



WHAT'S UP?

ST. GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Summer 2012 Issue

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Is it worth it?

July marks my sixth year in ministry. It all started with a phone call in my final year at Presbyterian College, "Would you be willing to help a congregation for July and August?" After three years of seminary and two summer ministries under the belt, a two-month summer ministry sounded quite good. I would be able to do what I love and ready myself to accept a call and be able to save a few dollars to pay the student loans.

Well, two-months left to ordination and a ministry of four and a half years. I will admit, there were times I asked myself, "**Is this really worth it?**" Strangely enough, the answer has always been, "You bet 'ya." Even today there are still many times I asked this question. Yet, God always shows me that it is worth it.

The funny thing is that sometimes there are long periods of nothing; it is like the doldrums on the Pacific Ocean.

Last year, in October, I went to a telescope building class so I could build my own telescope. Oh boy, was I excited. Inside, I smiled from ear to ear. **This was certainly going to be worth it.** After a few weeks my joy was in jeopardy – it was going a little slower than I expected. Wait, that is a lie, it was going much-much slower than expected. I was starting to get "the telescope-woes." The doldrums were setting in and the joyous excitement I felt at first was evaporating like morning dew in the hot desert sun.

I could have given up. Perhaps, you thought I did. Trust me, the thought crossed my mind many-a Saturday weekend afternoon.

"Is this really worth it?" I asked just about every week. I was ready to give up more times than you can count.

Seven and a half months later, the tide has turned. Hanging-in there **has been worth it.** My joy has returned and I am as excited as I have ever been. This is my new telescope; the pride and joy of my life (keep in mind I am bachelor).

What's - Inside?

- ★ Editorial
- ★ Features
- ★ News
- ★ Themes

Is it worth it?

We ask this question in our spiritual journey. It has many faces. Is it worth coming to church? I don't like the style of worship, music, some people, etc. so, is it worth going? I don't understand the Bible, so is it worth reading? I don't like / understand / appreciate the Creeds, is it

worth saying? I don't like the bickering among people, is it worth being part of the fellowship? I don't like the theology, is it worth listening? I am shy / not a good speaker / scared, is it worth sharing the good news? I don't feel anything, is it worth it?

There are times we have "church woes" and there are times when the "spiritual doldrums" set in and we wonder, "**Is it really worth it?**"

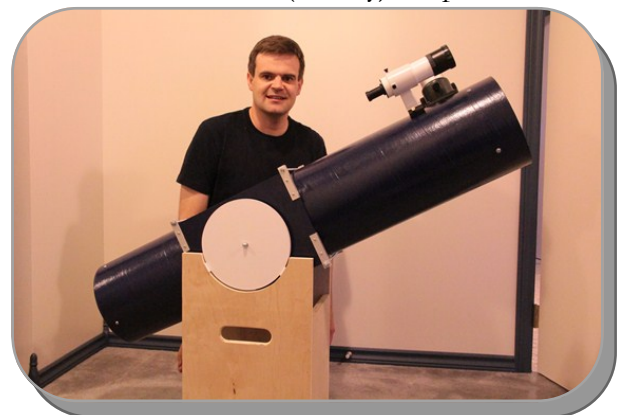
When the "church woes" lurk around the corner or the "spiritual doldrums" knock on the door perhaps we can remember these words from Romans 12. *Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer ... **live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty ... do not claim to be wiser than you are ... live peaceably with all.***

God loves us more than we can image; and God has asked us to love each other faults and all; after all, none of us are perfect. Since God loves us, God is also patient with us helping us to gain a better understanding about God and how to live a God-honouring life. It can be slow going at times (more so because of our stubbornness).

Is it worth it?

You bet 'ya! it is worth it. Hanging-in there can be difficult and trying ... but it is also worth it.

Summer Blessings,
Rev. Dewald (Dewey) Delpport



EDITORIAL

Dear Members and Friends of St. Giles,

It is the end of another school year. As a teacher, it is time to tidy up from the hectic year, file away the treasures you will use again and edit out what you no longer need. Today I walked into the staff room and found several CD's that someone on staff had laid out for the taking. I noticed one by Jewel and turned it over to see if I recognized any songs. The familiar song "Hands", jumped out at me so I decided to bring it home with me. As I pondered what direction this editorial would take, it seemed that the topic of "hands" would be appropriate.

This song begins; "If I could tell the world one thing it would be that we are all ok."

and ends with; "We are God's eyes, God's hands, God's heart. We are God's hands."

I think this is a lovely reflection to begin these summer months with. We are God's hands. Loving hands that knit a prayer shawl, bake a shortcake, hold a newly baptized baby, teach Vacation Bible School, play a tune, and congratulate a graduate. As God's hands we serve others as we are able.

"In the end only kindness matters. In the end only kindness matters.

I will get down on my knees, and I will pray. I will get down on my knees and I will pray."

"Hands" - lyrics by Jewel Kilcher

We give thanks for the many who allow their everyday actions to be the reflection of God's eyes, heart and hands. I pray that you will be blessed with many opportunities to reach out your hands in kindness to those around you.

Enjoy this issue and the blessing of each summer day.

Susan Carmichael for the Editorial Team

NOTE-WORTHY

Dear Friends,

I acknowledge with many thanks the cards, phone calls, e-mails, flowers, the visits and the baking, as well as the lovely prayer shawl, all given to me following my knee replacement surgery. My recovery has been longer than expected, but the outlook is favourable.

