article, I wrote about Marjorie's idea to include the St Giles choir in the massed choir that was participating in the 1988 Winter Olympic Games Opening Ceremony and Arts Festival Gala. Ours was the only church choir to be accepted, and it joined the likes of the Philharmonic Chorus in the stadium. For this article, I want to tell you about another of Marjorie's ideas, this time to mark the 100th anniversary of the Presbyterian Church in Canada by entering a float in the Calgary Stampede parade.

Marjorie cannot remember exactly how the idea for a float first arose, but she does remember that the deadline was looming when she made the fateful decision to discuss it with the St. Giles secretary, Joyce Evans. Joyce not only thought it was a wonderful concept, but she also had a friend, Cam, who owned a large flat-bed truck. Joyce phoned to ascertain if the truck would be available, which it was, and in next to no time the decision had been made. Marjorie immediately filled in the entry form while Joyce was sketching a design, which had to be submitted at the same time. Marjorie then drove back downtown to deliver the completed paperwork.

Once Marjorie heard that her application had been accepted she phoned the other Presbyterian churches in Calgary to see who would be interested in helping out. Quite a number of people came to the first meeting. Dan Evans, Joyce's husband, had obtained rolls of royal blue, white, gold and red plastic sheeting. One lady then demonstrated how to use this plastic to make rosettes.

The various volunteers returned to their own churches, armed with sheets of this plastic, and prepared to make hundreds of rosettes. Don also printed a very impressive "shareholder's certificate" and had blue ribbons made saying "100 YEARS, The Presbyterian Church in Canada, 1875 – 1975," which were handed out to all the volunteers.

Meanwhile, some other people turned their carpentry skills into making an arch that would fit along the length of the truck, while yet others were able to get some artificial green turf for the floor of the float. A very talented lady at St. Giles (I am sorry but I did not find the name) designed the pictures and lettering destined to go along the sides of the float. She guided the team as to where the flowers should be affixed using tape and staples. There were many nights near the end during which all the volunteers



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ST GILES ENTERS A FLOAT IN THE STAMPEDE PARADE, 1975

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worked together, fastening the flowers and also long blue fringes so that they entirely covered the sides of the float and the cab of the truck. The arch had the words "Remembrance, Renewal, Response" written on it, while along the sides of the truck bed were "Presbyterian Church, 1875 1975 2075."

There was a final meeting the night before the parade to hear all of the instructions for the next morning's muster. It had to be short though, as everyone had to be at the muster point by 6 a.m. The parade was held on Monday, July 7th, a cloudy and moderately cool day, but probably something of a relief, as the previous day had been 25C by 9:00am and an oppressive 32C by the afternoon. A thunderstorm during the night had cleared the air nicely. Marjorie's team assembled with the other floats and all were busy making final adjustments right up to the start. The Parade had, according to a report in the Calgary Herald, 195 entries, of which 31 were marching bands. Not only were the Presbyterians in Canada celebrating their centenary, but Calgary was also celebrating its 100 years, so several of the floats carried 100 year banners. The Parade Marshall that year was Peter Loughheed.

There were 8-10 men, women and children standing on the Presbyterian float, who represented Scotland, Ireland, Holland and Hungary. They were dressed in the costumes

of their countries of origin. Marjorie could not remember all the folks who were on the float, but one person from St. Giles was Katie Stephen (mother of Bill). Two of the CGIT (Canadian Girls in Training) members, Janet Evans and Jean Crawford (daughters of Joyce and Marjorie) walked in front of the float carrying a white banner on which was Presbyterian blue lettering. Marjorie thought this said, "The Presbyterian Church in Canada," but a photograph in the archives shows two young women carrying a banner that said **"To God be the Glory."** Perhaps there were two banners; it is hard to know from the photographs. Marjorie and Joyce were not on the float itself, but they were so excited that they were reluctant to leave, and they ran along beside it for as long as possible.

At the end of the Parade Cam drove the truck back to his yard and Marjorie, Joyce and some of the others met to disassemble the float. This was not nearly as much fun as putting it all together. However, they were absolutely thrilled to have accomplished their dream. Marjorie is not sure what happened to all those rosettes, but she does remember that she attached a blue one to the aerial of her car. For years afterwards she could always find her car in parking lots!

July/August

The fullness of the garden in high summer is a blessing for the soul.

This is a season that is generous with its delights. The garden is lush with growth and bright with flowers – the borders are a rainbow of colour, the hanging baskets full to overflowing, the sweet peas scented and exquisite. We have a fore-taste of harvest as we enjoy the scents of summer and pick our raspberries and plums.

At this time of year, we are at our busiest in the garden. Roses need to be sprayed, gaps in the perennial border need to be filled out with annuals, flowers need to be dead-headed to encourage a new spurt of growth, cuttings need to be taken.

So much to do – and yet, if we spend all our time doing it, we won't get any time to enjoy it. If we can remind ourselves to slow down and just look, then the fullness of the summer garden fills us with gratitude and we cannot help but give praise and thanksgiving and blessing. To bless is to honour, to honour is to celebrate, to celebrate is to experience joy and to experience joy is to give thanks.

