



WHAT'S UP?

ST. GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fall 2018 Issue

“Called by Christ, Committed by Faith, Connected by Community.”

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

I took my car to get winter tires today. On my way I stopped at Tim Hortons for a Belgian Waffle Breakfast Sandwich - delicious. While waiting, I checked what was happening on Facebook. Ross Lockhart (of the faculty at St. Andrew's Hall in Vancouver), posted an article he wrote for the *Christian Courier* in June when cannabis was still scheduled to be legalized on July 1st. Well, July 1st came and went with many people disappointed; but now legalization, a dream for many, has become a reality.

Ross interviewed several people for his article, including Daniel Martinez, the associate minister of the church he attends. Daniel's main responsibility is the youth of the church. One of the issues they discussed was: What would you say to kids regarding the recreational use of cannabis? During the conversation Daniel said, "Paul reminds us that our bodies are meant to be a temple of God. So, what I would say to kids is, just as in Paul's time, we have to make a decision: do you live your life as a disciple of Jesus or as a disciple of our secular society?"

Daniel's answer struck me with the same effect as a bucket of cold water thrown on someone sleeping. It was a shock to the system. It took my breath away.

Do you live your life as a disciple of Jesus or as a disciple of our secular society?

I believe this question goes beyond the recreational use of cannabis. Whether we like to admit it or not, we no longer live in days of Christendom when, amongst other things:

1. almost everyone had an active association with a faith community;
2. Sunday sport, competitions, and other *important* activities were the exception rather than the rule;
3. there was prayer in school and before meetings,

even council meetings; and

4. people actually asked and wondered: is this what Jesus would do?

Instead, today's secular society seems to focus on

1. the individual, and our personal needs and wants;
2. 'inclusivity' to the point where it excludes rather than respects opposing views; and
3. the view that belief in God is a relic of the past.

The result seems to be a society where exclusion, segregation, racism, classism and other abuses are increasing rather than diminishing.

Do you live your life as a disciple of Jesus or as a disciple of our secular society? My friends, this is a choice we have.

The church (The Presbyterian Church in Canada) faces challenges today ranging from *Recognition of Indigenous Territory to Same Sex Marriage to Declining Membership to Financial Woes* (the latter two are shared with all denominations from the Roman Catholic Church to The United Church in Canada). There is no shortage of challenges. The question is, how do we approach these and other challenges? Well, to borrow the words of Daniel Martinez, "We have to make a decision: do we live our lives as disciples of Jesus or as disciples of our secular society?"

It is my hope that we will choose the former - to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. Sometimes we may wonder what this looks like. My friends, all we have to do is pray to God for illumination, trust on Jesus Christ for guidance, open our hearts and minds to the leading of the Holy Spirit, and to read the Word of God.

Fall Blessings,

Rev. Dewald (Dewey) Delpont

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

While editing this issue of the *What's Up?* I noticed the similarities in Rev. Delport's and Rev. Fiona Swanson's messages (you'll find Rev. Swanson's article on p. 10).

Rev. Delport poses the question, 'how do we live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ?' He then answers his question with, 'pray to God for illumination, trust in Jesus Christ for guidance, open our hearts and minds to the leading of the Holy Spirit, and read the Word of God'.

In her article, Rev. Swanson addresses the very question Rev. Delport challenges us with and writes, 'unless we absorb it (the Word of God) they are just words', and concludes her message with, 'The Word of God is the foundation on which we build or 'construct' our lives in Jesus Christ'.

While I was examining these two articles, I was also reading Timothy Keller's book *The Prodigal God* (Keller is also a Presbyterian minister) and found the same message: 'We must personally appropriate it (the Gospel), making it more central to everything we see, think, and feel. That is how we grow spiritually in wisdom, love, joy and peace.' A few pages later, while discussing the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1-23) and the varied response people have to the Gospel, he comments, 'The only group of people who produced changed lives are... those who "hear the Word of God and understand it."'

Although the writing styles of Reverends Delport, Swanson, and Keller are all different, they are each saying the same thing; that we must understand the Gospel message in the Word of God and then 'personally appropriate it' (Keller), and 'absorb it into our very being' (Swanson).

But if the foundation of living our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ is to understand the Word of God and then absorb it, how do we go about acquiring this understanding?

All of this discussion has been a lead-in to allow me to put in a plug for Bible study at St. Giles.

Rev. Delport leads a one-hour Bible study on Wednesday mornings starting at 10:15 am. We are currently working our way through the Book of Ecclesiastes which, although probably written almost three millennia ago, is startlingly relevant to modern life as it explores the timeless question of, 'what's it (life) all about?'

Of course not everyone can make a Wednesday morning session, so Rev. Delport has recently begun a Thursday evening study of the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32). This study uses Timothy Keller's short book *The Prodigal God* to illustrate the Gospel message. By the time you read this the first of six sessions will have taken place (all sessions begin at 6:00 pm), but five remain scheduled for 15 and 29 November and then, following Christmas, 24 January and 7 and 21 February. All are welcome to either or both studies.

Best wishes for a joyous Christmas.

Denis Mascardelli

WELCOME TO SHELLEY MCKECHNIE



Shelley McKechnie is our new Administrative Assistant. She is a native Calgarian and graduate of the University of Calgary with a BSc degree in Biology and a BPE degree in Exercise Physiology. She worked primarily in the insurance industry until she began her next career at home caring for her family.

Although new to our office, Shelley is no stranger to St. Giles. She and her husband, Neil, have four children ranging in age from 6 to 16 years of age. They have all been a part of St. Giles' Vacation Bible Camp and attended Youth Group over the past number of years. Their favorite activities are the annual Pumpkin Carving and Tobogganing nights!

Shelley spends much of her time organizing family events and her children's activities. Consequently, she is looking forward to helping St. Giles coordinate the bookings and events for the church. Shelley enjoys knitting, music and camping at (almost!) any opportunity.

60 YEARS OF MUSIC AT ST. GILES

I began writing a history of the St. Giles choir back in 2008 but it was never finished. The joy of being an archivist, however, is that if one keeps something long enough, it becomes archive-worthy in its own right, so I have decided to pull it out, dust it off, and expand the article to include other musicians who have served for many years at St. Giles.

This essay began when I found, in the archives, a short history of the choir, written in 1990. I don't know who wrote it, but I am most grateful as I have used it as the basis for this article. Music has always been very important to this church. It was at only the second meeting of the new St. Giles session, on March 31st, 1957, that it was agreed that Mr. Weedon be the first organist with Mrs. Brown the substitute. This emphasis on music has continued right through to recent times, when the search committees for new ministers have emphasized the importance of music in the life of St. Giles.

