



WHAT'S UP?

ST. GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Spring 2015 Issue

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

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

On the last Monday in February, I drove 2½ hours to visit the gem of Yoho National Park—Emerald Lake. This might be very far to drive for a five kilometer hike, but it was worth it; even though a clear blue sky did not welcome me that day, a little later the sun smiled upon anyone who had braved the outdoors.

The sky may be overcast and dull, it may be snowy and windy, and it may be a long drive, but a trip to the Rockies is always a remedy for the soul. When I go to the Rockies to hike or snowshoe it also means I have to give up something. I have to give up time. I have to give up sleeping-in as I get up at 5:00 am to leave by 6:00 am. I have to give up cleaning my house. I have to give up watching a movie on Netflix. I have to give up a home cooked meal.

Yet, I'll give up any or all of these things in the blink of an eye because others and I benefit from the trip. Others benefit from the trip because I have two friends who go with me (and anyone of you are welcome to join me at 6:00 am on a Monday morning). Others benefit from it as I share pictures from the trip. Others benefit as I write a little blog on my webpage about the experience and often times include in it something related to faith and God. I benefit from it as well.

This made me think about Lent. When it arrives people talk about what they will give up, something that will make them suffer a little. So, we give up things such as coffee and suffer the headaches and those around us suffer from our irritability. We give up chocolate, which we love, and

our craving for chocolate and talking about how we miss the rich-creamy taste make others roll their eyes. We do this selfish suffering which make us feel miserable and, frankly, benefits no one.

What's - Inside?

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

When we think about Jesus we see something different. Yes, Jesus suffered on the cross. But, why? Was it for Himself? No. It was for us and it was in obedience to God the Father.

His example gives us guidance for Lent. Instead of a selfish-suffering that we do for ourselves, why don't we do something for others?

For Lent why don't we become generous in prayer? Prayer benefits others. When someone says that they pray for you it really does something for your soul. Prayer not only benefits others, it also benefits us as we grow in our relationship with God.

This Lent why not strive to become generous in care and visitation as well as generous in kind and encouraging words. This also benefits others as we cultivate a relationship with them, while we embrace a spirit of care. It also benefits us because we get to know the other person, share prayers with them, support them, and listen to them.

This season of Lent we are encouraged to look at the Cross of Christ and to see what He has done. Jesus gave to others; through Him we have mercy, grace, hope, and love. His walk on earth and death on the cross was for our benefit. As He gave to others so that we may enjoy these benefits through what He gave up, may we also seek what we can do for others so that they may experience God's Grace.



Lenten Blessings,
Rev. Dewald (Dewey) Delport

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 Members and Friends of St. Giles,

This issue of *What's Up?* with its descriptions of workshops, Bible studies, committee reports and various programs and special events is filled with information on the myriad activities at St. Giles. If anyone thinks that the congregation only meets on Sunday mornings for an hour, then even a cursory reading of this newsletter will come as a surprise. And, while at first glance they may seem a collection of random activities, they are in fact consistent with our mission statement,

"to nurture a vibrant Christian life, to grow in our relationship with God, to care for the community and dare to follow Christ into the world!"

But, in amongst the descriptions of these activities, this Spring edition of *What's Up?* has a theological focus on Lent. This may lead some of us to ask, "What exactly is Lent?" It's a term we often hear in the weeks prior to Easter and so we know that it is somehow connected with this great Christian celebration, but beyond that things become fuzzy for many of us.

Simply put, Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of reflection on Jesus' death, burial and resurrection, and it commonly involves some sort of fasting or giving up of certain types of luxuries as a form of penitence. This practice is an ancient one; Irenaeus, writing near the close of the second century, remarks on the various ways in which the pre-Easter fast was observed, "For some think they ought to fast for one day, others for two days, others even for several, while others reckon forty hours both of day and night to their fast."

The history of Lent is complicated, but in the Western Church has long been set as the 40 days before Easter, Sundays not being included in the count. It begins on Ash Wednesday, so called because of the ancient practice of placing ashes on worshippers' heads or foreheads as both a sign of humility before God, and a symbol of mourning and sorrow at the ruin that sin brings into the world.

Of course, as with so many things, it has become common to trivialise Lent and make a token gesture of foregoing something we may enjoy but does not involve a significant sacrifice. This brings us to the Minister's Message (page 1) which all of us should read carefully and think about, as well as the excerpts from the 2015 Lenten liturgies which may be found on page 13.

Best wishes for the Lenten season and Easter,
Denis Mascardelli for the Editorial Team

Editors Note: We welcome Denis Mascardelli to the Editorial Team. Denis is a faithful member of St. Giles and he brings a wealth of Biblical and theological knowledge to us.

NOTEWORTHY

Dear Pastoral Care Committee and Prayer Shawl Ministry,
The beautiful red Prayer Shawl which arrived for my Mom's 95th birthday and the lovely cards are so very much appreciated.

Thank you for keeping Rena in your thoughts and prayers.

Affectionately,
Barbara Vincent

Greetings to all at St. Giles,

Thanks for the hand-crafted Christmas greeting card from the Sunday School children and teachers. My thanks to Chris Browne for sending me a copy of "What's Up?" and also a copy of the Annual Report.

I am happy to report that the Bartons are all well and have wonderful memories of our time at St. Giles.

My best wishes throughout 2015.

Blessings,
Dorothy Barton

**FROM THE ARCHIVES:
THE STORY OF ST. GILES' STAINED GLASS CONTINUES –
THE CENTENNIAL WINDOWS, 1973 TO 1975
BY JANET ASTLE**

In the last *What's Up?* I wrote about the installation of the first four stained glass windows in the sanctuary of St. Giles. In this edition, I will continue the story by writing about the three Centennial windows... and the St. Giles mouse.

The previous article ended in 1973, when the church had three stained glass windows on its east side and one on the west side. The last of those had barely been dedicated, in June 1973, when the St. Giles Centennial Committee suggested that a fifth be installed. This purpose of this committee was to find means to celebrate the upcoming Centennial of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in 1975. It also appears that artist Victor Thompson, who had designed the previous three windows, was eager to make a window on the theme of St Giles, Patron Saint of the Poor. Session agreed to instigate a memorial window fund and, in true Presbyterian fashion, a committee was created to administer the fund. By December of that year, \$635 had been raised towards the ultimate cost of \$2,450.

In March of 1974, Session agreed that the theme should be about Saint Giles, and that, as there was some confusion developing about the St Giles name representing both the church and the window, the latter was to be known as the Centennial Window in future. Session was obviously on a roll, as it also decided that the window should fill in the remaining gap on the east side of the church and that, in keeping with the theme of charity, there would be no panel of individual memorial names included in the window. Instead the window would contain the words, *This centennial window is placed here in loving memory of all God's servants from this church who have 'fought the good fight and finished their course.'* While the window does not list particular names the Book of Remembrance does mention that the window is in memory of Mrs. R. McChasney, Mr. Wm. Duncan, Mr. Jack Inglis, Mr. Andrew Ramage, and Charles Glenn Clarke, and was funded in part by bequests from the estates of Mrs. Jean Ritchie and Mrs. Jessie Gilbert.