Sister Stanislaus Kennedy. Gardening the Soul: A spiritual daybook through the seasons. Simon & Schuster/Townhouse, 2001

2014 PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S GATHERING

BY JOANNE WATSON

The 2014 Presbyterian Women's Gathering was held in Toronto on May 15 -19, 2014. Here is a summary of my experience at this Gathering

After looking forward to this gathering since November when I registered, at last I boarded the "Red Eye" Boeing747 on Thursday at 1:00am and arrived 10 hours later at the Sheraton Parkway Hotel just in time to attend the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Women's Missionary Society. As I entered the ballroom I saw the Synodical Banners being paraded in. Among them was the lovely Alberta banner made by Shirley Howe of our congregation. I saw a spare seat at a table for eight and was welcomed to join the folks there. The proceedings began with greetings from our Moderator the Rev. Dr. David Sutherland as well as many international guests, among them Pauline Brown from India and Kay Keith representing the Women's Guild of the Church of Scotland. A lady from Kenya gave a bold greeting in the name of Christ! Several past National WMS presidents were present. The large gathering celebrated with joyful prayers, memories, singing and clapping with a delicious chicken dinner served. It was a great blessing to be there!

Friday the hotel was a 'buzz' with over 300 "girls" carrying bright green registration bags. We took a look at the Fair Trade Market and huge Bookstore before getting seated for the opening worship. Then we gathered at tables for the service and were inspired by a strong message from Linda Park and a liturgical dance group. John Bell of the Iona Community led us in his special versions of harmony and praise. That evening was a posh banquet of welcome.



Saturday and Sunday Dr. Samantha Nutt was featured as she told us of her life experiences in war torn countries regarding 'war children' who are fighting wars and being turned into killers and rapists. Her personal reflections made us feel she was a knowledgeable and loving friend. Her advice- if you donate - do it regularly (not one time) and also promote higher education, the strongest help for social change. Reject misinformation and challenge assumptions.

Saturday evening I joined a group who visited Vaughn Presbyterian Church for a Korean dinner and concert. The song I loved was the men's choir singing "Soon, and very soon, we are going to see the King."

Sunday was a day of workshops and forums. I learned to have a silent conversation while creating a work of art with another person. At worship our own Rev. Jean Morris delivered a thoughtful sermon 'Expectations'. We had another great banquet that evening at which "Women of Faith Awards" were presented. I was especially glad to witness Rev. Helen Smith as one of the recipients. Returning to real life on Monday I must say it was a

wonderful experience. I was lonely at times and would have loved to have a buddy from St. Giles.

Here is a morning blessing from a Wee Worship Book

*Bless to us, O God
The Sun that is above us,
The Earth that is beneath us,
The Friends who are around us,
Your Image deep within us,
The Day which is before us.
Amen*

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths.- Proverbs 3:5,6

ST. GILES ENGLISH CREAM TEA

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the **English Afternoon Tea** on Saturday, May 3, 2014 a success.

Special thanks go to Jenny Thompson, Donna Russell and Diane Mascardelli who were essential in the planning, baking and sandwich making and for supporting this event. Also special thanks to Doreen Higgin and Trish Terrill who put in long hours on the Friday and Saturday before this event. A special thank you to Bernice Poon (coordinator), June Stephen, Phyllis Alexander and Annette Livingston for the Bake Table that was an essential part of the Afternoon Tea.

Thank you also to Donna Russell for phoning and of course to all the many helpers that day who made this special event happen.

Thank you to Dewald Delpport for the lovely posters and for organizing the advertising. Ted Sampson you were invaluable in setting up the tables. To all those who lent us their exquisite cups and saucers and tiered cake plates which made the tables elegant, a huge thank you goes out to you.

Last but not least, to my family, thank you.

Candace Siddall, Coordinator

THE 6TH ANNUAL ST. GILES FOLK NIGHT

The 6th Annual St. Giles Folk Night was held at St. Giles Lower Hall on Saturday, April 5, 2014. Once again, the event was a success with an attendance of about 90 people.

Our entertainment included our in house talents returning from years previous, including Paul Millar, Jackie Wilson, Ian McKay, Gillian Sidall, Carmen Ashmead, and Jason Gaskarth to name a few.

Special thanks to co-host, Eric Daly, and the team of helpers for an lovely evening of fun and entertainment. Thanks also to the planning committee who helped this event to go smoothly. Thank you also to the Mission in Action committee for their help and to Terry Hagen and

Cathy Brown, refreshment coordinators, and to all those who gave of their time and talent to make this a successful evening.

The proceeds of over \$1,900 raised at this event will be sent to the Thutong Ya Bana School in the Galeshewe Township, a settlement of shacks on the outskirts of Kimberley, South Africa. Our Choir Director, Marni Strome, is a volunteer teacher at the school this summer.

Look for the 7th Annual St. Giles Folk Night, coming in April 2015. We hope to see you there.