Again many thanks to a caring congregation.

Sincerely,
Margaret Moorhouse

Dear Friends,

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the ladies of St. Giles who gave me the beautiful rap-around.

Herb Mick

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Dear Friends,

Thank you for your lovely Easter Card. Thank you also for the lovely lunch served by the mothers and grandmas.

Iva Fellows

DOROTHY BARTON WILL BE 100 YEARS OLD ON JULY 13TH

Dorothy Barton, a former member of St. Giles and a member of Calvin-Goforth in Saskatoon turns 100 years on July 13, 2012. Dorothy lives in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, but keeps in touch by phone and enjoys reading each issue of our Newsletter. She and her late husband, Harold, together with their sons, John and Bruce, were very active in the life of St. Giles.

Dorothy was an enthusiastic member of St. Giles Choir, the Women of the Church, (of which she was treasurer), the Quintus Group and the Second Sunday Singers.

Dorothy delights in 5 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY DOROTHY!

CHURCH PICNICS FROM THE PAST— BY JANET ASTLE

The archives contain a lovely collection of photographs that has been acquired over the years. I have always regretted not being able to include them in the church newsletters, but now that we have the technology (a scanner), the time has come to use some of them. As summer is now upon us it seemed appropriate to start with church picnics.

Photo 1: This shot dates from 1925 or 1926 and is of the Sunday School teachers from North Hill Presbyterian (one of St Giles' "parent" churches). Several photographs were taken of the various church groups during this picnic on St George's Island. Interestingly, the lady in the black dress, who is in three of the photographs, always sat with her left profile to the camera.



Photo 2: This dates from about 1938 and shows the choir picnicking at Lake Chiniki. Mildred Short, wearing the white dress, is standing at the back, while Maisie McChasney, David Hart and Lorna Weir are sitting on the log at the front. I rather like the bathing costume that David is wearing!



Photo 3: Maisie gave me one of her albums, which contains photographs of numerous church outings. This is of the congregation waiting for the street car to take them to Bowness Park for a picnic in 1934. I love the billboard advertising 4X bread "Building healthy young westerners." That street car must have been really packed once they all got on!



Photo 4: Taken a few years ago, this shows, from left to right, Phyllis Stephen, and Bella and June Kelly skipping with possibly Jean McLagan (the labelling is a bit confusing.) Of course the Kelly "girls" are known better these days as Phyllis Alexander and June Stephen.



Continued on page 4

CHURCH PICNICS FROM THE PAST—

Continued from page 3

Photo 5: Chalmers church appears to have been more adventurous when it came to picnics, as many of their trips took them to Banff. This one was held on a rather cool day in 1966. I love the man's hat on the top of the car and the gasoline can, given pride of place, at the front of the table!



Photo 6: This is of the first Stampede Bruch, held in the St Giles' parking lot, in 1973. The Rev. David Crawford is standing, wearing a chef's hat. It would seem that the concept of dressing western had not quite taken hold for that first brunch. Other photographs show some folks wearing cowboy hats, but only a few have gone so far as to wear a complete cowboy outfit.



Photo 7: My last offering is of a Sunday school picnic, held in Confederation Park, in 1982. This event, it would seem from the numerous photographs, included all of the traditional picnic races, such as the three-legged, egg and spoon, sack and rolling the tire, as well as tug-of-war. Where would one get sacks for such a race nowadays?

**Have a safe
and enjoyable
summer
everyone!**



ST. GILES STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE TEA

I would like to thank all the people who helped with our Strawberry Shortcake Tea that was held at St. Giles Lower Hall on Saturday, May 26, 2012.

Thank you to Donna Russell who was invaluable with phoning; Diane Mascardelli, Susan Cooper and Arlene Simpson for culinary support; Jenny Thompson, Chris Brown and Susan Carmichael for organizing the front; Dawn Flint for organizing the bake table and all the servers, dishwashers and the wonderful bakers.

Thank you to Dewald Deport for advertising this event and to Ted Sampson for his background support.

Thank you to all who attended this event to support St.Giles.

Thank you to all those who so kindly lent us their precious and exquisite cups and saucers to help make our table arrangement so elegant.

I sincerely thank everyone from the bottom of my heart for making this event such a successful event.

Candace Siddall, Coordinator



Editors Note: The scrumptious shortcake was home-baked by Candace Siddall

THE 4TH ANNUAL ST.GILES FOLK NIGHT

The 4th Annual St.Giles Folk Night was held at St. Giles Lower Hall on Saturday, April 14, 2012. This event was once again a success with an attendance of approximately 100 people.

Great entertainment included our in-house talents and a special appearance by the Bel Canto Singers. Our thanks to Walter Cooper for making it possible for this group to share their special talents with us. We were also privileged to have the talented Paul Millar with us again this year, playing the guitar with some wonderful folk songs and having everyone in the audience participate in the singing. We had delightful performances from Jim Weisert and Jackie Wilson. Ian McKay played a few pieces on his guitar and also accompanied others in the performance.

An additional highlight of the evening was the father-daughter teams of Bill and Christine Woodward and Wendall and Gillian Siddall.

Special thanks to co-host, Eric Daly, and the team of helpers for an lovely evening of fun and entertainment. Thanks also to refreshment coordinator, Joanne Watson and all those who gave of their time and talent to make this a successful evening.