By May 1974, Mr. Thompson had submitted a sketch of the proposed Centennial window. I suspect this was one of Victor's favourite designs at the time, as he certainly put a lot of detail into it. He portrayed St Giles sitting in the wilderness and holding a deer. It is not quite clear to me whether it is the deer or St Giles that has been wounded with an arrow. This may have been deliberate on the artist's

part, as there are many myths surrounding St Giles and few known facts. The saint was born of Athenian parents in the mid 7th century. His piety and, possibly, miracle working brought him more adulation than he wished, so he moved to Southern France, where he retreated into the dense forest near Nîmes. There are various stories about the deer but one mentions that it fled to him for protection while being chased by the King's hunters. The hunter shot an arrow that missed the deer but hit St. Giles instead.

For the Centennial window, Mr. Thompson moved St. Giles from the forests of France to the Alberta wilderness. At his feet he placed a riot of local plants including Alberta rose, Western wood lily, Indian paintbrush, hare bells, Western Anemone and Feather moss. The theme of wilderness was continued in the upper panel of the window, where there is a stag and running water, which is taken from Psalm 42 "As pants the hart." The lower panel continues the theme of charity and sharing by showing a man giving a bowl to a child in front of a flaming heart. Underneath is the banner: "Presbyterian 1875-1975 Centennial." As with all the windows Victor carefully balanced the shade of background blue so that it is not as dark as the window closest to the chancel, but not as light as the windows further back in the nave.

Fundraising continued for the window and by mid-September the fund was only \$200 short of the \$2,450 required. The window was to be dedicated at Thanksgiving, but there was a delay in finding just the right coloured glass (as time went on this seemed to become more and more of a problem), so the window was eventually dedicated on December 1, 1974. This is an appropriate time of the year, as far as I am concerned, because the low winter sun shines directly through St Giles' red "halo" during the morning service, casting gorgeous jewel hues across the sanctuary.

There were now stained glass windows all along the east side of the church, but still only one on the west side. No sooner had the New Year begun than The Rev. Dr. Crawford wondered if there was the possibility of a congregational family funding a window to commemorate the Rev. Angus Robertson, founder of the first Presbyterian church in Calgary. Dr. Crawford had been doing considerable research on the history of the Presbyterian church in the Calgary area, and had written a book *Blue Flame in the Foothills* that was published in 1975.

(continued on page 4)

FROM THE ARCHIVES: THE STORY OF ST. GILES' STAINED GLASS CONTINUES – THE CENTENNIAL WINDOWS, 1973 TO 1975

(continued from page 3)

David wrote that the Rev. Angus Robertson was the first Presbyterian minister to serve the inhabitants of the fledgling Calgary after arriving in 1883, just a few months before the train rails arrived. Up until that time there had been only Catholic and Methodist missions ministering to the local inhabitants. The Rev. Robertson worked tirelessly in Calgary for two years before following the train lines farther west to serve in the rough frontier town of Donald. There he contracted typhoid at the age of about 43, and ultimately died. His funeral, which included the text that is included in our stained glass window, was held at Knox Presbyterian Church in Calgary. Whilst living in Calgary, the Rev. Robertson had been concerned that there was no cemetery for Protestants (everyone was buried in the Catholic cemetery) so he had suggested the location and the name, Union Cemetery (presumably that came from uniting all the Protestants in one spot). This idea had taken six years to become a reality; just in time, sadly, for him to be the first person to be buried there. By the mid 1970s his memorial stone had become quite eroded and David Crawford, as clerk of the Calgary presbytery, oversaw its restoration.

By March 1975, two windows had been commissioned, at a cost of \$3,220 each, which completed the trio of windows installed to celebrate the Presbyterian Centennial. The Watson families (including John Watson's uncles who were very interested in the idea) donated the Daniel window in memory of the Rev. Angus Robertson, while Mrs. Dora Terrell and Mrs Pat Salter sponsored the Holy Family window.

There appeared to be few problems with the making of these windows and *The Return of the Holy Family* was dedicated first on July 27, 1975. The upper panel shows the angel of the Lord advising the Holy Family to return from Egypt. The large centre panel shows Mary and Joseph en route with Jesus leading the donkey. Their halo does double duty as the circle of eternal life, while within it are the guiding stars. The lowest panel contains a daisy as a symbol for the Christ child and three fish representing the Trinity. The dedication panel includes the two donors, Dora Terrel and Pat Salter as well as Molly (Bunny) Richmond (all three were sisters). Victor also included a small surprise in this window, as there is a spider, sitting inside its web close to the donkey's feet. This must drive the fish below wild; it is not surprising that they are eternally circling around!

The last of the Centennial windows, *Daniel standing by a purpose true*, was dedicated on October 26, 1975. The lowest panel contains an image of the Rev. Angus Robertson, to whom the window is dedicated, drawn from a photograph taken while he was living in Calgary. There are also the words, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might." The upper panel shows the stylized burning bush that was the symbol for the 1975 Centennial of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The large central window shows Daniel with the lions. John Watson remembers Victor Thompson saying that he believed Daniel to be a very orderly person and so Daniel's halo has a geometric design. The dedication panel beneath the lions' feet finishes with what appears to be a tiny JA with a quarter circle beneath. This is supposed to represent the historic horse brand of the Watson family, which actually consists of a backwards L, with a lazy A (on its side) above the quarter circle. John Watson's grandfather arrived in the Calgary area in 1901, so he would not have met Angus Robertson, but John told me that, as a young man, he did date a woman who eventually married a member of the extended Robertson family. The Daniel window is unique as far as the archives go because we have a series of photographic slides following its development, from research of the design to installation.

Not all the coloured glass at St Giles is in the sanctuary. We take the glass in the old narthex for granted but that was originally clear and it made for some very hot mornings when the sun was streaming in. The Women of the Church supplemented a gift made by Mr. and Mrs. C.M. Simmons to install coloured glass there. This glass was installed and dedicated in early October 1975.

Oh, I did mention a mouse didn't I? Well, that little creature has now delighted several generations of children. He is to be found peeping out from beneath the harebells in the St. Giles window. I suspect Mr. Thompson was following the traditions of some of the English cathedrals that have a mouse carved into the woodwork.

Here I will leave you with just nineteen clear glass windows left in the sanctuary to be replaced with stained glass. NINETEEN, you ask? Well, you will have to wait for the next instalment to find our more.

Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going. Ecclesiastes 9:10 (NKJV)

ST. GILES STAINED GLASS WINDOWS NEED REPAIR

St. Giles has begun a project to repair the beautiful stained glass windows in our sanctuary. In his letter (see below) to friends of St. Giles, Rev. Dewald Delpport shared the history of these windows and how many of us feel these jewels add to the reverence of the space.

Fifty years ago, 12 donors gave \$100 each for a memorial stained glass window at the request of St. Giles' first minister, Rev. H.L. Simpson. However, the intervening time and elements have not been kind to the windows.

Dear Friends of St. Giles,

Every congregation has that something that makes it unique. St. Giles is blessed with eight large stained glass windows and quite a few smaller ones. It is hard to imagine what the sanctuary would look like without these jewels.

Perhaps some of you remember the days when clear glass windows were in the sanctuary. Many of you, I am sure, appreciate the beauty the stained glass windows have added to the sanctuary. These windows are enjoyed by old and young alike, by those who worship here every Sunday and by those who join us for worship once in a while. Many people have commented on their beauty and, in particular, how they add to the reverence of the sanctuary as this beauty reminds us of Jesus Christ.