Jason Gaskarth, Organizer and Music Coordinator

Upcoming St. Giles Garage Sale

This year's St. Giles Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2014 from 8:30am to 2:30pm. Please save up your treasures and bring them to the church during the week of September 15-19th (we will try to arrange for at least one evening availability). If necessary, we can store donations brought in during the summer but please keep everything until September if possible. Owing to space considerations, we cannot accept books, drapes, curtains or carpets.

The Organizing Committee needs a lot of help for the week before and during the sale; if you can help us, please contact Nikki at the church office at 403-289-6862 or e-mail us at: office@stgiles.ca.

Nikki Oguntuase, Coordinator

Planning Committee: Dianne Mascardelli, Dawn Flint, Bernice Poon, Candace Siddall

SADNESS AND SOLACE

BY MICHAEL MOORHOUSE

*Summertime and the livin' is easy
Fish are jumpin' and the cotton is high*

Remember? George Gershwin's 'Porgy and Bess'? One of the great American musicals. Makes you feel plain lazy, doesn't it. But sitting here at the beginning of the second week in June the thermometer says somebody made a mistake. But it will come. Won't it?

And because summer is when we try to ease off a bit, this is also a good time for reminiscing. After the service the other day I remarked to Rev. Dewald that I have sat in the same spot in the same pew for forty-five-odd years. It's down there on the left hand side three rows back, an easy target for Dewey if he's looking for backup or a reaction, but it also gives a clear view of Ester's hands as she glides softly through the offertory solo. It seems to me that her playing at that time is always reflective, never strident. It's an interlude of quietness and it takes something extraordinary in the outside world to penetrate it.

But yesterday there was that something - the useless, senseless killing of three policemen. And why and for what? It brought to mind the seeming reality that the things that bring us closest to God are not life's happy moments, but are the times of greatest sorrow. And for me there is a sombre remembrance that the time our sanctuary was the most crowded was not for the Communion services in those six hundred member heydays of the early seventies, but was on a weekday afternoon in 1982 for a service of sad remembrance.

It had begun a few days earlier when overnight news bulletins reported the loss of the Ocean Ranger, a drillship working in the Hibernia Field offshore Newfoundland. Back then I carpooled with my friend Al, who was wellsite supervisor, and who compiled the daily drilling reports for management. As I got into the car the radio was on and he said "Don't look for any good news today". It was simple enough: a major storm, a rogue wave, a smashed portlight, water splashed on an electrical control panel causing a vital pump failure, and a drillship the size of a football field turned over and sank, killing all on board. Eighty-four men.

One of those men was from Calgary. There was a connection, not an active one but a connection, with St. Giles, and it was determined that a memorial service would be held in our sanctuary. It was long ago now and I'm sorry I can't recall names, but I do remember that our minister, the Rev. David Crawford (Sr.), was away and the service was taken by the Rev. Gerald Graham of Centennial Presbyterian Church. I suppose the point of this recollection is that our building was just totally full. People were standing along the sides and in the narthex. Men and women who'd never been in a church in their lives were sharing hymnbooks and fumbling with scripture, and there was such a total shared sadness.

But there were fun times too. Makes me think that we didn't always have a Stampede Brunch. I forget the actual timing, but we began it when that sort of thing was just becoming popular and we set out to make ours really special. It was going to be a Session thing. Not that big a deal, you say, but I think it was before there were women elders, and though the times were changing there were certain subtleties at large. At least that's how I remember it, because back then there was an outfit called Women of the Church, and there was no doubt about who ruled the kitchen. But for Stampede the men were allowed, and we fired up that giant gas stove. Remember that thing? It must have weighed a couple of tons. I think we gave it away to somebody. It's all different now of course, with doing things outside and having the quiet back yard instead of lugging things out into the parking lot. Still there's always the weather, though I think we've only had to retreat to the lower hall once in all the years.

Back in the sanctuary again, you have perhaps noticed that at some point in the Communion service there is the usage 'Holy, Holy, Holy!'. It may be spoken or sung, but it is always there. It goes back to the earliest days in the formation of the church and is a declaration of our common belief in the nature of our God, and an acknowledgment of where we stand in that relationship. God is God: omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent - all knowing, all powerful, and always there. It's equally a statement of trust and comfort for those of us who understand that we don't know all there is to know about life.

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SADNESS AND SOLACE

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Which gets me back to music. It's always been important for me. We were visiting in Ottawa years ago and attended Sunday worship in a large Presbyterian church there. Great big organ, and after the service the organist played one of the showpieces in the repertoire for that instrument - the toccata of the Fifth Organ Symphony by Charles-Marie Widor. An immensely powerful work. Over the years after coming home I would occasionally drop hints to our several keyboard players, always to be greeted by a hint of a smile. I guess I didn't know how difficult it was. Then one day several people seemed to find it important that I stay after the service. And Cody played it. It was a generous thing because it must have taken a lot of work.

