

CENTENNIAL HOTSPOT

Centennial Presbyterian Church

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IN THIS ISSUE

Minister's Musings	1
Notes from the Loft	2
Worship Committee	2
Pews News	2
Virtual Coffee Hour	2
From the Session	3
From the Office	3
Pastoral Care Team	3
Upcoming Events	3
Prayer Calendar	4
FISH Network	4
Board	4
On the Lighter Side	5

Minister's Musings

Think about such things

At the end of his letter to the Philippians, Paul gives a prescription for positive thinking that if followed has the power to transform our lives. **Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.**

This verse gives us eight questions to ask about our thoughts. Before you think and before you speak, ask these six questions.

1. Is it true? "Whatever is true." Truth is the first test. Knox translates this as "all that rings true." Before you open your mouth, are you speaking the truth? Do your words have the "ring of truth" about them? This question rules out all that is dishonest, untrue, and unreliable. Don't entertain lies, or gossip, or rumors, or half-truths, in your thinking about other people or situations you are facing. Concentrate on what you know to be true.

2. Is it noble? "Whatever is noble." The word means "honor-able, worthy of reverence." Some commentators have suggested that the word 'noble' here also carries the idea of being serious, rather

than flippant or superficial. Is your thought life honorable? Do you ponder things that are noble and of serious purpose? Or do you dwell on the frivolous and trivial?

3. Is it right? "Whatever is right." This means "in conformity to God's standards." Not, "Is it right in my eyes?" or "Is it right in the eyes of others?" but "Is it right in God's eyes?" Find out what pleases the Lord, Paul urges us in Eph 5.10.

4. Is it pure? "Whatever is pure." The word means "undefiled, chaste, clean, holy." It touches the whole area of moral purity. Is your thought-life clean? We used to say, "Get your mind out of the gutter." If you live in the gutter, don't be surprised that your mind is covered with slime.

Paul says, "Think about things that are not tainted with evil." Every day on our computer and television screens we are bombarded with images that are anything but right and pure. The phrase "garbage in, garbage out" applies here.

5. Is it lovely? "Whatever is lovely", attractive, pleasing to our sense of beauty, Paul continues, as opposed to dwelling on things that are ugly. The word refers to that which is beautiful and attractive in a moral sense and aesthetically. Think about a sunset, amazing athleticism, and beautiful art and music. But also think about a newborn baby, caring for the poor, hugging a loved one, and someone pouring out their heart in prayer. It's why a walk in the country, to appreciate God's handiwork in creation, can be so therapeutic.

6. Is it admirable? "Whatever is admirable", comes next, to cover anything that people admire or have a good opinion about. This question asks us to focus on the things that are positive, not negative, constructive not destructive, things that build up not the things that tear down. This means editing your words so that you simply delete the non-admirable things from your vocabulary.

And since Paul has not given us an exhaustive list of good things, he extends the list by saying "if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things" (4:8b). Paul gives us the freedom to expand our thoughts to the many wonderful things the Lord has given us to think about.

The verse ends with a promise. "And the God of peace will be with you." The God of peace only dwells with us when we think and do what God is telling us to think and do in verses 8 and 9. The desire of a true Christian is the God of peace more than the peace of God. The result of a pure mind is that you will have the presence of God. The God of peace will be with you.



NOTES FROM THE LOFT

Not much new happening in the world of music. We continue to work on our international anthems, with Doug adding his vocals and other instrumentation remotely. Technology is an amazing thing!



As part of an initiative from the FISH Network we are asking people to submit their favourite hymn and a brief explanation as to why that we can add to our last service of each month. It's a way we can get to know a little bit more about each other. Please take the time to email me at the office so we can prepare and record these hymns.

Carla Zacharias
Music Team Leader

WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

As more and more of us get vaccinated we can feel that return to actual physical worship is getting closer to a reality. If the provincial government's goal of vaccination being available to everyone by the end of June we can pray the day will be soon. We continue to value your input on all matters pertaining to worship both virtual and physical. Please direct your comments to us at office@centennialchurch.ca or broad2well@shaw.ca

This month we observe the darkest day of the Christian calendar on Good Friday, April 2 and the most holy and glorious, Resurrection Day on April 4. We join as a committee to wish you a most blessed Easter season.