I am sure that you have enjoyed the stained glass windows and have felt the peace, grace, and serenity they have added to the sanctuary and our worship. These windows are a legacy we would like others to enjoy as well.

The stained glass windows have been part of St. Giles for more than 40 years. In fact, the first one—Christ the Good Shepherd—has adorned the sanctuary for 49 years. Over the years, gravity, the elements and nature have not been kind to these precious jewels. The windows are now bulging (some much more than others), putting pressure on the glass. As a consequence, quite a few of the glass pieces that make up the stained glass windows have cracked. Unfortunately, we cannot simply replace the broken pieces of glass because it is very likely that the pieces of glass will cascade and when this happens the whole window will be ruined. This means taking the stained glass windows out, then transporting them to the workshop of the glass artist who will then straighten the window, remove the bulge and replace all the cracked pieces of glass. After this, the window will be reinstalled to make sure that it can carry the load.

The cost of the repairs comes in at over \$3,000 per window

If we wish to continue to enjoy them, major repairs are needed. We are looking at an approximate cost of \$4,500 per large window (quoted in 2015).

If you feel able to make a donation towards the repairs, please send it to St. Giles and indicate it is for the "Stained Glass Windows"

Please pray for this endeavor that we may be able to pass on the legacy of these unique windows.

Sandra Cameron Evans

or over \$24,000 for the eight big stained glass windows as quoted in 2014.

Fifty years ago, the Rev. H.L. Simpson, the first minister at St. Giles, requested 12 donors to contribute \$100 each towards a memorial stained glass window. Twelve saints generously contributed and a legacy was born. And now 50 years later, I ask you, the friends of St. Giles, to look into your hearts and to consider making a donation towards the repair of the stained glass windows. Together we can pass on a legacy that was born 50 years ago, so that many more people may enjoy the peace, grace and serenity that the sanctuary offers.

I would like share with you a short story that was told by the current moderator of the General Assembly, the Rev. Dr. Farris:

A young boy once entered a church for the first time. It was a church that had many stained glass windows depicting the saints. Since the boy had never been in a church and had never seen all this, he asked, "What are these?" The priest replied, "Well, they are the saints." "Oh!" the boy said, "The saints are those through whom the light shines."

May we, like the 12 saints in 1965, pass on this legacy to many more who come to worship at St. Giles.

If you feel in your heart that you would like to make a donation towards the repair of these windows, you may send your donation to St. Giles and indicate that it is for the "Stained Glass Windows."

Thank you for your kind consideration, prayers and generous support.

Many Blessings,
Rev. Dewald (Dewey) Delpport

STEWARDS BY DESIGN WORKSHOP SUMMARY BY MARILYN MACHUM

In November 2014, Rev. Dewald Delpont, Wendell Siddall, Sandra Cameron Evans and Marilyn Machum attended the **Stewards By Design** workshop, sponsored by the Presbyterian Church in Canada (PCC), in Orillia, Ontario. The keynote speaker was Dr. Kennon Callaghan, author of **‘Twelve Keys to an Effective Church’**.

The financial portion of the workshop will be presented by the Rev. Dr. Herbert Gale, Associate Secretary for Planned Giving for the PCC, at St. Giles on Saturday, May, 9 2015.

The **‘Twelve Keys to an Effective Church’** are the possibilities of Grace that tend to be consistently present in strong, healthy churches. **Relational characteristics** are about the people and their connection to others. **Functional Characteristics** are about organization and institution. (See Table below for the Twelve Keys.)

As part of the workshop, we rated St. Giles on these characteristics according to **what we have and not what we wished we had** identifying our four current strengths: Stirring, Helpful, Worship; Open accessibility; Land and Landscaping and One Mission Outreach (Inn From the Cold).

Then we were to expand one of our identified strengths and add another key strength. We chose **Worship** which could be expanded to holding a service for Care Givers like those in Hillcrest Extended Care and the Fanning Centre in recognition of the work they do. We added **Land and Landscaping**. What could we do to get the attention of the people that pass our church every day? Some ideas were to clean up the boulevard along the street, add flower pots along the east side of the church and put up lights at Christmas. These activities could involve many people of all ages doing various jobs from planning, preparing and planting to serving refreshments. Even gardeners in the community could to be involved.

God blesses us with generous and spontaneous giving. Sources of Giving for strong healthy churches are: **Spontaneous Gifts** (with three to five invitations per year); **Major Community Sundays** which include Easter, Christmas Eve and Christmas; **Special Planned offerings** may happen two to four times a year and tend to have an institutional focus; **Major Projects** every three to four years which may focus on mission, staffing, debt reduction or building improvements like the stained glass windows; **Annual Giving** to the annual budget by pre-authorized remittance (PAR) , tithing or combinations; and **Enduring Gifts or Endowment Giving**, usually meant to be gifts that last.

One of the key points was the importance of shepherding – where “we share a word of grace that encourages a person in his or her own life”. People come to church for a reason, looking for something in their lives ; consequently we don’t want to treat them as ‘guests or visitors’ but as fellow ‘worshippers’. We can all shepherd, not just the Elders and Pastoral Care Committee. As a congregation we can share the blessings that God gives us with everyone who comes to St. Giles. He pointed out that the more shepherding the less bickering.

There is a major shift in the world that Dr. Callahan described as moving from Marathoners to Sprinters: from people who are willing to commit long term to people who focus on the short-term. Sprinters look for one-time events or short-term projects. Session is open to new ideas such as Moms and Tots or the community spaghetti dinner that offer opportunities for the Sprinters among us.

The ‘Twelve Keys to an Effective Church’ encourages us to recognise our strengths and build on what we do well and what we have fun doing. It helps us focus on our present that leads us into the future.

Table: The Twelve Keys

| Relational Characteristics are: | Functional Characteristics are: |
|--|---|
| One Mission Outreach | One Major Program (among the best in community) |
| Shepherding visitation | Open Accessibility (in location and people) |
| Stirring, Helpful Worship | High Visibility (in location and people) |
| Significant relational groupings | Land, Landscaping (and parking) |
| Strong Leadership Team | Adequate Space and Facilities (well cared for) |
| Solid Decision Process | Generous Giving (solid financial resources) |

SESSION NEWS

As a Session we work hard in developing our relationship with God and growing in faith with His grace. Session has decided to continue with the two core values we worked on last year **“Spirituality”** and **“Inviting Others.”**

Under **“Spirituality”** Rev. Delport has been leading an 8-week study (1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday of the month) on **“Gospel in Life: Grace changes Everything.”** We start at 6:15 pm with a light supper and finish at 7:30 pm. We are delighted with the interest shown and how successful this study has been. We also continue to have our Wednesday morning Bible Study on the book of Genesis.

Recently, Dr. Jane Jensen spoke on a Saturday morning explaining Labyrinths. St Giles is planning to have a Labyrinth put in our garden space this summer in order to provide members of the congregation and the community with a place for quiet time for reflection and contemplation. Over the Lenten season Ann Frost has graciously agreed to lead us in **“Invitation to Prayer”** over four weeks. Last year this was very successful and added further quality to our spiritual life.

Rev. Dianne Ollerenshaw presented a workshop to the elders on **“Shepherding.”** Since November, Rev. Delport has led the elders in a discussion on **“Living Faith”** during our meetings.