These reflections make one think about the role of music in worship. Along with everyone else I greatly appreciate the anthems performed by the choir. Like other elements of the service they are presented as gifts to God, and if we find beauty and pleasure in song surely that's not wrong. Mind you, it was not always so. When James of Scotland travelled to London to assume the crown of England he got caught up in a battle between the Puritans

(read Presbyterians) and the Bishops. The Puritans were a dour lot, and had no use for the pomp and costume of the Bishops who represented the established church. The most rigorous among them believed that the Word (i.e. scripture), alone is sufficient and disapproved of music in the church. They lost the day; indeed some of them lost their lives, but many crossed to the continent and reappeared as the Pilgrim Fathers in America.

So I sit there after the service on Sundays and I watch and listen with too few others as Esther plays a postlude that she will have carefully practiced. It lies beyond the benediction and is not part of worship but it is part of the occasion, and I am grateful.

*Praise the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the
harp of ten strings.*

*Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings,
with loud shouts
Psalm 33:2-3, NRSV*

Starting this Fall: Moms & Tots Program

A new outreach program called Moms & Tots will be offered at St Giles this fall that we hope will help new moms in the NW meet others and resolve some of the issues they face.

Starting on Thursday, September 11, 2014 we will meet in the Park Room from 9:15am until 11:15am with snacks and beverages (gluten-free, nut-free available) provided. Older siblings up to the age of four will be cared for in the nursery free of charge.

Our program is not finalized as yet but we plan to have a resource person at least once a month; during the fall we have lined up a registered pediatric dietitian, a pediatric emergency physician and, hopefully a public health nurse to discuss vaccinations. The only charge will be a \$10.00 registration fee. We hope to have a link set up soon on our St. Giles website where more information and ongoing updates will be posted.

Dianne Mascardelli and Candace Siddall,
Program Coordinators

On the Lighter Side

A four-year-old child, whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman, who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old Gentleman's' yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy just said, 'Nothing, I just helped him cry.'

PASTORAL CARE FUNDRAISER DINNER

Anyone who had the good fortune to ham it up with the PCs [Pastoral Care Committee] on Saturday, June 7, 2014 was gifted with enjoyable company and an excellent dinner. Delicious ham and raisin sauce was served with mountains of Schwarties potatoes, corn, cole-slaw and buttered buns. This was followed by angel food cake topped with lemon sauce and strawberries, tea and coffee.

The Reverend Dewald Delpont asked The Lord for His blessing and determined that the people at the furthest away table should be first in the buffet line up. Maybe the music could have been a little bit louder, but the 70 people attending were too busy with laughter and conversation and getting to know each other, to miss it.

New friends were invited and old friends renewed acquaintance. It was good to see the Reverend David Vincent there with his wife, Barbara, and his sister, Rosemary on holiday from Ireland.

The Pastoral Care Committee under the calm leadership and experienced cooking skills of Jenny Thomson and Donna Russell are to be commended for helping the congregation raise 1274 dollars for the general fund. Special thanks go to those members of the congregation who gave extra help where it was needed and made the chores of cleaning up a lot lighter.

Thanks to the congregation for giving this venture their wholehearted support.

Chris Browne and Jenny Thomson



On Sunday, June 15th we were privileged to have the Director of Camp Kannawin, **Cara Penman**, attend our worship service and to share with our congregation the events that are taking place at the Camp this summer and to give us an update of the work that is being done on the Waterfront Restoration Project.

Cara has been involved with the camp in many different roles since 2008 from cooking, health care, property, personnel, and even a wee bit of programming from time to time.

Camp Kannawin is situated just west of Jarvis Bay Provincial Park, on the shores of Sylvan Lake, five minutes north of the town of Sylvan Lake. It is owned and operated by the congregations of the Synod of Alberta and the Northwest, the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Camp Kannawin offers a Christian-based program with a multitude of activities including faith exploring, crafts, swimming, canoeing, wide games, a low ropes course, waterslide, campfire singing and lots of fun & fellowship!!

Throughout the summer, we have camps split up for various ages of children. It's not too late to register your camper for summer camps starting June 30th running through August 21st, 2014!! Please see the website www.campkanniwan.ca for more information or call 403-887-5760.

An overall theme is selected for the summer, and it is weaved throughout the season's program and activities. This year, our theme is: **Get Real: Finding Your True Self in Jesus!**

Each week, we will also spend time focusing on our mission project for the season. This year, the money raised will go towards the purchase of mountain bikes for Presbyterian Church ministers in Malawi to use for transportation. Each bicycle costs \$150.

If your family is in need of camperships through our memorial funds program or would like to learn more about Camp Kannawin's summer missions project please speak with Rev. Dewald Delpont or Heather Mackie.

THESE HANDS

Have you ever paused in your busy day to take a look at your hands? Sounds kind of silly, but perhaps this story will help put it into a whole different light.

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An old man, probably some ninety plus years, sat feebly on the park bench. He didn't move, just sat with his head down staring at his hands. When I sat down beside him he didn't acknowledge my presence and the longer I sat I wondered if he was ok.

Finally, not really wanting to disturb him but wanting to check on him at the same time, I asked him if he was ok.

He raised his head and looked at me and smiled. Yes, I'm fine, thank you for asking, he said in a clear strong voice.