Virtual communion services are continuing and will be celebrated by Zoom the first Sunday of each month at 11:00 am. As I write this, the new screen at the rear of the church will be installed tomorrow, March 31 and we anticipate it being ready and operational for our return to the sanctuary. (*Update: due to unforeseen circumstances, the installation has been delayed*)

Upcoming services include Music Appreciation Sunday May 16 and Anniversary Sunday May 23. It will be Centennials 46th anniversary.

You may have noticed that on the recommendation of the FISH Network we are resuming the recognition of favourite hymns. Please let the office know of your favourite together with the story behind why.

Also, please continue to let us know your upcoming family celebrations so that we can acknowledge them in the announcements.

We continue with virtual coffee time at 11:00 am each Sunday (following communion on those days.) If you have difficulty with joining, please call Jim Broadwell at (403) 285-2976 for help.

Jim Broadwell
Chairman, Worship Committee

PEWS NEWS

Birthdays to celebrate in April!

April 1, Nyagoyini Changach; April 4, Nyajab Changach; April 5, Krystal Oben; April 6, Josh Flim; April 13, Bernadette Fonmedig (Muma); April 14, Olive Lewis; April 15, Rameses Rivera; April 23, Velma Smith; April 27, Curtis Chesami

Please keep Priscilla Towers in your prayers as she moved to the Lodge at Valley Ridge the end of March while she waits for her caregiver to arrive; the family of Manamanya Obang in their recent loss; the family and friends of Mavis Williams in her passing.

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR!

Our Virtual Coffee hour continues! It is an easy way to connect with others from the congregation. You can stay for five minutes, half an hour, an hour! Come say hi!

April 4 will be our Communion service. Please follow the same steps as for our coffee hour. The information is below.

The information you need is:

11:00 am on April 11, 18, 25 (if the service goes long, or your coffee isn't quite ready, just jump on the call when you can!)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83259579765?pwd=Ri9JTUorNFRKeWNDUlpUK2xUQWREQT09>

Meeting ID: 832 5957 9765 Passcode: 369315 One tap mobile +1 647 374 4685 .. 83259579765#

If you have any difficulties, please contact Jim Broadwell and he can talk you through it.

FROM THE SESSION:

The passing of elder Mavis Williams was noted with recognition for her amazing care and consideration for all around her and her strong faith and work for our congregation.

There will be a short Congregational Meeting via Zoom on Sunday, April 18, 2021 at 11:00 AM to approve the 2020 financial statements that weren't ready for our Annual Meeting.

The Session is planning a workshop for April 24th to work on establishing priorities for ministry going forward until 2023. This will be facilitated by Rev. Jean Morris, the Presbytery General Presbyter for our Presbytery.

There will be a live Holy Communion service using Zoom on Sunday, April 4th at 11:00 AM.

The Leading with Care committee will be looking into any preparations that may be needed to be ready to reopen when safe to do so.

Doug Bonar
Clerk of Session

FROM THE OFFICE

Office Hours:

Rev. Kim will in the church office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30—4:00.

Carla will be in the church office Thursdays 10:00 –12:00 and Fridays from 10:00—12:30

The **Today magazines** for May/June are in! Pop by anytime during office hours (↑) to pick yours up!

If you have **upcoming birthdays and anniversaries** you would like us to celebrate as we do every Sunday, please send the dates to office@centennialchurch.ca or call Carla Zacharias and we will get them in for celebrating.