Rev. Dianne Ollerenshaw presenting a workshop to the elders of St. Giles

Within our value of **“Inviting Others”** we have been busy. We have had very successful events including: the Rabbie Burns Dinner, Free Spaghetti Dinner and Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner. Our 7th Annual Folk Night will be held on April 18 and our 3rd Annual English Cream Tea and Bake Sale will be held on May 23. Our Moms and Tots group has started up again with the past two sessions having more new moms joining us. We are also hosting a Choir Festival and Silent Auction on March 14 to support Camp Kannawin. These are just some of the many opportunities for us as a faith community to come together in our spiritual journey.

Please continue to remember St. Giles in your prayers for further guidance in reaching out to our congregation and the community.

Candace Siddall, Clerk of Session

MOMS AND TOTS PROGRAM

Our Moms and Tots began its Winter/Spring program on January 26th. At our last meeting we had nine moms with ten kids in attendance which was very noisy, very busy and, thanks to our resident pediatric dietitian Candace Siddall, very informative. Needless to say, it was also a lot of fun. We are looking forward to a full program of activities and information sessions until the end of May.

Many thanks to all those who have helped and been supportive; the program would not exist without you. More information about Mom and Tots is available at our church website: www.stgiles.ca or at our Moms and Tots facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Giles-Moms-Tots/836673506345524>

Dianne Mascardelli, Coordinator



Birth Announcement

On January 23, 2015, **Aislinn Elise McAuley** was born to **Kate and Bill McAuley**.

She is the first grandchild of Dianne and Denis Mascardelli and niece of Brock and Lisa Mascardelli. Though her arrival was rather fraught, all are doing well and she is a delightful addition to the family.

ENGLISH CREAM TEA ON SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2015

Please mark your calendars again this year to come and bring your friends and neighbors to our **3rd Annual English Cream Tea and Bake Sale** to be held in the St. Giles Lower Hall on Saturday, May 23, 1:30-3:30 pm.

Again the menu will be delicious finger sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and preserves, dainty sweet treats and, of course, tea and coffee served in fine bone china tea cups.

Tickets for this special event will be sold starting in early April, after our Sunday worship service.

We always appreciate your talents in volunteering and baking and, if you are able to help, please feel free to contact Candace Siddall at 403-288-7422.

We look forward to seeing you and your friends and family.

Candace Siddall, Coordinator

ST. GILES FOLK NIGHT ON SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2015

The **7th Annual St. Giles Folk Night** will be held at St. Giles Lower Hall on Saturday April 18, 2015 at 7:00 pm. Once again, this promises to be a great show.

As always, we need volunteers to make this event run smoothly. We need help in the following areas:

- ◆ Set up prior to the event,
- ◆ Concession items to be sold at the event (such as baked goods and appetizers),
- ◆ Concession workers to sell items before the event and also during intermission,
- ◆ Take down and clean up after the event, and
- ◆ Performers.

Admission is a Freewill Offering. Tickets will be sold starting in March 15th, after our Sunday worship service.

Doors will open at 6:30 pm. The program will be for about two hours, and there will be an intermission halfway through the program.

If you wish to perform, please contact Jason Gaskarth at 403-255-5753 or by cell at 403-708-5228, or you may leave a message at the Church Office.

You can look forward to an evening of fun and great entertainment. Feel free to invite your friends and family.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Jason Gaskarth, Coordinator

SPAGHETTI DINNER ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2015

On Friday, February 6, 2015, St. Giles hosted a Free Spaghetti Dinner at the Lower Hall. This is part of our new initiative of **'Inviting Others'**.

This was the second free dinner in our initiative of inviting others. It was a great success with many members of the congregation and the community attending.

Many thanks to all those who so generously helped with the preparation, set up, serving, baking, clean up, and advertising. Special thanks to Dianne Mascardelli who spent many hours in the kitchen with me.

Candace Siddall, Coordinator

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

In the past months, we have presented only three shawls to our friends in the congregation. We thank God that our church friends are well. If you know of anyone who you think would welcome a cozy shawl, please let me know

or the Pastoral Care committee. If anyone would like more information about the Prayer Shawl Ministry, please call Janette at 403 282 3014.

Janette Mackie

Christian One Liners

- ◆ Peace starts with a smile.
- ◆ We don't change the message; the message changes us.
- ◆ Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.
- ◆ Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on the front door forever.

SNIPPETS

BY MICHAEL MOORHOUSE

Snippets was a word that my mother used to describe little bits of stuff that she couldn't find another word for, like pieces of wool or maybe some leftovers from Sunday's roast that could be gathered up for Monday's dinner. It was a comfortable word. No panic - you had the stuff stowed away in a drawer somewhere or in the fridge (actually it was the ice box in those days). You just didn't have it all put together. Snippets.

Fast forward to March 1st after worship. I had just stepped into the narthex after listening to Esther's postlude when I was met by Merle Dalip, the editor and pretty well everything else involved with putting together what you're reading here. She seemed a bit preoccupied and asked me if I had something for her, meaning for this Spring Issue of 'What's Up?'

Now it's relevant at this point that my wife and I had been away for the better part of a month visiting a quite different part of the world, and I was thinking that maybe something interesting could be gathered up for an article about it. Not everyone is likely to have a chance to go where we had been. I had been musing about something comfy time-wise, say around April. It turned out that Merle had a rather different idea. She was thinking quite a bit sooner and the trip stuff and the pictures could wait till the next issue. So I ventured that I could perhaps cobble up something out of the past few weeks that would be readable. Like some snippets.

Yes, we were on a boat again and because you have to eat at least a couple of meals a day for three weeks the details can be important. I've probably said before that for the evening meal we have commonly opted for a fixed place and tablemates in the main dining room rather than the random sitting up in the lido buffet. There's a dress code - nothing formal, just no shorts or tank tops - and yes, there's always a risk of a mismatch in company, but you don't have to introduce yourselves at a different table every time. Thus far we've been fortunate and this was no exception. Dennis and Annie were retired school teachers from Milwaukee, and though our backgrounds were different there was enough overlap for good conversation. With men it's often to do with sports, so it helped that Dennis and I are baseball fans and our wives found something to chat about.

In those encounters good sense keeps things away from religion and politics, but occasionally an anecdote turns up. Dennis is an Irish catholic and came from a family of nine. It seems that as a boy he had the idea that committing adultery was about lying, and one day when his mother sent him off to confession he admitted to the priest that he had committed adultery nine times. That certainly was a chuckle, both then and now, but he found that in subsequent weeks the incident became public. Its disclosure was one of the factors in his eventually leaving the church. What a shame.

That was perhaps just a snippet, but by coincidence it attaches to Rev. Dewald Delpont's pretty broad treatment of adultery in that morning's sermon. It was one of those times when there are some humorous realities about where we sit - like out in front of everyone else in the view from the pulpit. But no problem; by equal coincidence Margaret and I have a largish anniversary coming up.

Change topic. One item in the stack of mail that greeted us on arriving home was a compelling letter from Dewald soliciting our common support in financing repairs to the stained glass windows that grace our sanctuary. Most of that story began long ago, but because I was Clerk of Session to Rev. David Crawford Sr., who was the principal and certainly the most determined advocate for purchasing the windows over those early years, I had been privy to the fervour with which he pursued their acquisition. Someday we can argue over the degree to which God is interested in stained glass, but meanwhile the windows are a manifestation of our wish to honour and worship our Lord. In reflecting on those memories, and because we were away at the time of the Annual Meeting it has been important for me to know that the need and cost of the repairs was appropriately considered by the Session and the people. I'm confident that those needs were met, and to whatever degree my opinion might matter I'm pleased that the work was approved. It will take money and time, but it will be worth it.