I didn't mean to disturb you, sir, but you were just sitting here staring at your hands and I wanted to make sure you were ok I explained to him.

Have you ever looked at your hands he asked. I mean really looked at your hands?

I slowly opened my hands and stared down at them.

I turned them over, palms up and then palms down. No, I guess I had never really looked at my hands as I tried to figure out the point he was making.

Then he smiled and related this story:

Stop and think for a moment about the hands you have, how they have served you well throughout your years. These hands, though wrinkled, shriveled and weak have been the tools I have used all my life to reach out and grab and embrace life. They braced and caught my fall when as a toddler I crashed upon the floor. They put food in my mouth and clothes on my back. As a child my mother

taught me to fold them in prayer. They tied my shoes and pulled on my boots. They dried the tears of my children and caressed the love of my life. They held my rifle and wiped my tears when I went off to war. They have been dirty, scraped and raw, swollen and bent. They were uneasy and clumsy when I tried to hold my newborn son. Decorated with my wedding band they showed the world that I was married and loved someone special. They wrote the letters home and trembled and shook when I buried my parents and spouse and walked my daughter down the aisle. Yet, they were strong and sure when I dug my buddy out of a foxhole and lifted a plow off of my best friends foot. They have held children, consoled neighbors, and shook in fists of anger when I didn't understand. They have covered my face, combed my hair, and washed and cleansed the rest of my body. They have been sticky and wet, bent and broken, dried and raw. And to this day when not much of anything else of me works real well these hands hold me up, lay me down, and again continue to fold in prayer. These hands are the mark of where I've been and the ruggedness of my life. But more importantly it will be these hands that God will reach out and take when he leads me home. And He won't care about where these hands have been or what they have done. What He will care about is to whom these hands belong and how much He loves these hands. And with these hands He will lift me to His side and there I will use these hands to touch the face of Christ.

I never saw the man again. I do know that I'll never take my hands for granted or look at them in the same way again.

From the Website: Author Unknown

Christian One Liners

- * Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.
- * Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.
- * The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.
- * When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.
- * People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.
- * Peace starts with a smile.
- * Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.
- * God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.
- * We don't change the message, the message changes us.

UPDATE FROM MISSION IN ACTION COMMITTEE

It has been several months now since I was invited to serve as convenor for the Mission in Action Committee. Thank you to John McLean for the years that he has served as Convenor. I am grateful to the members of the committee who have guided me through this "learning process" and also grateful to the congregation for their support both in terms of volunteering, and for their financial support of events.

Camp Kannawin, at Sylvan Lake, found it necessary to do some costly restoration work to its beach this winter. The Missions Committee submitted a request to Session that St. Giles assist financially in that regard. That request was approved and a donation was made on behalf of the congregation. If you wish to make a personal donation simply mark your envelope "Camp Kannawin." We were pleased to have Cara Penman, Director of Camp Kannawin, speak to the congregation on June 15th. Thank you Cara for taking time from a busy schedule to tell us a

little more about Camp Kannawin and the necessary work that was done to the beach. I did have an opportunity to go out to Sylvan Lake and see the improvements. The contractors have done a wonderful job.

The Inn From The Cold program provides an important service to the homeless in our community. With the help of a large number of volunteers St. Giles is able to continue to be a part of it. If you are interested in becoming involved in "Inn From The Cold" contact Susan Carmichael or our church office. Additional help during the summer months would be appreciated.

New members to the Mission in Action Committee are always welcome. If you would like to join our team contact Terry Hagen at 835-7235 or e-mail me at houseofhagen@hotmail.com

Terry Hagen
Convenor, Mission in Action Committee

Do you have a favorite Hymn or Praise Song that you would like to include in our Worship Service on a Sunday morning?

- ◇ Is there a hymn or praise song that is your favorite?
- ◇ Is there a church song you like but cannot remember the title?
- ◇ Is there a song you used to sing when you were a child?

Your hymn and/or song suggestions are always welcomed. Please talk to Rev. Delport or write the following information and place it in the offering plate on a Sunday morning.

Hymn or Song Title: _____

I cannot remember the name but it goes like this:

For your request, please note that you are not limited to the 1997 Book of Praise (i.e. perhaps you like "Guide me O Thou great Jehovah" from the 1972 Book of Praise instead of the 1997 version of "Guide me O Thou great Redeemer" or perhaps you like "Onward Christian soldiers" from the 1972 Book of Praise or "the Old Rugged Cross" which is not in the Book of Praise or "Just a closer walk with Thee" or "Shout to the Lord" etc.)

On the Lighter Side

Did Noah Fish?

A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark? 'No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms.'

High School Graduates

Congratulations



Michael Chick is a 2014 graduate of William Aberhart High School and is currently employed as a swimming instructor and lifeguard at the Calgary Winter Club pending an early 2015 journey to Sydney, Australia where he will train at the East Coast Squash Academy to improve his skill in that sport. Later that year he plans to enter the Department of International Relations and Policy Studies at the University of Calgary, leading to a career in Intelligence work.