The first photo of the choir was taken a year after the creation of St. Giles, on February 23rd, 1958. This shows the all-female choir standing nobly outside in their heeled shoes, choir gowns and mortar board hats on a brisk 5°C day for the sod turning service. The next big event in the choir's life would have been the dedication of the building a mere ten months later, on December 7th. A newspaper clipping shows the Elders and clergy waiting outside for the traditional "knocking on the door" ceremony. This must have been excruciating, because the temperature that day was -24°C with the wind chill bringing it down to -32°C. The choir was augmented by visiting singers for the occasion. It sang the anthem *Te Deum Laudamus* and Miss June Kelly (Mrs. June Stephen) sang the solo *How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings*.

The choir gained male voices in 1959. Bert Oscroft was one of these singers, and by 1961 he was also editing the church newsletter. Apparently, he would bring the latest issue to choir practice so the members could do the folding during the rehearsal! A junior choir was begun in 1960, with June Stephen directing. A 1962 news clipping shows Mrs. Stephen surrounded by all the (rather angelic looking) choir children. They were all, both boys and girls, dressed in white gowns, complete with flowing blue ribbons tied in bows. These gowns did double duty as angel costumes for

nativity plays for many years, and, I believe, some are still in the costume wardrobe.

The choir, together with other church members, has frequently participated in fund-raising events over the years. The records in the archives place the first such event in 1965. Bill Thorburn, Sr. had just assumed positions as both choir director and organist when he organized a concert to raise money for Calvin Presbyterian Church, which had been destroyed by fire. The choir, augmented with extra singers and an orchestra, performed Schubert's *Mass in G*. I had a quick look at the website for the Hungarian Calvin Church in Calgary, which proved interesting. It is mostly in Hungarian, which was a bit of a shock, but I did find an English entry that gave the history of the church. This mentions that the fire took place in 1966. I must update our records.

Fund-raising did not only occur for external needs. In 1971 a fund-raising effort was made to purchase gold (or mustard, as I call them) gowns for the choir. Initially, only the ladies were to wear the blue cowls, but the men took a vote and decided to wear cowls as well. Perhaps this explains why the men's gowns had a different collar to the ladies'. Of course, only the ladies wore the new blue velvet caps with their gowns. The old blue/grey gowns were donated to the new church of Varsity Acres. Rev. Dr. David Crawford, who also sang in the choir with his wife Marjorie, apparently liked his choir gown so much that he often wore it instead of his clerical gown for services.

I have discovered little mention of the junior choir until 1971, when Marjorie Crawford took over directing the Youth Choir. This was later renamed "New Wind". In the early years, it consisted of older teenagers who were able to perform quite elaborate pieces, but as the years progressed, and the teens graduated, the average age of the choir became much younger. Between 1974 and 1977 the choir performed *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *The Night the Angels Sang* and *Godspell* which was reprised at Varsity and St. Andrew's in 1977. In 1975 the junior



60 YEARS OF MUSIC AT ST. GILES

choir also took part in the Presbyterian centennial celebration held at the Jubilee. In 1978, Joanne Watson (another dedicated choir member) assisted Mrs. Crawford with *It's Cool in the Furnace*. By 1981, the choir had become much younger, and performances were restricted to providing anthems for various services. A young Marni Smith (now Strome) was first recorded as assisting in 1981 (Marni's mother, Marian had often played the piano for services when the organist was on vacation.) Leslie Low took over from Marjorie in 1987.

Bill Thorburn, Sr. wrote *Moses and the Burning Bush* in 1974, in memory of Rev. Hugh L. Simpson who had died in 1972. This was also performed, I believe, at the service commemorating the 18th anniversary of St. Giles in 1975. This was a big day because the Moderator attended this service in the morning and then attended the celebratory service for the Presbyterian Church in Canada's 100th anniversary that was held in the Jubilee Auditorium that evening. The St. Giles choir, naturally, took part in both services.

Garry Willis became choir director in 1978 and Susan Milner arrived in 1981 to assume the role as organist. Fortunately for St. Giles, Susan married Bill Woodward, and both served St. Giles for many, many years with their excellent musicianship. The following year was an exciting one for the congregation because a new Rogers organ was purchased using donations from the congregation.

One family that is notable for its musical contributions to St. Giles consists of the Lindsay sisters. All six played instruments and sang from an early age and performed at church events. Two have continued to contribute ever since. These are Carmen, who has sung in the choir for most of her adult life, and also provided many memorable violin solos, and Laurie, who plays both the violin and viola, and is a member of the Allegra quartet. This quartet has played at St. Giles for many a Christmas Eve and Easter service.

1986 is the first year that Malcolm Edwards is recorded as providing vacation relief for a holidaying organist. He has been an invaluable friend to St. Giles as he "filled in" whenever he could for the next 25 years. He was a rather strict taskmaster during rehearsals, but once told us that he admired church

choirs because they have to produce a polished piece of work every Sunday whilst other choirs can practise for weeks before they give a performance. That made us all feel much better about our little choir. Another notable musician who sang mostly solos for St. Giles during the 1980s and 1990s was Vince Peluso. He was a lyric tenor and opera singer who sang in grand dramatic style that would not leave a "dry in the house". Tragically, later in life, he suffered a medical crisis that took away his voice completely and he had to resort to writing for communication.

1987 was an exciting year for the St. Giles musicians. Firstly, the choir received the gift of a set of white gowns with red and gold cowls. These were kept for special occasions until 2011, when the choir decided to retire the mustard ones and wear the white ones every Sunday. Secondly, a grand piano was given to the church. And, last but not least, an event that is seared into the memories of those that took part, was a performance of *Godspell*. This was a huge event by all accounts. Furniture was removed from the chancel, sets were erected, complicated wiring was required and extra musicians were brought in to play percussion and guitars. Malcolm Edwards played the organ and synthesizer and Garry Willis directed. Susan Woodward, who had given birth to Robbie just shortly before, heroically returned to play the piano!

No sooner was 1987 over than the choir had to prepare for the Winter Olympics. Marjorie Crawford had submitted an audition tape, created very simply by the choir standing, and singing, around a tape recorder in the basement. The choir was accepted to sing in the 1000 voice Olympic Choir at the opening ceremonies in McMahon Stadium, as well as with the massed choir at the Opening Gala concert of the Olympic Arts Festival. It was the only church choir to do so, and it sang with such groups as the Philharmonic Chorus and the Festival Chorus as well as visiting choirs from across the country.