Lent is upon us and the time for snippets is over. Perhaps in next issue there can be something about Faraway Places with Strange Sounding Names — if you remember the song.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. John 3:16-17 (NKJV)

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN WORSHIP...

Some books of the Bible are quite well known. We know the Gospels quite well and often times the letters Paul wrote to the churches are also very familiar for us. Even some Old Testament books are not that unfamiliar. We know Genesis and the Psalms; we even know some passages from the Prophet Isaiah, especially the names given to Jesus. We are also familiar with some Bible Stories, sometimes we know them quite well while at other times we know the gist of them.

There are also some books in the Bible we are not so familiar with at all. Yet they are also important for us and our faith journey. *Living Faith* (a document about what we believe in the Presbyterian Church) says this, "Both the Old and the New Testaments were written within communities of faith and accepted as Scripture by them.

Those who seek to understand the Bible need to stand within the church and listen to its teaching."

This year we started by looking at relationship with God and each other and we used the 10 Commandments as our starting point. After Easter we'll look at two books from the Old Testament, one well known and the other a little less so: Ruth and Esther.

In Esther we see how God works in invisible ways to save His people. And in Ruth we see how God's grace comes unexpectedly to Naomi and with it a depiction of redemption for God's people.

After this series on the two books named after women, we will most likely look at Jonah and Micah come September.

Rev. Dewald (Dewey) Delpont

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

In January, 2015 we were fortunate to have Jackie Ling join St. Giles as our Nursery Worker. She has already made friends with Nolan McMillan. Jackie is a student at the Alberta College of Art and Design (ACAD). Another bonus to having Jackie is that her mother, Kristin Ling, is willing to fill-in for Jackie if necessary. Kristin works with Heather Mackie at the Winter Club Child Care Centre.

Two basic Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) courses of 2½ hours each have been planned with the Heart and Stroke Foundation for Friday, March 13th at St. Giles. We know that people of all ages can suffer a heart attack. From choking to cardiac arrest, the situation is life-threatening and requires quick and effective response. If there is more interest, future courses could be arranged.

Through the Heart and Stroke Foundation, we are also applying for an Automated External Defibrillation (AED). An AED is a life-saving technique that is revolutionizing pre-hospital cardiac care.

The CPR courses offer a review and practice of CPR skills as well as training in the use of AED equipment.

Currently, the Human Resources Committee is reviewing and updating the Emergency and Evacuation Procedures of St. Giles for all those who use our building and facilities.

Marilyn Machum, Convenor HR Committee

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER COMMITTEE

The library of St. Giles is managed by the Growing in Faith (GIFT) Committee. It is stocked with a variety of books for men, women and children. Any books or Bibles in the library may be signed-out and taken home for as long as you wish. Titles in our library include: *In Search of Purple Cows*, *Devotions for Men*, *The Red Sea Rules*, Chicken Soup books, Janette Oke books, and lots of children's books and Bibles for different ages.

If you have any gently used books with a Christian theme that you would like to donate, you can leave them in the library under the sign-out table and we will shelve them. Also, if you have any book suggestions for us, please contact Ivy Mewha at imewha@shaw.ca or Heather Mackie at heathermackie@shaw.ca.

Ivy Mewha and Heather Mackie, Coordinators

***But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)***

BIBLE STUDY AT ST. GILES

'My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.'
Hosea 4:6

For several years now Rev. Dewald (Dewey) Delpont has facilitated a Bible Study held on Wednesday mornings at St. Giles, where we go through a book of the Bible chapter by chapter. This approach allows the text to be examined in greater detail than is usually possible during a Sunday worship service, and for questions to be raised and discussed. It is often astonishing to discover how much more there is to a passage that we may have previously only read superficially.

In the past the group, generally now grown to 12-15 individuals at any session, has studied the Old Testament book of Joel, and the New Testament books of Luke, John, Acts, 1 Peter and Hebrews.

This 'study year' (September 2014 to April/May 2015) sees us tackling the Bible's first book, Genesis.

Genesis has been described as the book of first things, and it serves as a foundation for all that follows. It is in the first chapters of this book that we learn that human beings were created in the image of God for communion with Him, our need for redemption in order for this to be realized, and the first steps in God's plan to achieve this.

Everyone, from novice to the knowledgeable, is welcome to attend any or all sessions (10:15-11:15 am, Wednesday mornings) and no prior study is required. Just bring your Bible and an inquiring mind.

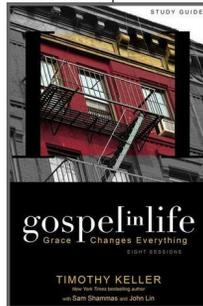
Denis Mascardelli

8-WEEK BIBLE STUDY ON THE GOSPEL IN LIFE

Gospel in Life: Grace Changes Everything:
*A Study Guide by Timothy Keller
with Sam Shammas and John Lin*

This is an 8-week study of the gospel and how it is lived out in all of life—first in our heart, then in our community, and then out into the world.

We start at 6:15 pm with a light meal, watch a 10-minute DVD presentation, followed by group discussion.



Session 1 opens with the theme of city: our home now, the world that is. Session 8 closes with the theme of the eternal city: our heavenly home, the world that is to come.

In between we look at how the gospel changes our heart (Sessions 2 and 3), changes our community (Sessions 4 and 5, and changes how we live in the world (Sessions 6 and 7).

Rev. Dewald (Dewey) Delpont

MID-WEEK PRAISE

We are a worshipping people. We worship God in many ways: by the way we live life; by the way we interact with other people since we are God's ambassadors; by studying God's Word; by caring for each other; by coming together on a Sunday morning to worship as a group. Sunday morning is neither the only time we worship nor the only time we worship as a group. We also worship together on the fourth Wednesday evening of the month at our Mid-Week Praise.

The Mid-Week Praise service is a little different than a Sunday morning service. We are a smaller group. Music videos from YouTube provide musical accompaniment and we sing both very traditional and more modern songs

and variations of songs. We pray and offer prayer requests. We listen to a short message. And we gather around the Lord's Table to celebrate The Last Supper as we serve each other. The Communion has a different feel to it and many who come have mentioned how moving and special they find the Communion Service.

We extend a hand of fellowship to you to join us for one of our Wednesday evening services, to hear about God's grace and love, and to be fed spiritually.

We hope to see you on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Rev. Dewald (Dewey) Delpont

2015 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On Friday, March 6th, the Canada Martyrs Catholic Church hosted the 2015 World Day of Prayer.



artwork by
Chantal E.Y. Bethel

The theme for this year was:
Jesus said to them "Do You Know What I Have Done to You?"
John 13: 1- 17 (NRSV).

The service was prepared by the women of the Bahamas and the World Day of Prayer International Committee. The artwork was prepared by Chantal E.Y. Bethel of the Bahamas. Canadian Martyrs

Church had used his picture portraying six pink flamingos bowing at the feet of Christ on their screens. The pink flamingo is the national bird of the Bahamas, and in the artist's mind they represented Forgiveness, Peace and Love.