Michael has a younger sister Gillian and is the son of Timothy Chick and Jennifer Moorhouse, and grandson of Michael and Margaret Moorhouse.



Kelsey Moorhouse graduated from Bishop Carroll High School in 2013 and has completed first year studies as an English major in the Arts and Science Academy, a division of the University of Calgary. She plans to obtain a PhD and to teach English literature in a university setting.

Kelsey and younger sister Julia are the daughters of Sandra Groot and the late James Moorhouse, and granddaughters of Michael and Margaret Moorhouse

Tyvan Johnston graduated from Sir Winston Churchill High School in 2014. This fall, Tyvan plans continue his education in the Bachelor of Computer Information Systems Program at Mount Royal University.

Proud parents are Brad Johnston and Alana Findlay and sisters Emily and Holly.

(Graduation Photo not available)

A Humble Leader

Jesus is the kind of leader we all want to follow. He gets alongside us and helps us carry burdens that weigh us down. He is humble and gentle and kind, never making us feel foolish or inferior. When we follow Him we find peace and the ability to handle whatever life throws at us.

~~~

*"I am humble and gentle, and you  
will find rest for your souls."*

*Matthew 11:29*

*Living Water—for those who thirst. One Minute Devotions. Christian Art Gifts, 2004*

# University Graduates

# Congratulations



**Robert Woodward** graduated with his Juris Doctor (JD) from the University of Calgary, Faculty of Law in May 2014. Currently pursuing a split article with the provincial government in Edmonton and a regional law office in Fort McMurray, Rob looks forward to completing his articling term with a focus in privacy law and access to information, augmented with a general practice component up North. Proud parents are Bill and Susan Woodward and sister Kristine.

**Andrew Carmichael** graduated from the University of British Columbia – Okanagan Campus with a Bachelor of Management degree.

Andrew looks forward to joining Ernst and Young in September as he begins his journey toward becoming a CPA (formerly CA), Chartered Professional Accountant.

Proud parents are Rick and Susan Carmichael and sister Sarah.

Andrew is the grandson of Ethel Carmichael.



## Choir News

**BY MARNI STROME**

Our choir wrapped up the season with another mass concert with the Calgary Children's Choir and Crescent Heights Choir - Songs of the Cinema was a lot of fun!

We also anticipate another great summer social and wind-up, this time hosted by Jim Weisert and Janet Astle.

We always appreciate the congregation of St. Giles for the support you show by attending our special events and by commenting on, and showing interest in our Sunday anthems.

Happy summer, and we look forward to more music-making in the fall. Choir begins on Thursday September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm - everyone welcome!

## A TIME TO DANCE

### BY TOBY GASKARTH

Ecclesiastes tells us that there is a time to dance – to celebrate life and be joyful. I have been lucky enough to dance most of my life, in one form or another.

Our daughters, Shannon and Madeleine have found their own places under the stage lights, as they learn tap, jazz, and ballet and participate in dance competitions each Spring. The last month or so they have performed in Calgary, Olds, Drumheller and Lethbridge. In July we will pack up the trailer and head west to Kelowna for the final competition of the season.

Dance demands exploration and creativity. This year, Shannon and Madeleine have been pirates, goblins, zombies, rebels, flight attendants and penguins. They have pushed themselves to their physical limits and sometimes even beyond. They have learned the fine art of putting on stage make-up and are developing responsibility for looking after all of their costumes and accessories, with guidance from Mom and Dad! Jason and I are Dance Parents in the fullest sense. We pray for big dressing rooms, workable backstage areas and good weather for transporting set pieces.



Our dancers have experienced a variety of venues and the challenges that come with each new setting. Offstage, they have bonded with their friends through pool parties and ice cream. The festival style of competition means that every dancer's achievements are recognized and everyone receives a medal, based on marks – a tangible reward for their efforts.

Competitions bring many visions of dance together under one roof in a dynamic display of artistry, physicality and characterization, from the tiniest dancers just starting out to the teenagers at their peak. Dance can be cheerful and it can be heartbreaking. One dance studio from High River performed a tribute to the residents of their town, bringing a flood of tears from the audience.

We have been blessed to watch Shannon and Madeleine take to the stage and dance their hearts out. They hold nothing back. To dance is to give all of your spirit to the moment. Dance, like the breath of Spring, is a gift from God, to be celebrated always.

*(Shannon and Madeleine in their dance costumes)*

## Its Spring and a Time to Plant...

*Poem from Website: -- Author Unknown  
Submitted by Toby Gaskarth*

### How to Plant Your Garden:

First, you come to the garden alone,  
While the dew is still on the roses  
For the garden of your daily living,