In 1990, the choir held a reunion and 50 current and former members squeezed into the chancel pews to sing for a Sunday service. In 1991 Marni Strome became Choir director for the first time. Career and music conflicts have taken her away for periods over





the years, the latest being last year when she went to California to attain a Master of Music degree, but she has always returned to resume this position and we are most appreciative.

Renovations to the basement were completed in 1998 that, amongst other things, created a room for the choir. Prior to that the choir had a very narrow corridor at the back of the basement hall where the gowns were kept in cupboards, and the blue velvet hats were stored on specially designed shelves. Also squeezed into this space were several metal boxes that stored all the choir music. These boxes appeared to have been trampled by elephants at some time as they were all bent and squished to such a degree it was difficult to actually remove the music. It is a complete mystery to me as to how they got into this state. Each Sunday the choir members would squeeze past each other to get to their gowns and would then do an intricate dance to divest winter coats and assume gowns without poking each other in the eyes. The appearance of an entire room, with plenty of space to hang both gowns and coats, together with newly acquired filing cabinets and shelving for all the music, caused the choir to think they had gone to heaven!

The choir, assisted by other members of the congregation, has continued to hold special events over the years to raise funds for either St. Giles or for other charities. Those who watched *Cinderella* with Dennis Long and Mark McCuaig as the ugly sisters, did not forget it in a hurry. Another sight seared into my

memory banks is that of Donald Bain, and two others, dressed in pink tutus for a talent show. The costumes were much simpler for a Cabaret themed fund raiser in 2001 where the choir just had to wear white aprons over black clothing. This may have been the inspiration for the annual Folk Night, organized by Jason Gaskarth, that has been held since 2009. Anyone who wishes to sing or play an instrument is welcome to take part in this relaxed event that is held "café" style in the basement.

Hopefully, music will continue to be a part of St. Giles life. Nowadays various music organizations rent space for their own events and Marni is starting a new Adult Community Choir that will hold rehearsals in the basement. Long may music, both sacred and secular, be heard throughout the building.

Gratitude Journal

With Thanksgiving still fresh in my memory, I have been thinking of a friend who keeps a daily gratitude journal. It is just how it sounds: a journal where she records things for which she is grateful. Obviously, some days are easier than others, but she perseveres to find something to be thankful about every day. While these could be the obvious, such as a beautiful sunset or a helping hand, they can also be the small things in life that make a day just that little bit easier. One example she gave me is when she has a bad cold. It is hard to be thankful during those days but she is grateful to the person who invented paper tissues! (I looked this up and it seems the Japanese were using paper tissues for centuries before Kimberley-Clark introduced Kleenex for removing facial creams in 1924.)

Janet Astle

ST. GILES CALGARY FOOD BANK



This year's 20th Anniversary of St Giles Calgary Food Bank participation was a magnificent success. The final numbers are not yet available, but we can report that this year's cash contributions are estimated at almost two and one half of last year. Food drop off contributions are estimated at more than double last year. The final numbers will be reported as soon as we have them.

Thank you everyone for continuing to make St. Giles such an important contributor to one of Calgary's greatest needs.

Bud Hamilton

SESSION NEWS

Fall has arrived along with a touch of winter. A very interesting change of events. Fortunately it did not seem to dampen our spirits for very long and Session is getting back into the swing of things after a shortened summer.

At each meeting we have a devotional from 'Time to Get Serious' by Tony Evans, followed with discussion and a hymn. We continue to work on a number of projects under the guidance of Rev. Delport.

This year we have been tackling an important concern, acknowledging the Treaty 7 Lands on which we worship. There is more information on this discussion below.

A major focus of Session has been to be fiscally responsible to St. Giles. To that end we had a Finance and Session meeting in the spring. Session will have conducted four Sunday Services by the end of the year covering for Rev. Delport while he is on vacation and continuing education.

We have signed a covenant with North Calgary Strings to share our space during the week, and a covenant with a home school group to share our space 2-3 days per week from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Neither agreement will result in interference with our special events. The booking of weddings increased to a total of nine for this year.

The garden team is to be gratefully acknowledged for

beautifying our grounds and thus enhancing our enjoyment.

Session welcomes Shelley McKechnie as our Administrative Assistant and Wayne Gallant as our Church Officer. And, of course, welcome back to Marni Strome, our Choir Director, and a big 'Thank You' to Ester Woelfle for her musical direction while Marni was away on study leave in California.

St. Giles has been busy and continues to be active in the lead-up to Christmas with several events which provide fellowship and spiritual enhancement. We recently enjoyed a very successful Turkey Dinner on Saturday, October 27, and our Fall Bazaar and Luncheon will take place on Saturday, November 24th. You as the congregation make it happen and Session is more than grateful for your participation.

May the grace of our Lord and Savior be with you today and always.

Candace Siddall, Clerk of Session



ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL INDIGENOUS TERRITORY

In 1994, The Presbyterian Church in Canada (PCC) confessed to God and to Aboriginal people for its role in the Indian Residential School System and committed to living out the spirit of that confession. Since then, you are probably aware of the work done by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. The PCC is dedicated to ensuring we learn from the history and legacy of the Residential Schools. A goal of our PCC Strategic Plan is to provide opportunities for building relationships between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people.

Recently, Session has been discussing the subject of acknowledging the territory where we gather and the people who called it home before us. It is one simple

way to live out the PCC's confession.

Acknowledgements may be printed, spoken, projected or posted on a website.

As Session prayerfully considers this matter, we would appreciate your thoughts. Please speak with any of the Elders or Rev. Delport.

Members of Session:

Rev. Dewald Delport (Moderator of Session),
Sandra Cameron Evans, Lorne Cowan, Dennis Daly,
Bud Hamilton, Ann Frost, Ian McKay, Joan McLean,
John McLean, Ivy Mewha, Jeanne Phene,
Candace Siddall, Wendell Siddall, Jenny Thomson

WELCOMING AT ST. GILES

As you may have noticed, there are now three people waiting to greet you on Sunday mornings, shake your hand and give you a bulletin. This resulted after a group of congregants got together and discussed how St. Giles can get better at providing hospitality.

One of the core values of St. Giles' Mission Statement is **Inviting Others**: "We value the act of of inviting others to share in our celebrations of Christ's way in the world, and welcoming all those who would come to our Church to learn who we are."

Having three people available on a Sunday morning, allows more one-on-one contact, to show worshippers who are not familiar with St. Giles where the nursery and baby room are, to walk them to the sanctuary, and to address questions.

As well, you may have noticed the new cards and envelopes with information on St. Giles in the pews,

something additional to help worshippers get to know our congregation.