Just a quick reminder, please remember to write "**Envelope Secretary**" on your envelope when mailing in your offerings. Offering envelopes are counted the last Monday of each month.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Prayer Shawl Ministry

About 6 months ago, the father of a friend was diagnosed with Type II diabetes. The family immediately jumped in to help, learning how to cook new recipes, get in the exercise and his check up in January was off the charts! Sugars had dropped, other levels had stabilized, all great news. He then moved in with my friend so they could just take care of each other. One day he went into the kitchen for his coffee and she heard a thump. Within mere seconds he was gone. Massive heart attack. It took her three weeks to tell those not closest to her. I immediately inquired of her best friend what her favourite colour was and promptly sent off a shawl without telling her I was doing so. No card, just the shawl and tag. When she received it, I received a simple message "*I cannot thank you enough*". As we chatted online she shared what she was feeling when she put it around her shoulders. "*You truly feel the strength of others when you wear the shawl! It is amazing!!! "I feel empowered and protected with it on." "I still cannot put into words what the shawl radiates. It is kind of spooky in a sense. It means the world to me "*

Thank you to Daniel Edie, Emmanuel Nyambod and Pride Muma for helping Shirley Mittoo with relocating her freezer.

Carla Zacharias,
Pastoral Care Team Leader

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2	Good Friday	April 11, 18, 25	Virtual Coffee Hour
April 4	Easter Sunday	Meetings:	
	Communion via Zoom at 11:00 am	April 21	FISH Network at 7:0 pm
April 18	Zoom Congregational Meeting Financial Statements, at 11:00 am	April 27	Worship Committee Meeting @ 4:00 pm

PRAYER CALENDAR

If you have any prayer concerns that arise, please contact the office and we can include these in our prayer chain. If you would like to be part of our prayer chain, please contact the office and have your name added to the list. Updates will be given via text or email as is suitable for you.



The FISH Network

“Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

FISH Network mission, Ephesians 4:15-16

FISH Network: Friendship Inspiration Sharing Hospitality

Israel Ayongwa was welcomed to the **FISH Network** at our February 2021 meeting.

Discussion at our March **FISH Network** meeting included one of the initiatives introduced at our January 2021 meeting, random – and deliberate – acts of kindness. It was gratifying to acknowledge and celebrate Daniel Edie, Emmanuel Nyambod and Pride Muma who responded to a request from Shirley Mittoo to help move her freezer. This kindness brought us joy and no doubt was rewarding for Daniel, Emmanuel, and Pride. Heartfelt thanks to each of them. Enhancing our church community through **networking**, love of our church, and love of one another – how wonderful! Let’s continue in the path of **friendship** and fellowship. Random and deliberate acts of kindness – please let us know of any instances that you would like to **share**.

Have you received a call from one of your Centennial friends? We hope you have been **inspired** to make some calls – perhaps some Happy Easter greetings. We will continue reaching out to you. Please feel welcome to contact our **FISH Network** -- Annie Edie, Carla Zacharias, Israel Ayongwa, Jean Tupper, Jin Woo Kim, Phyllis Russell, Shirley Watts, Simon DeVries. If you are uncertain how to reach us, please call Centennial Presbyterian Church (403 285-7144) or reference your annual report church directory. We want to be a resource for you – one of **Friendship, Inspiration, Sharing, Hospitality**.

Jean Tupper and the FISH Network

THE BOARD

FINANCIAL UPDATE (as of February 28, 2021)

Overall Financial Status (to above date)

Revenue	\$12,847.10
Expenditures	\$25,488.06
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$12,640.96)

Sources of Revenue

Offering \$11,402.00

Investment* \$ -

Other# \$1,310

* Will be reported quarterly

Government wage subsidy

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

What happened to the Easter Bunny when he misbehaved at school?
He was eggspelled!

Why shouldn't you tell an Easter egg a joke?
It might crack up!

How many Easter eggs can you put in an empty basket?
Only one—after that it's not empty anymore!

Why did the Easter Bunny have on a hat?
Because he was having a bad hare day.

Where does the Easter Bunny like to eat breakfast?
IHOP

What do you call a line of rabbits jumping backwards?
A receding hare-line



WORLD'S BEST VOLUNTEER

this certificate is awarded to:

Jim Broadwell

in recognition, of

Developing our video services

FISH Network

April 2021

As newsletters are being emailed at this time, for those who do not have email addresses or have not provided one a physical copy of the newsletter will be mailed.

May Newsletter submission deadline is April 28