### Plant three rows of peas:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

### Plant four rows of squash:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

### Plant four rows of lettuce:

1. Let us be faithful
2. Let us be kind
3. Let us be patient
4. Let us love one another

### No garden is without turnips:

1. Turn up for meetings
2. Turn up for service
3. Turn up to help one another

### To conclude our garden we must have thyme:

1. Time for each other
2. Time for family
3. Time for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love.

There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

# Church School News

BY HEATHER MACKIE

The Church School officially ended its year on June 22nd with our Recognition Sunday service and a potluck. The children in church school all participated in the service by choosing all the hymns/songs, doing the readings, taking the offering, and carrying in the bible. All the children were all given a puzzle book or coloring book in recognition of their being a part of our church. Each teacher was also thanked and given a small gift as a token of the congregations thanks for teaching the children each week.

Now that our year is over we are looking towards the summer and the fall. Vacation Bible School will be July 7th to 11th and the planning is well underway. Thanks to all those who have already volunteered to help with this week of fun!

We wish everyone a great summer and hope you all get to spend some time outdoors enjoying the sunshine and warm weather.

At Weird Animals Vacation Bible Camp, kids discover that Jesus' love is one-of-a-kind. Weird Animals is a habitat filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Scency-Fun Gizmos™, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and safe shoes.)



On Friday, July 11th, parents, and grandparents are invited to join us in at 11:40am for a time of celebration when we'll share some of the songs and enjoy a hotdog lunch afterwards.

So mark these dates on your calendar: July 7th to 11th. The fun starts at 9:00am and will end at noon.

## Children in Worship

Children are welcome in our worship service and are an important part of the church family. They come to the front of the sanctuary for a children's story, and then leave for Sunday School.

We have a bright and colorful nursery for children up to 3 years of age. It is staffed during the service by a qualified nursery worker or volunteers. Parents can accompany their child/children to Sunday School or the nursery for as long as needed.

The children's story follows the stories in the Books of the Bible. We started with Genesis more than a year ago and are now in the Book of Numbers, listening to the story of Moses and the Israelites in the dessert.

The books that we have covered so far are Genesis, Exodus and Leviticus.



Children's story time with Rev. Delpont

## **COMMENTS FROM YOUR REPRESENTATIVE ELDER ON PRESBYTERY**

### **BY SANDRA CAMERON EVANS**

St. Andrew's, Lethbridge hosted Presbytery on May 27<sup>th</sup> with Rev. Jack leading worship. The Theological Reflection period, led by S. Cameron Evans, focused on a Master Plan for Presbytery. The Ghanaian Presbyterian Church Calgary received approval to become a congregation of the PCC with the special worship service held June 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Discerning the Future of our Presbytery**

- Enthusiasms and Concerns Regarding the Ministries of the Presbytery
  - Rev. Tremblay spoke of the event, 'Don't Be Afraid', about Homophobia held by Knox;
  - Rev. Breish announced that St. Andrew's, Calgary had received a grant to expand their 'Side By Side' program;
  - Rev. Cocks shared that St. John's, Medicine Hat had worked with the Blood Tribe Health Department on events related to Truth and Reconciliation.
- Strategy and Leadership
  - Revs. Gunnink, Ollerenshaw and H. Smith are Presbytery's representatives on the UofC United/Presbyterian Chaplaincy Committee;
  - A brochure/application for the Fund for New Ministry Initiatives is available on the Presbytery website;
  - Presbytery supported holding a Recognition Service for the Rev. Bruce Clendening who has begun his ministry as a chaplain at Bethany.

#### **Reports on the Ministries of our Presbytery**

- Pastoral Effectiveness Group
  - Pastoral Relationships with Congregations
    - ⇒ The Visitation to Centennial outlined their successful work on the congregation's finances with encouragement to make use of the PAR program;
    - ⇒ The Visitation to St. Giles was presented and all recommendations accepted;
    - ⇒ The Visitation to Westminster praised their strong mission focus and asked that they report back on their revised system of pastoral care;
    - ⇒ The Committee noted two themes from visitation reports that all Sessions should consider: improving pastoral care and developing a 10-year building maintenance plan.
  - Education for Effective Leadership and Policy Implementation
    - ⇒ A contest will be held to find the best congregational website and social media.

- Presbytery Youth Ministry Committee Report
  - The monthly citywide youth events continue and planning is ongoing for CY2014.
- Interim Moderator's Report for Calvin Hungarian
  - Bertalan Bocskoras is progressing well on his work to be eligible to become a minister of the PCC and able to accept a call.