Another of our core values is **Community**: "We value the fellowship of a warm and caring community that seeks to serve each other, the larger community, and Christ." More and more we are welcoming the neighborhood and beyond into St. Giles. This year we have developed relationships with two groups who will be using our facility: North Calgary String Academy and a homeschool group known as FreeLearners Co-op. What a gift – children, music and learning filling St. Giles during the week!

As you know, a 'Greeter' nametag isn't needed to show St. Giles' welcoming spirit. The next time you see an unfamiliar face, smile, introduce yourself, and start a conversation.

Sandra Cameron Evans

POP-UP ART WORKSHOP

Tuesday, September the 25th at St Giles might have been called Pop-Up Tuesday, when 14 participants attempted to create works of art. They were each given a blank canvas and a variety of brushes and acrylic paints and invited to let their imaginations have full reign. The results were outstanding and so were the comments and laughter as the artists exhibited their work and discussed their methods and inspiration. Did the soft music playing in the background help?

Coordinators were Ann Poole and Chris Browne with the assistance of Merle Dalip. Ann and Chris had attended a previous Pop-Up Art Workshop at Confederation Park Seniors' Centre put on by the Creative Aging Calgary Society (www.creativeagingcalgary.com).

Ann purchased all the necessary art supplies for this Workshop from the Dollar Stores. The charge of \$5.00

per person covered the expenses, with \$10.00 left over for church funds. Please let Ann or Chris know if you would like to have a similar workshop in the near future.

Chris Browne



The Collection Plate

A little boy was in church for the first time. He watched as the ushers passed around the collection plate. When they got to his pew, he told his father, "Don't pay for me, Daddy. I'm under five."

SEMINAR: MEANING MAKING IN OLDER AGE

On September 22, Dr. Annette Lane and Chaplain Marlette Reed presented a morning seminar in the St. Giles lower hall, entitled *Meaning making in older age: Your life a masterpiece!* They spoke of the challenges of aging in a culture that does not celebrate getting old, and there was discussion about how to *make* meaning (it takes conscious effort!) and what a difference that can make to both the elder, his or her family, as well as to society. Members of St. Giles as well as members of Westminster Presbyterian Church attended this informative seminar.

Annette and Marlette, the twins of former members Bert and Jeannette de Bruyn, were baptized by Rev. Hugh Simpson many years ago in St. Giles, and they were so pleased to be back to present in this church that was so positive in their own formation!



Chaplain Marlette Reed (left) and Dr. Annette Lane (right)

This seminar was coordinated by Ivy Mewha and Heather Mackie on behalf of the Gift Committee

GHANA MISSION PROJECT

On Sunday, October 14th, following our regular worship service, **Carole Tanney** gave a presentation on her mission work in Ghana, and after her talk we enjoyed typical Ghanaian snacks including cassava and plantain chips, boiled peanuts and fruit. Carole has been travelling to Ghana and working with Project Reach Out Ghana and World Hope International since 1993. These organizations based in Ghana and Canada, respectively, support permanent and satellite medical clinics, farming projects, literacy programs, vocational and primary



Carole Tanney and Cathy Brown

schools, micro-financing projects and elderly advocacy programs.

Carole has taken 11 teams from Canada over the years, including people from

various occupations including nurses, teachers, librarians, construction workers, farmers and other professionals to visit Ghana at their own expense in order to share their talents and skills and so help the poor in that country.

On November 1-22, Cathy Brown, a medical lab technologist, will be travelling to Ghana with Carole and two other women, Leree MacPherson and Kathy deSouza. We will be visiting the Accra area and then to northern Ghana, based in Yendi, where we will be working at satellite clinics.

This promises to be an incredible trip for me and I look forward to sharing my experiences when I return.

If you would like to assist in this ongoing mission through the purchase of medical supplies for clinics, contributions of money are greatly appreciated. The medicines are purchased in Ghana. Your Envelope donations should be designated for "Ghana Project".

Carole based her talk on 1 John 3:16 and in his sermon that morning, Rev. Delpont referred to John 13:34-35, Jesus' new commandment that we are to love one another because Jesus first loved us.

Cathy Brown

PAR AND THE OTHER GUY

The calendar says early October but a look out the window (at this writing) to a white world is a reminder that 'God is the ruler yet'. As commonly happens I'm not completely sure where this is going, but it will probably end up in two parts. First, because we're starting up a new church season, some musings about congregational life - nothing profound, just a bit of memory and some thoughts about the Sunday offering. After that there's some fun involving a character that we all know but no one's ever seen. A guy who delights in being a bother.

I think a check through our historic annual reports may show that decades ago, maybe back in the sixties, St. Giles had a formal membership of more than 600 persons. Of course, the functioning number was perhaps half that, nevertheless the Christmas and Easter Communion required folding chairs to be brought up from the Lower Hall, and there were twenty or so serving elders. On the recent World Communion Sunday there were five.

This is an observation, not a criticism. Nor are we alone. All denominations, from the traditional and fastidious to the modern and popular, are suffering. Yet the reality of God, a God of domain and power beyond imagination, has not diminished, nor has that of God's Son, who died a death of horror, and who we believe rose from the grave three days later. Nothing has changed in those fundamentals, but what is different is the competition. The Sabbath Day is scarcely kept holy by the general public, something which brings to memory an instruction I was given years ago as Session Clerk on a motion from a formidable lady elder. I was to write a letter to Mayor Ralph Klein demanding that stores not be open on Sundays. The result was predictable, but we all felt righteous.

More recently our minister made reference to



something called PAR. Perhaps not everyone knows that PAR is an acronym for Pre-Approved Remittance and has to do with the Sunday offering. It provides St. Giles with donor-agreed bank payments of a specific monthly amount and is in effect whether that person is present at worship or not. Although it's a useful convenience used by a dozen or so members, PAR can be confusing to unknowing volunteers taking up the offering who may stand expectantly, but without result, at our corner of the pew.

Now to the second part, which has to do with someone named Murphy. As I said, everyone knows Murphy, but no one's ever seen him. Really, we don't even know if Murphy is a him, although the ladies will have opinions. What we do know is that while he may not be a lawyer he's had a law named after him, and that he is determined and inventive.

Which takes us back to September. Many readers know that our family has a cottage near Kenora in Ontario, near the Manitoba border. Indeed, next summer will be the hundredth anniversary of my grandfather's purchase of the island property about a thousand miles east of here. It's relevant that the Kenora area has some of the best pickerel fishing in the country and is widely visited by Americans coming up from Minnesota. Owing to this, many cottagers, we included, fly our nation's flag to confirm our sovereignty.