The proceeds of \$1,229.00 raised at this event was sent to Acadia Place.

Jason Gaskarth, Organizer and Music Coordinator

Plan on attending the 5th Annual St.Giles Folk Night... Coming Spring of 2013!

***Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
Psalm 119:105***

UPDATE FROM FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

The following is a brief update of the Facilities and Maintenance Committee. As you have probably noticed, the parking has been graded and widened to provide additional space for parking cars. Hopefully we will someday be able to increase the size so we will have enough room to park four rows. Painting in the lower hall continues and will provide for a busy summer. If you would like to help out just call Dennis Daly. The windows in the house are being replaced primarily to eliminate the single pane glass which probably should have been done years ago.

The church also has an important issue to consider related to leakage of water into the basement. This problem has been exacerbated by the substantial rainfall this year. We have a crack in the foundation on the east side and drainage issues which need to be considered.

Committee Members are:

Jack Alexander	Frazer Haliday
Walter Cooper	Dave McCormick
Lorne Cowan	Norm Miller
Dennis Daly (Coordinator)	Ted Samson
Jason Gaskarth	John Watson

UPDATE ON MISSION IN ACTION COMMITTEE

This spring our congregation continued to work toward helping to pay down the mortgage on Acadia Place, the 57 unit housing complex for families in Calgary who have experienced homelessness or who are at risk of becoming homeless. This is a joint effort between the Calgary Homeless Foundation and Kairos Calgary.

Your Mission Committee believes that the broad non-denominational involvement in the '**A Place To Call Home**' campaign and its goal in support of Acadia Place are consistent with the objectives of mission work at St. Giles and are deserving of a second year as the

principal external aid project of the congregation. Contributions from seasonal events may be possible, and the prayerful participation of our people is requested.

At the annual Folk Night which was organized by Jason Gaskarth and his team of helpers, a total of \$1229 was raised for this cause. As well, donations through the envelopes in the pews added to this amount.

Well done, everyone!

John McLean for the Mission in Action Committee

PRAYER AND SHARE...

The idea of this group is to start with a "cuppa" tea or coffee and just chat for a good half an hour or so. We light a candle to remind us of the presence of Christ in our midst.

The participants make note of concerns, thankfulness, world issues (perhaps) the list of people out of the bulletin to be prayed for, relatives, friends, etc. and then when we are all ready we take turns praying with our eye on the list (or not) but also remembering that simply being silent is a prayer.

Also new subjects arise as we are in process. All is confidential so we press the delete button as we close. It is wonderful to get to know one another in gentle sharing.

Our group meets in the Park Room on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm. Please feel welcome to join us at any time.

Joanne Watson, Coordinator

BETTY'S RUN FOR ALS

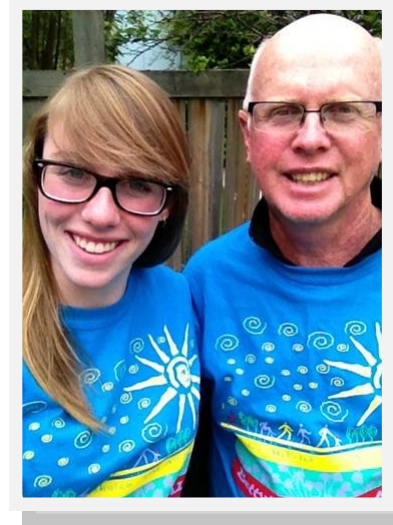
On Sunday, June 10, 2012 St. Giles Church had a presence at the annual Betty's Run for ALS. Our own Irene Savage was on the organizing committee and John and Katie Mclean participated in the 5 km walk. John and Katie received over \$600 in sponsorships from the folks at St. Giles and altogether the event raised somewhere in the neighbourhood of a half million dollars to support this most worthwhile cause.

Thank you to all who participated in any way to make this event a great success.

The ALS Society of Alberta is a non profit organization dedicated to making each day the best possible day for people living with and affected by ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis also known as Lou Gehrig's disease). The Society's vision is to provide support, facilitate the provision of care, promote awareness, help find a cure and advocating for change.



John McLean



John McLean with daughter Katie

Another Successful Emergency Evacuation Drill!



The weather cooperated and St. Giles held another successful Annual Emergency Evacuation Drill on Sunday, June 3rd.

This annual event is required by the Leading with Care Policy which addresses how the Presbyterian Church in Canada and its churches will ensure that all persons, and in particular all children, youth and vulnerable adults, will be cared for with Christian compassion and be safe in our buildings.

From the time the alarm went off to start the drill until the 'all clear', was less than three minutes – an excellent time. We also received some suggestions to improve the process that will be incorporated into our next drill.

Thank you to everyone who participated. It is reassuring to know that we will be prepared in case we ever are faced with an emergency.

Sandra Cameron Evans
for the Human Resources Committee



Farewell to Heather Tufford and Melissa Dios

Heather Tufford, our Nursery Worker for nearly four years, is making changes and will be moving on after June 24th. Heather's welcoming smile will be missed by all the parents and their little ones – plus the rest of us who enjoyed it every Sunday!

Melissa Dios, our Church Secretary, has been given the opportunity to fast track her studies as a Chartered Accountant. Her original two-year program will be packed into one year starting mid-July. Unfortunately for St. Giles, it means Melissa's last day with us was June 29th.

We wish them both God's blessing on their futures.