A hundred people or more from neighboring Anglican, Catholic, Presbyterian and United Churches were welcomed to the service by the women of Canadian Martyrs, and their priest Father Joe delivered the homily.

Those taking part in the service were colorfully dressed as befitting the Bahamian theme and these included Ann Frost, Jenny Thompson and Dawn Flint from St. Giles. A small choir led the appropriate and well-loved hymns from the hymn book between each section and one new hymn was distributed which had been made especially for

the service using Christ's words "Do you know what I have done for you?"

The Bahamian Women who wrote the hour-long service used the words "radical love" eleven times. They wanted to be sure that what Jesus did as he washed his disciples feet was recognized as an example of outstanding love, a love that knows no borders, that crosses borders, and they wanted the congregation to be radicalized by that love. Father Joe spoke gently of Jesus taking on the role of a servant and how there are opportunities for loving service everywhere.

Following the prayers of intercession, the participants acted out the roles they were given to cover each situation that needed prayer and action. They removed their sandals and as "Jesus" washed and dried their feet, their cardboard signs indicated that their problem situation was solved: The immigrant was accepted, the cancer was cured, the children were educated, and those living with HIV were healed. The offering was received as prayer in action.

At the end of the service everyone was invited to stay for refreshments and a social time. Punch, fruit, and Bahamian cornbread were served from a colorful table. There was a genuine feeling of oneness as neighbors recognized one another from past years and introduced their friends. Conversations were warm, touched by spring, and rooted in the radical love that is Christ.

Chris Browne

MID-WEEK MIX

Mid-Week Mix is held every Wednesday in the Lower Hall just before noon following the Bible Study. It is open to everyone who would like to enjoy some chair exercises at 11:35am and to share lunch at 12:00 noon.

It is a way to keep physically and mentally active during the long winter months and opens the possibility of welcoming newcomers. We have an excellent DVD to

teach us the exercises which give us a surprisingly good workout and help with balance problems. Everyone is invited to bring a sandwich, have a coffee, and to share food, recipes and conversation.

Please come and join us on any Wednesday morning... you might like it!

Chris Browne, Convenor

PRAYER AND SHARE

Prayer and Share is held in the sunshine of the Park Room on the second Wednesday afternoon of the month, from 1:15 pm to 3:00 pm.

We talk and visit and list things that we are concerned about or thankful for in all domains of life, from our sick grandchild to troublesome neighbors. We pray for our congregation and that all may feel welcome.

We light a candle to remind us of the light of Christ in our midst and then after some time we pass a token around to take turns praying silently or out loud. There are no expectations - just warm friendship. Please come and join us! If you wish to know more, call me at 403-280-0510.

Joanne Watson, Convenor

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

The following excerpts of our 2015 Lent liturgies were written by Nora Martin for Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D).

First Sunday in Lent

God sent Jesus to live and die for this world. Throughout his ministry, Jesus proclaimed the kingdom of God.

We respond by turning away from the world's paths of self-centeredness and greed.

<><><><><>

Second Sunday in Lent

It's easier to focus on our own needs and the comfortable lives we live, than try to address the wrongs we see around us.

As Abraham's descendants by faith, God offers us the courage to turn outward, to recognize and address the difficulties of this world.

God of promise, strengthen us to have faith that you will fulfill your promises, so we can live in such a way that those around us will also believe the story of your faithful love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

<><><><><>

Third Sunday in Lent

When we live according to God's wisdom, we demonstrate to the world another way of life.

A way of life that revives our spirits and gives joy to our hearts.

God of wisdom, teach us to live according to your wise and loving ways, rather than the selfish ones of the world. May we be a sign of your presence to those around us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

<><><><><>

Fourth Sunday in Lent

God challenges us to stop indulging ourselves and ignoring the needs of others.

God challenges us to do the work that we are called to do, willingly and cheerfully.

God of mercy and grace, hear us as we call to you. Shine the light of your love on the darkness of our hearts, that we may be made alive again in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

<><><><><>

Fifth Sunday in Lent

We may not have to die, as Jesus did, but God calls us to serve others, whether the work brings us great honor, or whether it is hard and tedious.

God hears our prayers when we obey.

God of mercy, when Jesus asked you to glorify yourself, you spoke in a voice like thunder. Help us to hear the voice of your spirit within us so we can obey you joyfully. In Jesus' name, Amen.

<><><><><>

Palm / Passion Sunday

Like the people of Jerusalem, we must choose: To drift along with the majority fitting in and doing what the crowd expects.

Or to follow Jesus' example, standing firm, even when our position is unpopular.

God of everlasting loving kindness, hear us in our confusion. We want to be faithful even in difficult times. Keep us strong until the end. In Jesus' name, Amen.

<><><><><>

Maundy Thursday / Good Friday

Jesus was tempted. He struggled too. He prayed for strength.

Jesus died, trusting his Father, and recognizing that forgiveness is necessary.

God of love and mercy, your rainbow in the clouds reminds us to share your love as we have experienced it. Give us the strength to follow you, even amid the temptations of our everyday lives. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

<><><><><>

Easter Day

We know that our Redeemer lives and that someday we shall see him face to face.

We do not understand how it can be, but we believe.

Hail to our King, our mighty Redeemer!

Hail, all hail! Jesus lives forevermore.

Living God, we bow to you in awe and wonder. Rejoicing, we sing your praises. Accept our thanks for your gift of everlasting life. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

<><><><><>

Choir News

BY MARNI STROME

Our choir began the year 2015 by singing in the Rabbie Burns dinner at the end of January. This event was coordinated by choir members, Ian McKay and Bill Woodward, and also by Walter and Susan Cooper.

In early February, we commemorated the 30th Anniversary of our organ by presenting some of the same music as was performed during the inaugural service. Bill Woodward sang Handel's **The Trumpet Shall Sound**, accompanied by Chris Morrison on trumpet and Susan Woodward on organ. Susan Woodward and Esther Woelfle played piano and organ duets. It brought back a lot of memories for many of us who were part of the process of fundraising, choosing, and installing a new organ!

We thank Janet Astle for her comprehensive knowledge of St. Giles history through the archives. Without her, the 30th Anniversary of our organ would have gone right by us, along with the story of the organ and the musical participants at the service in 1985!

St. Giles choir members participated in the Choir Festival on March 14th and we will be participating in the Folk Night on April 18th.

We are learning special music for the **Good Friday** and **Easter Sunday** worship services, and continuing to enjoy the time we spend together singing and socializing.



Former chorister and Organ Committee Member, June Stephen, cuts the cake celebrating the 30th Anniversary of our Rodgers' Organ.

MISSION IN ACTION COMMITTEE

The Mission in Action Committee organized a fund-raising event to support the Waterfront Restoration Project at Camp Kannawin, which is situated on the shores of Sylvan Lake. It is owned and operated by the Synod of Alberta and the Northwest, the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

This event, the Choir Festival and Silent Auction, took place at St. Giles church on March 14th from 6:00–9:00pm. Plans had been in the works since last September when our first letter was sent out inviting the various choirs of the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod to participate in this event.

Choir Festival:

Six choirs took part in the Choir Festival: the choirs of Centennial, Grace, Knox, St. Andrew's, Calgary Korean Presbyterian and St. Giles. Marni Strome and Joan McLean coordinated this part of the event.