Against this background, all but a couple of the essentials of the story can be seen in the picture. One that can't be seen is Murphy, chuckling somewhere off to one side. The other is the flag line, about two millimetres in diameter which now passes uselessly through a pulley at the top of the pole, and to which the flag is still attached.

OK, you've got it figured out. It's Murphy's Law. 'That Which Can Go Wrong Will Go Wrong'. And sure, the line broke below the flag, which is still resolutely determined to fly from its new nesting place in the tree. I confess that this development yielded language not to be found in the What's Up, but we'll get the flag down next year. There's an extension ladder which should reach the branch, and surely there's a willing grandson around.

Michael Moorhouse

FOCUS ON CHRIST AS YOU CONSTRUCT YOUR LIFE

The community hall where I work is under construction. Right now there are tarps covering the gaping hole where the front entrance and my office window were. The project manager said I needed a helmet and steel toed shoes to protect me if I was going into the construction site. I assured him my nail polish created a steel like protection - he smiled as he looked at them peek out of my open toed sandals. In regard to the helmet, I said I was waiting for one in my preferred colour of purple.



Nevertheless, I found a helmet in our garage, cleaned it up and added some purple. Garry said I shouldn't go overboard on decorating it - so I scaled back my plans! As I was thinking what to do I thought up a children's story and so decided to use Scripture as my embellishments. I added the words faith, hope, and love. I also put 'in all things give thanks' and 'Trust in the Lord'.

The helmet with words on it made me think of phylacteries, which are small leather boxes containing Hebrew texts on vellum, worn by Jewish men at morning prayer as a reminder to keep the law. Maybe we would be better at doing what we need to if

we were to do this, but I think that regardless of whether we read, or wear, or memorize God's Word, unless we absorb it into our very being, our heart, and allow it to change how we see and act in the world, then they are just words.

In the Bible there are about ten references to putting on the helmet of salvation. Spiritually speaking, the helmet of salvation provides hope and protects the mind against anything that would disorient or destroy the Christian, such as discouragement or deceit. A soldier going into battle without a helmet would have instantly exposed himself to the deadliest of blows. Leaving off any piece of the armor would have been dangerous, but to go without the helmet would have been unthinkable.

As I thought more about the Children's story, my helmet became a reminder that my - our - lives are under construction as well. Like I said, God gives us His Word but we have to do more than just read it. God surrounds us with opportunities to nourish our faith - whether it be attending worship, joining in a Bible study, contributing to a prayer group, or chatting with other Christians or non-Christians about our faith. These are all ways God builds us up. The Word of God is the foundation on which we build or 'construct' our lives in Jesus Christ.

May you heart and mind be focused on Christ as you construct your life in Word and in Deed to His glory and the salvation of all.

Rev. Fiona Swanson



JEANETTE MACKIE: LAWN BOWLING

Editors Note: In September Jeanette Mackie led her Alberta-B team to a gold medal at the 2018 Canadian Senior Triples Championships at the Calgary Lawn Bowling Club (CLBC). We would like to thank Bob Selzler for sharing this article with us which was previously published in their Bowling Newsletter.

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Long-Term Member & Athlete Profile - Janette Mackie

Janette was first introduced to lawn bowling in 1987 when her 70-year-old father was visiting from Scotland and was reminiscing about lawn bowling in his 30's. Janette had never seen her father lawn bowl, so she and her husband Lindsay and daughters Heather and Tracy thought it would be a good idea to take him down to the Calgary Lawn Bowling Club (CLBC) to watch him bowl. After shuttling him back and forth to the club 2 to 3 times a week, they decided that they should give the sport a try and the four of them all joined CLBC. Janette, Lindsay and Heather immediately enjoyed playing the sport together and have been members of CLBC ever since.



HAVING A BALL - Heather, Lindsay and Janette Mackie. Calgary Herald, June 8, 1994

Prior to lawn bowling Janette and Lindsay were both active playing tennis, badminton and curling. Their experience curling helped them to pick up lawn bowling quickly as both sports have many similarities - not aiming directly at the target, draw weight shots, take-outs, and game strategy.

Janette first started competing in provincial events in the late 1990s and has earned 11 medals between 2004 and 2018 in fours, mixed pairs and senior triples. She has gone to Canadian national championships three times and earlier this month led her Alberta-B team to a gold medal at the 2018 Canadian Senior Triples Championships at CLBC!

"It was very exciting to win gold at a Canadian



Left to Right: Team members Jeanette Mackie, Cathy Dallas and Chris Adams wearing their Gold Medals

championship and doing it at my home club made it extra special," stated Janette. She went on to say, "I was especially excited for my vice, Cathy Dallas, as this was the first time for her to compete in a Canadian championship. I was very happy not to have to throw the last bowl in the final end to win the game."

Janette and Lindsay have bowled all over Canada both recreationally and competitively, and have bowled while vacationing in Scotland, Australia and while wintering in New Zealand. Through bowling they've made friends with many people around the world. They met Dave and Annie Mathie from Vancouver at a Canadian championship in Halifax, became friends, and discovered that both couples got married in Scotland on the same day and the same year!

Many Changes Over the Last 30+ Years

Janette has seen tremendous change in lawn bowling over the years. When she first joined CLBC, there were actually two separate clubs, the Men's club and the Women's club. The division of labour around the club was men taking care of the greens and the surrounding grounds while the women took care of the kitchen duties. It wasn't until the mid-1990's that the two clubs became one, and the position of club president began to alternate between men and women every other year.

Today bowling is much more casual than it was when Janette started in the 80's. "I don't think it was a law or rule, but all these old Scottish guys at our club used to tell us, if you're not skips, stay on the bank, don't stand

JEANETTE MACKIE: LAWN BOWLING

on the green. And if you're not going to have your whites on don't expect to play," explained Janette.



Front of Medal

Back of Medal

When Janette first joined CLBC almost everyone had either Henselite or Taylor bowls and they were all black in colour, although over time brown bowls started to appear. There was even a lady at the club who played with wooden bowls.

A Committed Club Member

Janette has been a very active member since joining CLBC in 1987 – bowling socially, competing in club trophy and championship events, an engaged volunteer and a club leader.

She has held numerous board positions at CLBC, where she has been club President twice, club Secretary twice, and is an active leader on the social committee. She even did a term as Secretary on Lawn Bowls Association of Alberta (now known as Bowls Alberta).

Although not an official coach, Janette has helped with lessons to new bowlers and corporate event visitors all her years as a CLBC member.