ST. GILES YARD SALE

In spite of extremely uncooperative weather the St. Giles "Yard Sale" proceeded on June 23rd. Thank you to the many people who contributed, helped unpack, priced, sold, ran our deli and packed up the left overs. In spite of the rain, we managed to clear over 1600.00. More importantly, this was an outreach into the community. Our Korean tenants joined us around 7:30am and made some purchases, people from the neighborhood dropped by and many of our own people had the pleasure of getting better acquainted with fellow members of the congregation as they assumed the position of salesperson I think the following sums it up.

Bernice Poon Convener

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We searched our cupboards, lockers and drawers,
 We cleared our decks, our walls our floors,
 We sacrificed, we chose, we could not fail,
 We were finding donations for the big "Yard" sale.

The lower hall cleared, the tables all set.
 In came the boxes and new people met.
 As we plowed through treasures saved for ten years,
 Giving Aunt Lizzie's sculpture near brought us to tears.

In the rain they wait for the time to arrive,
 The customers are buzzing like bees in a hive.
 At eight-thirty sharp they rush through the door,
 The quiet din has turned into a roar.

They bargain, they joke, they contemplate, they buy,
 No matter what price, it is always too high.
 But the stuff disappears at an amazing speed,
 Some to re-sale by dealers, some to people in need.

At the end of the day the left-overs we pack,
 And the results we hope are worth our sore back.
 Off to another charity we take the remains,
 And our money counters now tally our gains.

The sale is now over, a resounding success.
 Not just for the money we have to confess,
 But the camaraderie of people who take time to bother,
 To share in this task and just help each other.

Written by Bernice Poon

**Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.
 Mother Teresa**

HOW DARE YOU?

BY REV. DEWALD (DEWEY) DELPORT

Who could have thought that a High School commencement speech would get any attention, much less this much attention? Perhaps you have heard of it. It was a speech by an English teacher, David McCullough Jr., to the graduating class of Wellesley High School, Massachusetts.

Most media headlines read something like this: “You are not special” commencement speech.† An immediate reaction to a headline like this is, “How dare you?” An educator telling children they are not special, this is unheard of, isn’t it? We might be quite surprised though. Unlike what some headlines claimed, Mixed Responses to “You’re not special” commencement speech, the responses (at least online responses) have been overwhelmingly positive.

Sunday afternoon when I got home, I decided to listen to this speech. I understood the overwhelming positive reaction. (The Media has a way of getting people’s attention and there are biases whether we like it or not.)

McCullough Jr. is addressing a problem within our society. He is addressing something called **SELFISHNESS** – when **I** am important and **I** matter; you should always consider how **I** feel, and if **I** don’t like it then you are wrong; **I** cannot do anything wrong; if we don’t do it my way then you are inconsiderate (and yes, sometimes even hateful); **I** am special and because **I** am special (for whatever reason) we have to do it my way; **I** am special and if **I** don’t get my way my tantrums are justified; if **I** complain then **I** have just cause, but if you complain you are just being unreasonable.†† This problem not only runs its course through the society at large, but also (unfortunately I will add) within the community of faith.

“Selfishness is a problem within the community of faith you say, how dare you?!”

This does hit close to home. There may be some of you who agree and others who, perhaps, feel just a little offended. An inclination we have is to go into defensive mode and explain why people react certain ways or why this is not true or why it only extends to certain people (not us).

The challenge around selfishness is as old as humanity itself. Open the Bible to Genesis and within the first few chapters, whammo, selfishness rears its ugly head. The crafty serpent persuaded Eve to focus on herself rather

than God. All of a sudden it became about Eve, she was important, she was special (or not special), everything was about her. Her focus wasn’t God centered anymore but self-centered. Then we see how quickly things went from good to bad. Before too long Adam blamed Eve and God for what happened, “The woman You gave to be with me, she gave me the fruit from the tree, and I ate.” It is almost as if Adam is saying, “I am special, and everything went well, I am not to blame, I have just cause for my action someone else to be blamed.”

Both Adam and Eve acted very selfishly ... and look at the consequences: they were expelled from the garden.

The first murder in Scripture was also due to selfish behaviour. As the oldest son Cain was special. If he is special why can’t he get his way? Cain brought an offering of his crop and Abel brought the very best lambs he had. Cain brought some – perhaps as an after thought – Abel brought the very best he had to offer. The Lord had regard for Abel who brought his best. Cain was angry, “How dare you?!” He was the oldest, the special one, the one that has been there the longest, and it is he who matters not his youngest brother regardless of the offering he brought – he is still special. God said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it.” God is reminding Cain that it is not about him. Cain’s focus ought not to be so self-centered, but be focused on the Lord. Cain’s selfishness led to murder.

Even great people of faith struggle with this all too familiar trait. When we speak of a great people of faith quite often King David comes to mind. Beautiful Psalms are accredited to his penmanship. King David was no saint. He has his struggles with selfishness. There is the time when David saw Bathsheba wife of Uriah.

David liked what he saw. He had to get her for himself, and why not? He was the king appointed by God. He was special. And special people get what they want, right? Bathsheba was married. David wanted her. People should consider how he felt. He was special and his actions were justified. Bathsheba’s husband was at the front. David was special, and he was going to do this his way. The end result of David’s elation (descent is probably a better word, I guess it all depends on your view – i.e. focused on God or self) on himself as

(continued on page 10)

HOW DARE YOU?