- Presbytery Representatives' Report For St. Andrew's, Calgary
  - The Search Committee had selected two candidates to conduct formal interviews for the position of Minister, Vision and Direction.

#### **Reports on our Ministry Partnerships**

- The Presbyterian Church in Canada
  - WMS
    - ⇒ M. LaMontagne reported on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of WMS and the Women's Gathering "Burst Forth".
- Synod of Alberta and the Northwest
  - Director of Regional Ministries
    - ⇒ At the National Truth and Reconciliation Event, the Mayors of Calgary and Edmonton proclaimed a Year of Reconciliation starting March 27, 2014;
    - ⇒ Flood Relief funds from PWS&D have been distributed to food banks in Morley and High River as well as Alpha House, Calgary.
  - Camp Kannawin
    - ⇒ The beach reclamation project is complete;
    - ⇒ Most of the summer staff have been hired and registrations are coming in.
- University of Lethbridge Chaplaincy
  - Rev. Phillips, the Chaplain, was in attendance and provided an update on her ministry.
- Enthusiasms and Concerns Regarding our Partnerships
  - Rev. Nethercott played a significant role in supporting the UofC campus following the murders in Brentwood.

#### **Administrative Committee**

- Presbytery approved the terms of agreement between Knox and Rev. Marple as Minister in Association.

**Next Meeting** – The next regular meeting of the Presbytery will take place at Varsity Acres on September 9, 2014, 2:00pm with a service to install Rev. B. Smith as Moderator. Everyone welcome.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE TO MAY 2014

### BY TED SAMSON

Here we are once again at the beginning of summer and it is time to look at our financial situation before going into the lean months of July and August.

Our 2014 Budget is almost the same as last year, calling for receipts of \$20,311 each month. With only slightly more than \$14,000 in each of January and February, our deficit after those months was \$12,824. In March, income was up by nearly \$3,800, and again in April, by almost \$2,100. Unfortunately, we received less than \$15,700 in May. We are averaging only \$16,330 each month in 2014, almost \$19,900 behind on revenue for the year.

On the expense side, we have been spending about \$21,600 each month since February, which is more than \$1,000 per month more than the budget. All together, we are close to \$4,300 over budget after five months. The two major expenses so far this year are the repair of the Sump Pump float and two visits to fix the Hobart dishwasher. Gravel for the parking lot and ice melter for the walks over the winter have also increased our costs this year.

Here are the actual figures for revenue, expenses and deficit for the last three months:

|          | March    | April    | May      | YTD       | Budget    |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Revenue  | \$17,795 | \$19,874 | \$15,657 | \$81,650  | \$101,555 |
| Expenses | 22,441   | 21,105   | 21,159   | 105,853   | 101,555   |
| Deficit  | (*4,646) | (*1,231) | (*5,502) | (*24,203) | 0         |

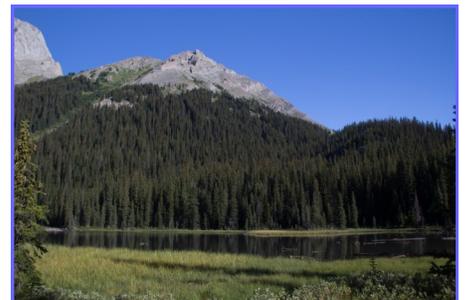
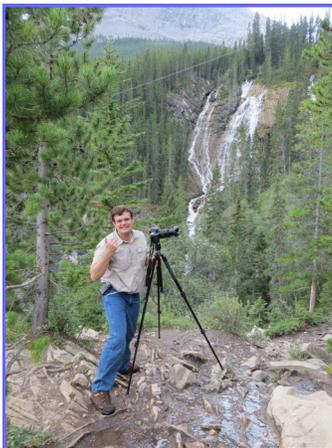
*\*(x,xxx) indicates a deficit*

Even though our deficit so far this year is over \$24,200, we are only about \$900 worse than last year at this time. And our income is higher than 2013, but only by \$700.

Our major problem seems to be less than expected revenue each month this year. Hopefully, everyone who gives to St. Giles will be able to reevaluate their monetary contribution over the summer and for the rest of 2014.

## KANANASKIS COUNTRY

Photos by Dewald Delpont



## UPCOMING EVENTS



WORSHIP SERVICES ARE HELD EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM

- ★ July 6.....**Stampede Brunch (see below)**  
Come and bring a friend - all are welcomed.
- ★ July 7-11.....**Vacation Bible School at St. Giles**  
This year's theme is 'Weird Animals: Where Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind'
- ★ September 7.....**Fall Welcome-Back Luncheon**  
Please join us for a Luncheon in the Lower Hall following our Worship Service.
- ★ October 5 ..... **World Communion Service.**  
A celebration observed by several Christian denominations, taking place on the first Sunday of every October, that promotes Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation
- ★ October 5 ..... **Thanksgiving Sunday**  
A chance for people to give thanks for a good harvest and other fortunes in the past year.

*Special thanks and appreciation to our Music Director, Marni Strome, and our our organist/pianist Esther Woelfle, and to our guest musicians, for the wonderful and inspirational music that they have provided to us.*

Check our Church Bulletin for other Upcoming Events  
*Have a Safe and Enjoyable Summer*

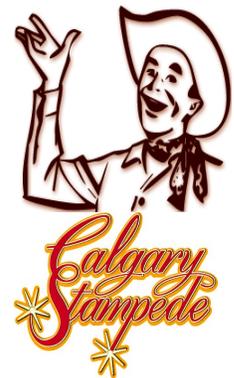
### ST. GILES STAMPEDE BRUNCH

Come and join in the camaraderie of **St. Giles Stampede Brunch** sponsored by members of our Session. Dress in your western outfits and bring your family and friends for a wonderful time together as we share in celebrating Calgary's biggest outdoor show "The Calgary Stampede".

**Date: Sunday, July 6, 2014**

**Time: After our regular worship service**

**Place: The Garden**



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