A couple of months ago someone asked Janette, "It's amazing that Calgary Lawn has been around as long as it has, why?" Janette replied, "From the time I joined Calgary Lawn it has always had members that helped out all the time. Volunteering is huge, you can't run a club without volunteers sharing the load. We are very, very fortunate at Calgary Lawn, we have a lot of good dedicated volunteers!"

The social aspect is a big part of being a member of a club. For about 20 years, Janette and Lindsay hosted a CLBC Christmas party at their house.

Just Enjoy It!

Janette loves lawn bowling because it's a great social and competitive sport she can play outdoors in the fresh air. It has been a perfect lifelong sport she enjoys playing as a family or as a couple with her husband Lindsay.

Janette's advice to new bowlers, "Remember, just enjoy it!"

Bob Selzler



Thanksgiving and Communion

On Sunday, October 7, 2018 the congregation of St. Giles celebrated a special worship service of Thanksgiving and Communion led by Rev. Dewald Delpert.

Choir members decorated the table in the sanctuary with fruits and vegetables representing a good harvest. We gave thanks for the blessings in one's life, particularly for a good harvest and for accomplishments during the past year.

Thanksgiving Day in Canada has been a holiday on the second Monday of October since 1957.

WEDDING CELEBRATION

Erin Gray and Taylor Merchant were married on a beautiful summer day on September 1, 2018 at the Bearspaw Country Club in Calgary. Erin and Taylor met at Queen's University where they lived in the same residence. Taylor is an engineer working at DIRT Environmental Solutions, and Erin is a mental health nurse at Alberta Children's hospital. The officiant was Pam Davidson and she did a fantastic job in conducting the ceremony.



Erin's maid of honor was her sister Meghan Gray, and Taylor's best man was Trevor Harley who went to school with them. Erin's dress was from Pearl and Dot, and photographer was Laura Perry of Wild Heart Photography. Erin's aunt, Deanne Stephen, hosted a beautiful brunch the day after the wedding. The next day, the newlywed couple left for a two-week honeymoon in Japan.

Erin's grandparents are Bill and June Stephen, who were one of the first couples married at St. Giles. Her parents, Jeff and Jan Gray, were also married at St. Giles.

Taylor's parents are Bill and Gwen Merchant, and they live in Whitby, Ontario.

When Erin was in high school, she and her mom Jan volunteered in making breakfast at the church for 'Inn from the Cold.'

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND LUNCHEON



St. Giles Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon will be held on Saturday, November 24th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Come and bring your friends and enjoy a delicious soup and bun lunch

with home made apple pie for dessert.

There will be a *Savory and Sweet Pies and Bake Table*, *Cookies by the Dozen Table*, *Gift Baskets and Craft Table*, and much, much more. We will have a large number of homemade frozen meat and fruit pies. The savory pies will be beef and vegetable; and the sweet pies will be apple, strawberry and rhubarb. There will be beautifully wrapped Christmas Baskets to give as gifts to your friends.

All this and a hot lunch for the price of \$9.00 (adults) and \$4.00 (for children 12 years and under).

Your donations of baked goods for the *Bake Table* and items for the *Craft Table* and *Christmas Baskets* (such as jams, jellies, hot chocolate, tea, coffee, nuts,

chocolates, cookies, napkins, soap and hand cream) are much appreciated.

If you wish to donate to the *Christmas Baskets* please check the church bulletin for a complete list of items. Your donation for the *Christmas Baskets* should be marked "Baskets" and left in the office by Sunday November 18th. Donations for the *Craft Table* should be marked "Crafts" and left in the church office by Friday November 16th. Please also either price the items or leave a note with the items of the cost to make. Donations for the *Bake Table* can be brought to the church on the morning of the 24th.

We will be having a variety of cookies for the *Cookies by the Dozen Table*. You will be able to pick and choose from the many assortments of cookies that are available. If you would like to donate cookies (any type) to this table, please label your container with the type of cookies.

Ivy Mewha

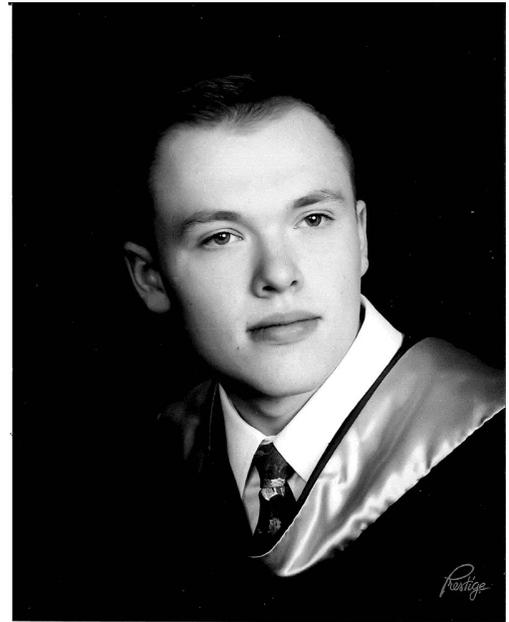
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Marianne Clark graduated from Sir Winston Churchill High School. This Fall she started her post-secondary education at the Alberta College of Art and Design (ACAD) working towards a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

Marianne is the eldest daughter of Ann and Nairn Clark, and sister to Tara and Kate.

Marianne is the granddaughter of Ethel and Fraser Halliday.



Eli Sollid graduated from Cochrane High School. This Fall he began studies at The University of Calgary and is working towards a Bachelor of Science degree.

Proud parents are Nichola and Curt Sollid.

Eli is the grandson of Glen and Betty Sollid and Ann Frost.

SPECIAL COMMUNION SERVICE AND LUNCHEON



On a beautiful Autumn day, Friday, October 12th, the Pastoral Care Team were delighted to welcome 15 guests/ members and 10 volunteers to celebrate a Special Communion

Service at the Church. Included were family members of those present and those who had recently lost a loved one.

After a most appropriate worship service conducted by the Rev. Dewald Delpont, we enjoyed a delicious luncheon in the Narthex. This time was one of

fellowship, renewing friendships and making new friends.

We are very grateful to those who provided the music, arranged the sound system, assisted in communication and to those who were our "drivers". You have our sincere thanks for helping us provide a spiritual and meaningful Communion Service and a social occasion for our "homebound" members and to those who attended.

With God's blessing and from Isaiah 40:11:

*"He tends his flock like a Shepherd:
He gathers the lambs in his arms and
carries them close to his heart."*

Jenny Thomson

CHOIR NEWS

We have had a great time re-connecting this Fall after a summer away. The structure of our rehearsals has changed a bit, as we have integrated the *Calgary Community Choir* into the fold for 10 rehearsals, leading to a Christmas concert at the Rosza Centre on Saturday December 8th at 7:00 pm. Tickets can be purchased through the Calgary Children's Choir website: calgarychildrenschoir.com. We would love to see you there!