(continued from page 9)

someone special was dire. He broke up a family, he lied, and murdered – and this is only scratching the surface.

There are many more examples; however, space prohibits us from mentioning anymore.

Humanity it seems has a desire to be concerned with selfishness. It is a trait as old as the mountains. Does that mean we accept this kind of behavior? The real world doesn't; unfortunately, we live like it does.

Ask people which trait or characteristic they admire in others and on the top of the list we find **selflessness**. Selflessness is what we desire in the world; it is what the world yearns for. Nay, it cries for it.

Selflessness is God's desire for humanity. There are people today who think the Ten Commandments are out of date and useless for a post-modern pluralistic civilization. (Oh, how far have we human beings fallen?) If anything the Ten Commandments teaches us to be selfless. We are to focus on God, because when our focus is God then we realize that it is not just "I" who have been created in the image of God, but "We" are created in the image of God. Now our perspective is changing. The world doesn't revolve around the individual person only. To say, "you shall not murder," is that not teaching us that all life is special in the eyes of God?

Micah 6:8 has often been quoted by people. I wonder if we realize how important those words are: "What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God." God requires us to be selfless! God requires us to focus on others and not ourselves.

As I was writing this article I thought about the Gospel. We are a Good News people. And the Good News is that Jesus Christ, who is the supreme example of selflessness, shows us how we can be selfless. I believe this is very important not only for the Christian community, but for humanity. God's purpose for us is to be selfless.

I have heard, more times than I can count, these words, "But that is human." This is often used for an excuse for some kind of behavior or human lack of understanding and doing. I am not persuaded by this argument anymore. I have often heard it express that as human beings we better ourselves. I think that means we try to live a better life. If it is a human trait to better ourselves, then why are so reluctant to better ourselves and truly

adopt a life of selflessness – a life that acknowledges that everyone is special because everyone has been created in the image of God?†††

How can we be selfless? How can we be the people God requires us to be? Paul says to the church in Ephesus, "Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Be imitators of God – be selfless.

And then you too will discover the great and curious truth of the human experience is that selflessness is the best thing you can do for yourself. The sweetest joys of life, then, come only with the recognition that you're not special. Because everyone is. ~

David McCullough Jr.

The joy of the Christian life meets us when we realize God's call to selflessness because everyone is loved by God.

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† If you like to read or listen to this speech you can do so by going to:

[http://bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/20120607youre\\_not\\_special](http://bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/20120607youre_not_special)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfxYhtf8o4>

†† English, unlike some other languages, uses the same word for the plural and singular second person personal pronoun: **you**. If you listen to or read McCullough Jr. speech please note that in the beginning he uses "you" in the singular and at the very end he uses "you" in the plural. That is why at the definition for selfishness I used "I."

††† I think this is very beautifully illustrated in John 3:16 and 17 "God so loved the world" – that includes more than one person; "not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him" – we are saved through the selfless act of Jesus on the cross a great act of love. It is also true that not everyone accepts or acknowledges this act of selflessness - unfortunately.

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# UofA and SAIT Graduates

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On June 7, 2012, **Thomas Peter Cowan** graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering Option, Cooperative Program. Thomas had two summer internships with Encana lasting 18 months and one 8-month term with the City of Edmonton. Thomas achieved excellent academic standing and recognition through his time at UofA, including the David Johnston Memorial Award for outstanding contribution to residence life from the Lister Hall student's association which was a labor of love.

Thomas is working on a potable water pipeline from St. Albert to Wabamun Lake for DCL Seimens, a 35-person engineering firm in Edmonton specializing in municipal projects in smaller towns in Alberta.

Thomas hopes to travel for a year and return to graduate studies in environmental engineering.

Proud parents are Lorne Cowan and Jeanne Phené and sister, Theresa.

## Congratulations

In May 2012, **Alexander (Sandy) McKay** graduated from the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology with a diploma in Information Technology, majoring in Software Development, a two-year program of studies. Software Development encompasses a variety of activities including the design, implementation, testing and maintenance of software systems.

Sandy plans to stay in Calgary and is actively looking for work in his field.

Proud parents are Ian and Helen McKay.

**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**

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## High School Graduates

**Evelyn Moorhouse**, graduated from William Aberhart High School and has been accepted at the University of Toronto where she will enter the Faculty of Science in 2013. In the near term, having been part of the Alberta squash team at last year's Canada Winter Games in Halifax, Evelyn plans to take several months of special training in Amsterdam and London toward gaining a place on Canada's National Squash Team.

Proud parents are John Moorhouse and Teresa Zwierzchowski; and brother, Brendan.

Evelyn is the granddaughter of Michael and Margaret Moorhouse

## Congratulations!

**Gavin Moorhouse** graduated from Fort Frances High School in Northwestern Ontario as class valedictorian with honours in academics and athletics. In September Gavin will enter Lakehead University in Thunder Bay to study Mechanical Engineering.

Proud parents are Dr. Cameron Moorhouse and Rita Moorhouse; and brother, Jesse.

Gavin is the grandson of Michael and Margaret Moorhouse.

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### *WHERE IN THE WORLD?*

**T**his summer, wherever you go, snap a picture of yourself that gives a clue about where you visited. In September we will post the pictures in the Narthex and have a change to guess where everyone went. For example, if you visit the Zoo, you could take a picture of yourself with a penguin in the background. Maybe your picture will have the Taj Mahal behind you. Wherever you go and whatever you do, we hope you have a pleasant summer.