Silent Auction:

All members of the Mission Committee participated in organizing this event.

Over six hundred letters requesting financial assistance were distributed to companies. We are hopeful that they will support this fund-raising event for Camp Kannawin. We had great support from the Presbytery of Calgary-McLeod.

After the Choir Festival, refreshments were served during the Silent Auction. Susan Cooper with the assistance of her helpers coordinated this part of the event.

Walter Cooper coordinated the sound system in the Sanctuary for the Choir Festival and also in the Lower Hall where the Silent Auction was held.

The Choir Festival and Silent Auction is this year's major fund-raising project for the Mission Committee. Special thanks to those who volunteered, those who donated items, and to those who attended and supported this event.

We will continue to help with other events that are taking place within our St. Giles family. In the fall we will be supporting the Food Bank and an Advent project which will be designated at that time.

Terry Hagen
Chair of Mission in Action Committee

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalms 119:105

Church School News

BY HEATHER MACKIE

With Easter soon upon us, the Church School children are busy making Easter bookmarks and magnets for the Congregation. This has become an annual event with the children making something to give out to the congregation on Easter morning. We're not sure which part they have more fun with – making the cards or running out the doors of the church to happily hand them to everyone in sight. This is a great way for the children to share the joy of Easter Sunday and they are certainly joyful as they do it.

This summer we will once again be hosting **Vacation Bible Camp** at St. Giles, and the dates will be announced in April. The theme for this year is **'Bible Discovery'**.

In the coming months, we will be looking for children to attend and volunteers to help. If you are interested in helping please let me know and I will pass on your name to the organizers.

Since the Church School children all enjoy puzzles and mazes we have included an Easter Word Search and a Maze for everyone to enjoy.

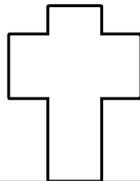
Easter Word Search

T H O R N S W Y S M L A P N G
 K R I S E N Y C E N O T S E C
 R E T S O O R D R K H O T V R
 B E L I E V E S E O N H B I U
 Y T P M E Z D X S Y S O C G C
 E C I F I R C A S E A S D R I
 E V I L A L N B M O T R B O F
 S I N U I N N A I L S C T F Y
 W V G F A E N P I L A T E E S
 B R E A D E Y A R P D I E D B

ALIVE
 BELIEVE
 BETRAYED
 BREAD
 CROSS
 CRUCIFY
 DIED
 DONKEY
 EMPTY
 FORGIVEN

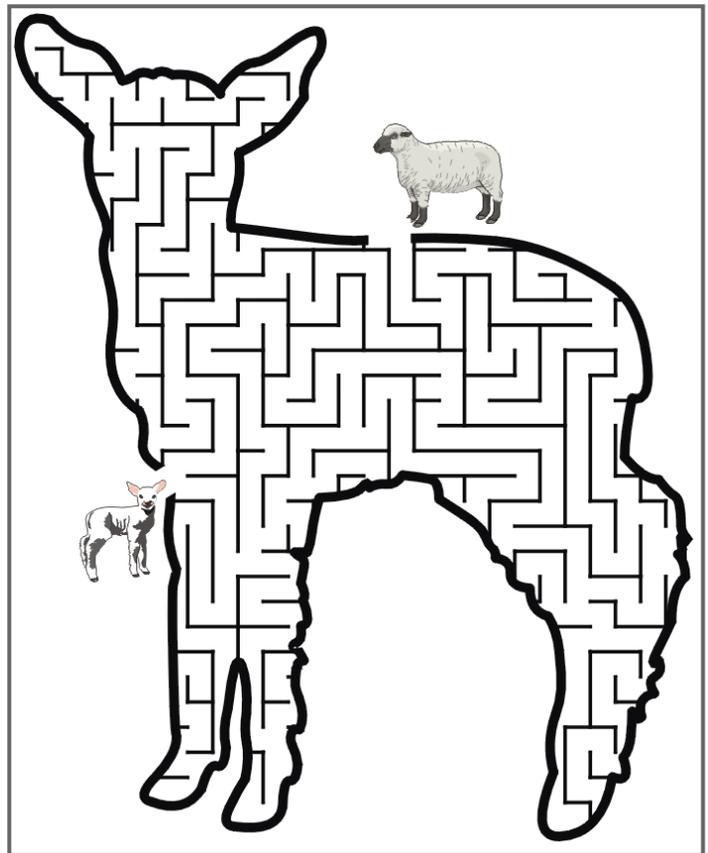


GETHSEMANE
 GUARDS
 HOSANNA
 LIFE
 NAILS
 PALMS
 PILATE
 PRAYED
 RISEN
 ROOSTER



SACRIFICE
 SIN
 SON
 STONE
 THORNS
 TOMB

Happy Easter!



On the Lighter Side

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!"
As she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late... But please don't shove me either!"

COMMENTS FROM YOUR REPRESENTATIVE ELDER ON PRESBYTERY

BY SANDRA CAMERON EVANS

The Presbytery met at Westminster Presbyterian Church on February 3rd. Rev. Kobus Genis led worship focusing on how Hospitality makes our faith visible.

Enthusiasms and Concerns Regarding the Ministries of the Presbytery

- St. John's, Medicine Hat spoke of their wonderful experience with Maren McLean Persaud, their intern from Knox College;
- St. Andrew's, Lethbridge celebrated the growth of the St. Andrew's Music Program (StAMP) which provides a free music program for the community;
- St. Paul's Banff had 90+ attendees at their 10:30 pm Christmas Eve Service with many young adults who aren't regular attendees;
- Grace hosted several events in January with our Moderator, Dr. S. Farris, including a class and worship at Ambrose University that was well received.
- Strategy and Leadership
 - Presbytery appointed Mr. Tom Paasuke, St. Paul's Banff Representative Elder, to be the next Moderator of Presbytery;
 - Rev. Helen Smith will represent Presbytery in the search process for Minister, Family Ministry at St. Andrew's, Calgary;
 - Presbytery approved a new committee structure including mandates, areas of responsibility and committee membership.

Reports on the Ministries of our Presbytery

- Pastoral Effectiveness Group
 - Pastoral Relationships with Congregations
 - The General Presbyter, Rev. Dr. Peter Coutts, makes regular posts on his Facebook page as a means of sharing innovative practices from congregations. Everyone is encouraged to 'friend' him;
 - A common concern for most congregations is Member Engagement. Peter has resources available for creating a volunteer culture. Next, he will be gathering resources on Effectiveness of Elder Districts and Pastoral Care Systems;
 - The Rolls and Records of St. Giles were attested as neatly and correctly kept.
 - Education for Effective Leadership & Policy Implementation
 - It was announced that St. Giles had won the Presbytery Website Competition with a \$500 prize.
 - Pastoral Relationships with Individuals in Ministry
 - Hounsek (Joel) You will be completing two courses in order to be eligible for reception into the PCC under the supervision of Rev. Mark Tremblay.

- Presbytery Youth Ministry Committee Report
 - There have been two city-wide events for youth with others planned until June.
- Interim Moderator's Report for Calvin Hungarian
 - Calvin continues to thrive under the leadership of Bertalan Bocskoras. Presbytery re-appointed him as Stated Supply for another year beginning May 2015.
- Interim Moderator's Report for Ghanaian Presbyterian Church, Calgary
 - The election of six Elders was completed and they were ordained on January 25th.