Meanwhile, plans for special music at Christmas are underway, particularly for our Christmas Eve Service.

The choir again decorated the Sanctuary for the Thanksgiving and Communion Service on October 7th, with thanks to Janet Astle for coordinating those efforts.

Marni Strome



MARNI'S OAKLAND ADVENTURE

I was so fortunate to have an amazing adventure last year, pursuing my Masters of Music degree in Oakland, CA– just across the Bay (and a 10 minute subway ride to downtown San Francisco).

I attended Holy Names University, a small private university with an expansive view of the city of Oakland and the San Francisco skyline. The campus was lush and beautiful, with flowers blooming all year. I was able to walk or ride a bike almost every day. I loved exploring the city's many coffee shops and restaurants, especially when Don came down, and also taking in movies and concerts.

The program I completed specializes in Kodaly inspired music education. This is a particular way of working to help people develop their musicianship skills using a variety of tools and presenting music concepts in a sequential way, like math. This was a course-based program (as opposed to research-based, where you complete a thesis), so I was placed in a school where I taught grade three music twice a week as part of an evaluated practicum. The program also included a variety of

courses in pedagogy, folk music, musicianship, the study of the developing voice, research methods, and a seminar on J.S. Bach. All of these involved numerous projects, research, and study, as well as practice of piano and singing. We were also required to observe music teachers, so I had the opportunity to see a large variety of music classes from elementary to university.

I loved studying and practicing – as it was such a change from what I have been doing for the past 30 years! I enjoyed working hard and having homework to do that was interesting and challenging – a distinctly different experience from what I remember of my early university years! It was interesting for me to find out that my brain still works, and I can still learn something. It was also interesting to track my own progress as I practiced – you really *do* improve when you practice – who knew!! So, it was a year of epiphanies such as these, and I'll be forever grateful for the experience.



Marni and husband Don at Graduation Ceremony in Oakland, CA

Marni Strome

MOMS AND TOTS PROGRAM



Moms & Tots at St Giles has begun its fourth full year of working to bring timely and accurate information to new moms and other caregivers. The sessions have proven popular and many of those attending were referred by friends. Jeanne Phené has taken on the important role of publicizing our program on social media and has made a big difference in our online presence. Sessions on Positive Discipline and Family Stress have already been held this fall with two more lined up: Language Development in the Early Years and Early Childhood Attachment.

Linda Anderson, Ann Frost, Donna Hamilton, Teuny Howarth, Dianne Mascardelli, Candace Siddall, Gillian Siddall



SHANNON AND MADELEINE AT CAMP

Thank you for your ongoing support, through the campers' fund, for helping to send Shannon and Madeleine to Camp Kannawin. As always, their spirits were raised participating in camp. Shannon attended the Leader in Training session and Madeleine attended the Senior Arts and Adventure camp.

The ministry of camp is essential to our children and youth gaining awareness of themselves, developing leadership skills, and absorbing the love of God through interactions with the amazing staff at Camp Kannawin.

Many blessings,
Toby Gaskarth



Left to Right: Shannon, mom Toby, and Madeleine.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Church School started up again on September 9th and we once again have two different classes. The younger class focuses on Old and New Testament Bible stories and uses wooden figures as we tell the stories. The older class (the Blaze class) is using a curriculum that centres the lesson on a theme (such as real friends, aligning our lives with Jesus, the true gift of Christmas) and then uses Bible verses to support the learning. This year we are happy that we have had a few new faces join our roster as teachers, allowing the teachers of the Blaze class to teach roughly once a month. Thank you to Zlatica Delpert and Trish Terrill for joining Dianne Mascardelli, Susan Carmichael and Cathy Brown as teachers for the older children. The addition of these teachers has allowed Sandra Cameron Evans to be a team teacher for the younger children with myself. Ivy Mewha is our sub this year for times when a regular teacher can't be there, and Gillian Siddall has volunteered to help us out when we need a hand and for some of our special projects.

The Church School children will once again be making Christmas cards for the shut-ins this year, and we will be trying something a little different to help the children make the cards more quickly as unfortunately the number of shut-in members greatly exceeds the

number of children. If the basics of the cards can be made more rapidly this will give the children more time to personalize the cards and allow us to get them completed on time for the Pastoral Care Committee to hand them out. This is a fun project for the children and allows them to connect a little with some of our shut-in members. And with the new pictorial directory having just been completed, we will once again be able to put faces to the names of some of the people they are making cards for.



This year the teachers have decided that instead of having the children participate in the service in late December we will instead have a little party in our Church School classes to celebrate Christmas. While we understand that the congregation enjoys the children participating, with the numbers and ages of children in our church school that regularly attend we have decided to try something different this year.

Thank you to Dianne Mascardelli and Susan Carmichael for creating packages that could be used all summer for the children who attended, and to Dianne for finding a volunteer to teach each week! Thanks to all those who volunteered to take one Sunday, many hands made light work and we were able to share the fun of working with our children.

Heather Mackie

RYAN AT CAMP KANNAWIN

Nolan, Auntie Kathy, Mom and I went to Camp Kannawin for the July long weekend, and then they left me there for a week for the Lion Hearts Camp.

Thank you very much for the money from the church fund to support me at camp for the week.

I learned new songs and how to play gaga ball. The song I liked the best was "I just wanna be a sheep, baa baa baa".

There is a long list of the things I liked !!!

- ◆ the cabins
- ◆ all of the counselors - Yohan, Nick, Miriam, Zac, Shelby, Alise, Eddy, Cara, and Colin
- ◆ the slip and slide, with soap to make it so slippery
- ◆ learning how to canoe and do archery
- ◆ the beach and playing in the sand
- ◆ ga ga ball was so much fun

- ◆ roasting marshmallows, and the gluten free smores and food
- ◆ learning new graces, and the 3rd verse of Johnny Appleseed!!

So, Thank you very much!

Ryan McMillan



Ryan getting dirty the first day, and already needing a bandaid!

Auntie Kathy, my mom Tracy, my brother Nolan, and me.

COMMENTS FROM YOUR REPRESENTATIVE ELDER ON PRESBYTERY

Presbytery met on Sept. 18th at Westminster, Calgary followed by the Installation Service of Rev. Kobus Genis as Moderator.