Remember to snap those pictures!

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# High School Graduates

*Thank you to Helen McKay and Heather Mackie for compiling this information on our young graduates.*



**Meghan Gray** graduated from Rundle College Senior High School. This fall, Meghan plans to attend St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, to pursue her studies in International Relations.  
Proud parents are Jeffrey and Jan Gray, and sister Erin.  
Meghan is the granddaughter of Bill and June Stephen.

## Congratulations

**Kira Daly** graduated from William Aberhart High School. This fall, Kira plans to attend the University of Calgary to pursue her studies in psychology and sociology.  
Proud parents are Dennis Daly and Bree Greenway; and sisters, Shanna and Nola.

**Rachelle Browne** graduated from William Aberhart High School. Rachelle is taking a year off to travel in Europe and on her return to Calgary plans to gain some work experience before going to university next year.  
Proud parents are Alan and Gail Browne; brother, Nathaniel; and sister, Ryleigh.  
Rachelle is the granddaughter of Chris Browne.

**Christopher Virtue** graduated from William Aberhart High School. Christopher plans to attend the University of Waterloo in Ontario to pursue his studies in Mechetronic Engineering.  
Proud parents are Judd and Krista Virtue; and brother Nathan.  
Christopher is the grandson of Verna Purcell.

# Choir News

BY MARNI STROME

Our choir was the guest performing group at a concert with Crescent Heights High School choir in May. The high school students enjoyed mingling with our choir members over pizza before the concert, and then singing with them, and listening to their lovely rendition of "I Dreamed of Rain". Rev. Dewald (Dewey) Delpont and Don Schraefel kindly took some pictures!

We had our annual choir wrap up for the year, hosted again by Irene Savage, and enjoyed the only night all week that had not seen rain! We were able to sit outside and enjoy each other's company before we had a short rehearsal around Irene's piano.

We have also been happy to welcome Terry Hagen, our newest singer to the choir!

Our choir members will be taking a well-deserved break over the summer months, but we look forward to resuming our practices in the fall, where we will continue to bring a wide variety of choral styles to Sunday worship services. New members are welcome any time – first rehearsal of the fall will be on **Thursday September 6th at 7:30pm.**



Crescent Heights High School Choir and St. Giles Choir



## Baptism

*"Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to him, saying, 'Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God'" (Luke 18:15-16).*



On Sunday, April 15, 2012, it was a special privilege for our congregation to welcome into Christ's Church by Baptism,

**Hayla June Hawke**

infant daughter of Lesley and Robert Hawke

To share in this very special occasion were grandparents, Rose and Al Hawke and Ingrid and Keith Maybury

Also attending were many family members and friends.

# Church School News

BY HEATHER MACKIE

The Church School officially ended its year on June 10<sup>th</sup> with our Recognition Sunday service and a potluck luncheon. The children in Church School were all given a book and the teachers and substitutes all received Tim Horton's gift cards to thank them for teaching.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup> we had a Church School wind-up and had 16 children/parents enjoy an evening of bowling. A great time was had by both the kids and the parents as we enjoyed regular bowling and then some goofy stuff where we stood on one leg, bowled with our backs to the pins.

Now that our year is over we are looking towards the summer and the fall. Vacation Bible School will be held on July 16–20<sup>th</sup> and the planning is well under way.

For fall we will be using a new curriculum for the Grades 4-7 children and we will be going back to using the Young Children and Worship curriculum for the Preschool-Grade 3 children. While we greatly appreciate the teachers we currently have, we are also in need of some new teachers or substitutes. If anyone is interested in learning more about teaching you can talk to me at any time. As Dewey said at the Recognition Sunday service – if you come talk we won't commit you to teaching all year but you can find out more about it and we would let you teach as little or as much as your wish.

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

## MID-WEEK PRAISE

“The church lives to praise God. We have no higher calling than to offer the worship that belongs to God day by day...”

*Living Faith 7.3.1*

Worship extends beyond the *traditional* Sunday Morning worship service because worship is part of life for the follower of God. Worship includes what we do and say, and it is about how we interact with other people. Worship is something we do as an individual, but it is also something we do together.

Close to the end of 2011 it was decided to provide the folks who call St. Giles home an opportunity to worship together on a Wednesday evening once a month. This also provides an opportunity for friends and family who work on Sunday to worship together.

During mid-week praise we sing some old songs and some new songs, we sing some we know quite well and others we haven't heard before, we listen to Scripture read both from *The Message* (a modern paraphrase) and the *New Revised Standard Version* of the Bible (the pew Bibles), we pray together, and a few times a year we gather around the table serving one another the bread and wine as we remember God's redeeming love to us.

Everyone is invited to come and join us on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm in worship, after all “we have no higher calling than to offer the worship that belongs to God ...”

### *On the Lighter Side*

#### LOT'S WIFE

*The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot 's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt , when little Jason interrupted , 'My Mommy looked back once while she was driving ,' he announced triumphantly , 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'*

## **COMMENTS FROM YOUR REPRESENTATIVE ELDER ON PRESBYTERY BY SANDRA CAMERON EVANS**

The Presbytery met at Knox Presbyterian Church in Bassano on May 29, 2012.