Reports on our Ministry Partnerships

- Synod of Alberta and the Northwest
 - Director of Regional Ministries
 - As the Presbytery liaison with PWS&D, Rev. Dianne Ollerenshaw oversaw the disbursement of the Southern Alberta Flood Relief funds received by the PCC following the 2013 floods. \$48,322 was divided between Calgary Alpha House Society, the High River Food Bank and the Iyahrhe Nakoda Foodbank Society. Appreciation was expressed for this support and new partnerships and friendships were created;
 - Dianne is available to preach or give a presentation on the work of PWS&D during a service or special event.
 - Camp Kannawin
 - Information was shared on the Choir Festival and Silent Auction planned for March 14th with the proceeds to be used for the beach reclamation project;
 - Cara Penman, Camp Director, shared information about the upcoming year with the registration link on the Camp website and brochure to be available soon.
- KAIROS
 - Once again the KAIROS Calgary Taskforce on Homelessness and Affordable Housing will participate in the 'Coldest Night of the Year Walkathon' February 21st. Everyone is encouraged to get their teams together.
- United/Presbyterian Campus Ministry Committee
 - The committee reported on the evening prayer services, drumming programs and peer partnerships that are part of this ministry;
 - The Ministry is celebrating 42 years on April 19th from 2:00-4:30 pm. Everyone is invited.

Administrative Committee

- Presbytery approved the Terms of Agreement for Rev. Dr. Peter Coutts as Minister in Association with Valleyview Church.

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the Presbytery will take place at St. John's in Medicine Hat on Tuesday, May 26th at 1:00 pm. Presbytery is open to guests; consider joining us as an observer.

FINANCIAL UPDATE TO FEBRUARY 2015

BY TED SAMSON

After our disappointing envelope giving in 2013 we were hoping for better things in 2014, and did see an increase. Although the envelopes yielded some \$11,000 more than in 2013, this was still below our budget - \$188,622 to the budgeted \$209,937. Our other income was also higher, but our deficit was still about \$31,000. Again, we allocated \$29,500 from Memorial Funds to cover the deficit.

The budget for 2015 is very similar to last year's, asking for \$209,766 in envelope giving. Including our other revenue sources, we are hoping to raise an average of nearly \$20,600 per month to meet budgeted expenses. However we know that our giving is variable throughout the year with receipts at Easter and Christmas exceeding those of January and the summer months. We should note

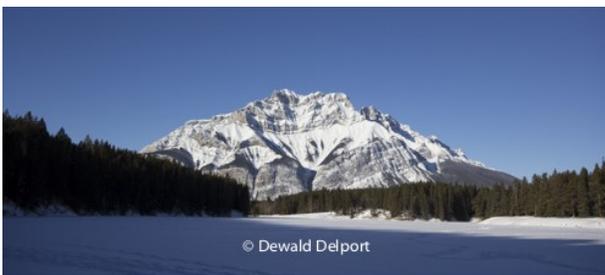
that more stable giving will reduce the necessary catch-up at year end. Our January income was only \$13,876 but this improved in February to \$20,607, resulting in a year-to-date deficit of \$5,874, the lowest in the last five years. We've also had lower than average expenses and no major repairs so far in 2015.

This is usually the time of the year that I encourage members to consider our PAR or Pre-Authorized Remittance Program. Currently, we have eleven members enrolled, small for a congregation of our size. The Rev. Dr. Herbert Gale, Associate Secretary for Planned Giving for the Presbyterian Church of Canada, will be visiting us on May 9-10 to speak about PAR and answer your questions.

OUR RULING ELDERS AT ST. GILES

The Session is the governing body of the Congregation. This group is made up of faithful leaders, called 'Elders', responsible for the spiritual life of the congregation. They meet to make decisions and to support the Minister and the other committees of the church. Here is a listing of our present ruling elders:

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Sandra Cameron Evans | Jason Gaskarth | Ian McKay | Wendell Siddall |
| Lorne Cowan | Toby Gaskarth | Joan McLean | Jenny Thomson |
| Dennis Daly | Terry Hagen | John McLean | Joanne Watson |
| Ann Frost | Ivy Mewha | Candace Siddall | John Watson |



The majestic Cascade Mountain in Banff National Park

Bridge over stream that feeds Emerald Lake in Yoho National Park



Winter in the Canadian Rockies



The sun is peeking over the mountains at Lake Minnewanka in Banff National Park

Rev. Dewey Delport has been interested in photography for many years. He enjoys taking pictures of landscapes, animals, and birds.

Dewey feels privileged that the Rocky Mountains are less than two hours away from Calgary. He enjoys snowshoeing and hiking and on most Monday mornings ventures out for fresh mountain air and breathtaking photography.

For more pictures as well as stories about his adventures, visit: deweysdigitaldelights.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE HELD EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM

- ★ **Bible Study** Continues on Wednesday mornings at 10:15 am. Led by Rev. Dewald Delpont.
- ★ **Mid-Week Praise**. Come and join us on the fourth Wednesday (*unless otherwise indicated*) of each month at 7:00 pm. We'll sing some old songs, some new songs, and learn a few more.
- ★ **Mid-Week Mix**..... Wednesdays at 11:35 am - everyone is invited.
- ★ **March 29. Palm/Passion Sunday and Communion Service**
10:00 am—Holy Week begins with the events of Palm/Passion Sunday. We remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, surrounded by joyful crowds who wanted him to be their king. We also remember his suffering and death for the sins of the world.
- ★ **April 3 Good Friday Worship Service**
10:00 am—We remember Jesus' suffering and death.
- ★ **April 5 Easter Sunrise Service**
7:30 am—This early morning Sunrise Service will be held in our church's backyard and afterwards we will breakfast in the Lower Hall.
10:00 am—**Easter Sunday Worship Service**
We celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! Our worship service includes the telling of the Easter Story.
- ★ **May 10** The Rev Dr. Herbert Gale, Associate Secretary for Planned Giving for the Presbyterian Church of Canada, will be visiting us to talk about Planned Giving.

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

Check our Church Bulletin for other Upcoming Events

Easter Prayer

Stay with us, blessed stranger, for the day is far spent, and we have not yet recognized your face in each of our sisters and brothers. Stay with us, blessed stranger, for the day is far spent, and we have not yet shared your bread in grace with our brothers and sisters. Stay with us, blessed stranger, for the day is far spent, and we have not listened to your Word in the words of our sisters and brothers. Stay with us, blessed stranger, because our very night becomes day when you are there. Amen.

Based on The Walk to Emmaus, Luke 24:13-35

CONTACT INFORMATION

Editorial Team:

Susan Carmichael
Merle Dalip
Pearl Dalip
Rev. Dewald Delpont
Denis Mascardelli

Regular Contributors:

Janet Astle (Archives)
Chris Browne (Special Events)
Sandra Cameron Evans (Presbytery)
Heather Mackie (Children)
Dianne Mascardelli (Moms and Tots)
Michael Moorhouse (Special Events)
Ted Samson (Finances)
Marni Strome (Choir News)
John Watson (Special Events)

Address:

St. Giles Presbyterian Church
1102—23 Avenue NW
Calgary, AB T2M 1T7

Contact Information:

Telephone: 403-289-6862
E-Mail: office@stgiles.ca
Website: www.stgiles.ca