Discerning the Future of our Presbytery

- Enthusiasms and Concerns Regarding the Ministries of the Presbytery
 - Prayers were offered for Rev. Jan Hazlett on the death of her daughter;
 - Wayne Hubbard, Director of Music, celebrated his 20 years of music at Varsity Acres.
- Mission and Strategy
 - Presbytery asked St. Andrew's to provide an annual financial report to the Presbytery concerning the funding for the Associate Minister, Family Ministries in relation to his work South of Fish Creek;
 - In relation to Presbytery's work on becoming a Missional church, Nick Warnes, Director of Cyclical, will be invited to Calgary in November.

Reports on the Ministries of our Presbytery

- Clergy and Congregational Care
 - The Presbytery Visitation to Banff report was presented with commendations to the Board of Managers on their financial stewardship and care of the church facility. As well, it was moved that the Session renew the congregation's vision in regards to the needs of Banff and the Bow Valley, reporting back to Presbytery in February 2019.
- Administration Committee
 - Rev. Jan Hazlett's health leave was extended until a note from her doctor is presented;
 - The number of Presbytery meetings was increased to five plus the retreat each year;
 - The acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples and their lands as proposed was determined to be appropriate.

Reports from Interim Moderators/Presbytery Representatives

- Grace Church
 - Since Presbytery's approval of the three calls, two have been accepted and the Presbytery for the third will be meeting soon;
 - It is hoped that a combined induction service can be held in November.

Reports on our Ministry Partnerships

- Women's Missionary Society
 - Synodical held its annual meeting on June 9th at St. Andrew's with discussion on ways to increase awareness of WMS. This was followed by the annual Presbyterians Gathering with Rev. Dr. Nancy Cox speaking on "I Witness: Speaking Up as Mission".
- Director of Regional Ministries
 - In partnership with Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the ACT Alliance, PWS&D invites congregations to assist with the Africa Relief in Sudan, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo resulting from flooding and violence.
- Chair of Christian thought Advisory Council
 - This Chair at the UofC has been vacant for two years and will be posted this fall with hopefully someone in place early 2019;
 - The Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee, of which the Presbytery is a member, are being rewritten.
- United/Presbyterian Campus Ministry
 - With the governance structure of the United Church of Canada changing, the Campus Ministry has been working on bylaws necessary to be incorporated. This has led to discussions about the nature of this ministry and the Presbytery's responsibilities and liabilities going forward;
 - It was agreed that the new Presbytery representatives, Rev. Jin Woo Kim and Ms. Cathy Gale and Mission and Strategy investigate and assess the ongoing relationship with the Campus Ministry.

Presbytery Officers

- Clerk's Report
 - It was confirmed that Rev. Delport will be a commissioner to General Assembly in 2019;
 - Presbytery moved that Rev. N. Athanasiadis be placed on the Appendix to the Roll effective Sept. 30, prior to his Induction Service at Grace.

Next Meeting – The next regular meeting will take place November 6th at Varsity Acres. All are welcome.

Sandra Cameron Evans

FINANCIAL UPDATE TO SEPTEMBER 2018

The table to the right provides readers with a simplified view of St. Giles' financial state for the first 9 months of the year.

Note that this isn't a complete financial statement, which is a more comprehensive accounting of our church's financial health as it includes such items as fund balances, liabilities, receivables, and depreciation (a non-cash charge). What the table shows is the money spent and income for the period 1 January to 30 September.

Total income was \$154,550 while expenses were \$185,461, resulting in a deficit (income minus expenses) of \$30,911.

For those wondering what the major categories represent, the following simple explanations may help.

Envelope Offerings – Sunday morning offerings, pre-authorized remittances (PAR), and any other donations.

The major sources of *Other Income* include: rent from the Calgary Korean Church (\$8,550); 'Congregational Life' events such as the May English Tea, St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Shrove Tuesday and Folk Night (\$10,642); weddings and funerals (\$1,775); and special gifts 'in memory of' (\$10,390). A wide variety of other activities account for the remaining \$3,777.

Assessments includes Presbytery Dues and the Presbyterian Pension Plan.

Payroll Expenses – by far the largest expense, captures the cost (salary and benefits) of the minister and the church's other employees.

Christian Education – costs associated with the library, Sunday School, Youth Group and Kamp Kannawin (\$1,000).

Worship and Service – a hodgepodge category that includes items such as music materials, special occasion musicians, the stipend paid to our organist/pianist/choir director, and special service costs such as weddings and funerals.

Mission and Outreach – captures our congregation's financial support for a variety of mission activities such as Kairos, Coldest Night of the Year, the Thutong Ya Bana School (\$1,150) and Presbyterians Sharing (\$7,000).

Office and Supplies – as the name suggests, this category captures expenses for office supplies, postage, copier and computer. It also includes bank charges.

	1 Jan - 30 Sep 2018
Income	
Envelope Offerings	119,416
Other Income	35,134
Total Income	154,550
Expenses	
Assessments	14,262
Payroll Expenses	113,103
Christian Education	1,482
Worship & Service	13,769
Mission & Outreach	8,721
Office & Supplies	9,590
Property Expenses	23,237
Congregation	1,297
Total Expenses	185,461
Surplus/Deficit	(30,911)

Property Expenses are the second largest draw on our finances. The major items in this category are utilities (\$13,342), regular maintenance (\$7,114), emergency repairs (fortunately none so far this year), and telephone and internet expenses (\$1,590).

Congregation Events – as mentioned under *Other Income*, various Congregational Life Events are a significant source of income. This category captures the expenses associated with such events.

Note: thanks to our Treasurer, Connie Harms, for providing the information for the financial update.



UPCOMING EVENTS



WORSHIP SERVICES ARE HELD EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM

- ★ **Bible Study:** Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:15 am in the Park Room. We are discussing Ecclesiastes, a book that holds startling relevance to living in today's world.
- ★ **Mid-Week Mix:** Following Bible study, join us for exercises at 11:30 am, followed by a bag-lunch at noon.
- ★ **Mid-Week Praise:** Come and join us on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. We'll sing some old songs, some new songs, and learn a few more.
- ★ **Moms & Tots:** Those who care for babies and small children are invited to attend sessions given by qualified professionals on topics designed to be helpful and informative. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month and start at 10:00 am.
- ★ **November 24:** Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon — come and bring a friend.
- ★ **December 23:** 10:00 am — regular Worship Service
- ★ **December 24:** 6:00 pm— Christmas Eve Worship Service of carols, scripture and special music in celebration of the birth of Jesus.
- ★ **December 25:** Enjoy Christmas Day with family and friends.

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

"...what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8 (NRSV).

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