- Enthusiasms and Concerns Regarding the Ministries of the Presbytery
  - St. John's, Medicine Hat is partnering with Alberta Health Services on a street clinic as part of their downtown outreach.
  - St. Paul's, Banff has started a new ministry during the lunch hour for the local workforce.
  - Rev. Delpont announced the covenant between St. Giles and the CKEC. The joint Youth Group has up to 18 participants at monthly events.
- Strategy and Leadership
  - With the retirement of Tom Brownlee, the contract with the Solicitor General of Alberta to provide Chaplaincy service has ended.
  - Funding from the Riverside Legacy and the Bethlen Church Legacy was approved for youth and adult advisors attending Canada Youth 2012.
- Imagining Ministry Team
  - MACG (Calgary Metro Alliance for the Common Good) is working with the Calgary Poverty Reduction Initiative (a joint initiative of the City of Calgary & the United Way) on a strategy to reduce poverty in Calgary.
  - Rev. Ollerenshaw will be the Presbytery's liaison with Westminster Presbyterian Church as they begin a pilot project for a Ministry Point in North Calgary as well as with the new Ghanaian worshipping community.
  - St. Andrew's, Calgary has been working on envisioning ministry opportunities south of Fish Creek using funds provided from the assets of Trinity Church.
  - Opportunities for Presbyters to gather for learning and fellowship outside of Presbytery meetings have continued monthly.

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

- Interim Moderator's Report for Knox
  - Knox Session has invited a candidate to preach for a call on June 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Interim Moderator's Report for Calvin Hungarian
  - A Search Committee has been formed to pursue the search for Stated Supply.
- Presbytery Representative Report for Grace
  - Grace has been working on the search for an Associate Minister for Pastoral Care and hopes to invite a candidate to preach for the call on June 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Presbytery Youth Ministry Committee Report
  - The committee has been very busy with arrangements for Canada Youth 2012. At last count there were 15 youth, 4 Adult Advisors and 2 Mission Track participants.

- Pastoral Effectiveness Group
  - Pastoral Relationships with Congregations
    - ⇒ Presbytery approved in principle the creation of a position description for a General Presbyter to serve within the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod.
  - Education for Effective Leadership & Policy Implementation
    - ⇒ A Presbytery Workshop, open to everyone, is scheduled for Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup> with 2 different themes: Ministry with Seniors and Ministry with Youth.
  - Pastoral Relationships with Individuals in Ministry
    - ⇒ Presbytery approved the recommendation that Rev. Chebinez Napoleon be allowed to meet with the PCC Committee on Education and Reception.
- Corrections Chaplaincy Report
  - Rev. Tom Brownlee in his last report on his Chaplaincy was thankful for the people he had worked with on both sides of the bars and grateful for Presbytery's support.

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

- The Presbyterian Church in Canada
  - WMS – Marlene LaMontagne, Incoming Synodical President, spoke of the successful Synodical meeting.
- Synod of Alberta and the Northwest
  - Rev. Ollerenshaw reported on the different ways she is available to ministers, congregations and presbyteries helping groups explore the direction of their leadership and mission.
  - Camp Kannawin – Tim McNeil, Director at Camp Kannawin, gave an update on the staffing needs of the camp for the upcoming summer.
- KAIROS
  - Douglas Mitchell provided a report on the KAIROS Lethbridge Committee.
  - Acadia Place had a spring clean up and was also needing food donations and volunteers for the Canada Day Party.
- Calgary Council of Christians and Jews
  - Rev. Jean Morris is the new Presbyterian Representative to the Council.
- Enthusiasms and Concerns Regarding our Partnerships
  - Rev. Nancy Cocks talked about the visit of Rev. Erin Phillips, Chaplain at the University of Lethbridge, to St. John's, Medicine Hat, where she shared the challenges of her ministry and her energy in fulfilling it.

### **Administrative Committee**

- The Rolls and Records of St. Giles were attested as neatly and correctly kept.
- Presbytery approved the terms of the agreement between Varsity Acres Church and Rev. Jon Crowdis as minister in association.

**Next Meeting** –Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at St. Giles.  
Presbytery is open to guests; consider joining us as an observer.



## **FINANCIAL UPDATE TO MAY 2012**

### **BY TED SAMSON**

As we reach the Summer of 2012, we can now see better how this year may unfold from a budgetary sense. After the first two months of 2012, the revenue for January and February left us with a deficit of \$10,545.

In March, income was less than \$14,000 but our expenses were close to budget, giving us a deficit of \$15,684 after three months.

Then came April. With 5 Sundays including Easter, Good Friday, the Folk Night receipts and the PAR deposit, our income jumped by \$26,749. With expenses close to budget, the deficit decreased to \$7,475.

By May, with income and expenses roughly the same, the deficit increased by only \$289 to \$7,764.

Here are the income and expenditure figures for the months of March, April and May:

#### **FINANCIAL OVERVIEW FOR APRIL AND MAY**

|            | March    | April    | May      | YTD      | Budget   |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Revenue    | \$13,829 | \$26,749 | \$17,066 | \$89,221 | \$95,910 |
| Expenses   | 18,968   | 18,540   | 17,355   | 96,985   | 95,910   |
| Difference | (*5,139) | 8,209    | (*289)   | (*7,764) | 0        |

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

The expenses after five months are very close to the budget. However, revenue is some \$6,700 short. Last year at this time, our income was almost \$17,000 below budget and our deficit was close to \$25,000.

With the summer months coming, I hope all members and adherents of St. Giles will be able to keep their givings up-to-date, so that our deficit does not balloon too much while people are away on vacation.

## **ST. GILES LIBRARY...**



Come and browse the lovely selection of newly purchased and donated publications. We continue to use the honor system for lending books. Borrowers are asked to fill in their name, phone number, the titles of the books they are taking and the date in the coil bound scribbler provided. When returning the books, mark down the date of return beside the book titles and place your books in the basket.

The Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Committee is planning an organizational day in the library on Saturday, April 21, 2012. Anyone with library skills who wishes to share their expertise would be most welcome.

Please continue to make use of the library and enjoy the publications provided for you by your church family.

For the GIFT Committee

Ivy Mewha

### *On the Lighter Side*

*On my way home one day, I stopped to watch a Little League baseball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was 'We're behind 14 to nothing,' he answered with a smile. 'Really,' I said... 'I have to say you don't look very discouraged.' 'Discouraged?', the boy asked with a puzzled look on his face...*

*'Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet.'*

## THE GIFT OF HANDS

We so often take the gifts we are given for granted, overlooking simple moments along the journey of life--accomplishments, milestones, challenges. It is in the everyday, ordinary joys and hardships that we can find true inspiration. In Hands, Melinda Clements reminds us that every aspect of our existence is a miracle, even the hands God gave us to undertake the mundane tasks and grand adventures in life--to plow fields, hold our children, save lives, and touch the face of God.

<><><>

**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.***

<><><>

No doubt I will never look at my hands the same again. I never saw the old man again after I left the park that day but I will never forget him and the words he spoke. When my hands are hurt or sore or when I stroke the face of those I love, I think of the man in the park. I have a feeling he has been stroked and caressed and held by the hands of God. I, too, want to touch the face of God and feel his hands upon my face. Thank you, Father God, for hands.

*Written by Melinda Clements in 2004 and published on May 1st 2008 by Olive Tree Press.*

## LECTIONARY SCRIPTURES FOR PENTECOST 1, 2012

**FOCUS  
PASSAGES**

June 3  
*Sensing God*

June 10  
*Listening to God*

June 17  
*Seeing Beyond*

June 24  
*In Pursuit of  
Justice*

July 1  
*Healing  
Community*

July 8  
*Partners in  
Ministry*

July 15  
*Brought  
Together*

July 22  
*Vision of Unity*

July 29  
*God Is with Us*

August 5  
*Unity in  
Community*

August 12  
*Christ-like Living*

August 19  
*Living Wisdom*

August 26  
*Strengthened  
and Equipped*



**June 3, 2012**

**Isaiah 6:1–8**

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12–17

John 3:1–17

**June 10, 2012**

**1 Samuel 8:4–11, (12–15),  
16–20, (11:14–15)**

Psalm 138

2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

Mark 3:20–35

**June 17, 2012**

**1 Samuel 15:34—16:13**

Psalm 20

2 Corinthians 5:6–10, (11–  
13), 14–17

Mark 4:26–34

**June 24, 2012**

**1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4–11, 19–  
23), 32–49**

Psalm 9:9–20

2 Corinthians 6:1–13

Mark 4:35–41



**July 1, 2012**

**Mark 5:21–43**

2 Samuel 1:1, 17–27

Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 8:7–15

**July 8, 2012**

**Mark 6:1–13**

2 Samuel 5:1–5, 9–10

Psalm 48

2 Corinthians 12:2–10

**July 15, 2012**

**Ephesians 1:3–14**

2 Samuel 6:1–5, 12b–19

Psalm 24

Mark 6:14–29

**July 22, 2012**

**Ephesians 2:11–22**

2 Samuel 7:1–14a

Psalm 89:20–37

Mark 6:30–34, 53–56

**July 29, 2012**

**John 6:1–21**

2 Samuel 11:1–15

Psalm 14

Ephesians 3:14–21



**August 5, 2012**

**Ephesians 4:1–16**

2 Samuel 11:26—12:13a

Psalm 51:1–12

John 6:24–35

**August 12, 2012**

**Ephesians 4:25—5:2**

2 Samuel 18:5–9, 15,31–33

Psalm 130

John 6:35, 41–51

**August 19, 2012**

**Ephesians 5:15–20**

1 Kings 2:10–12; 3:3–14

Psalm 111

John 6:51–58

**August 26, 2012**

**Ephesians 6:10–20**

1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10–11),  
22–30, 41–43

Psalm 84

John 6:56–69



### ***The Blessedness of Dwelling in the House of God***

***How lovely is Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, even faints for the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Psalm 84:1-2***

# UPCOMING EVENTS



WORSHIP SERVICES ARE HELD EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM

- ★ July 8.....**Stampede Brunch (see below)**  
Come and bring a friend - all are welcomed.
- ★ July 16-20.....**Vacation Bible School at St. Giles**
- ★ September 9.....**Fall Welcome-Back Luncheon**  
Please join us for a Luncheon in the Lower Hall following our Worship Service.
- ★ October 7 ..... **Worldwide Community Service.**  
The first Sunday in October, during which members of ecumenical churches throughout the world celebrate Holy Communion
- ★ October 7 ..... **Thanksgiving Sunday**

*Special thanks and appreciation to our Music Director, Marni Strome, our organists/pianists Esther Woelfle, Lori Chang-Foid 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 with family and friends

## 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".

**Time: After our regular worship service**

**Place: The Garden**



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