

CENTENNIAL HOTSPOT

Centennial Presbyterian Church
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IN THIS ISSUE

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

Minister's Musings

Spiritual Formation at Centennial

1 Two of the most "overpromised, underdelivered" aspects of
 1 church life are community and transformation – so says Ruth
 2 Haley Barton in the opening pages of *Life Together in Christ:
 2 Experiencing Transformation in Community*, and I'm inclined to
 concur.

2 Barton has learned from experience, as you likely have as
 2 well, that "it is possible to hang around other Christians a lot,
 3 meet regularly for worship, study our Bibles, join a church and
 3 even call ourselves a community but not change at all in ways
 that count."

3 Rather than settling for life without community and trans-
 3 formation, however, Barton makes the case that our best
 4 chance at experiencing a measure of both is to pursue them in
 4 tandem, as two sides of the same coin. "Spiritual transfor-
 mation," she writes, "takes place incrementally over time with
 others in the context of disciplines and practices that open us
 to God."

4 Fundamental to spiritual transformation, she goes on to say,

are three things held in common: shared understanding about what it is we're pursuing; shared language for speaking about the process; and a shared commitment to making transformation a priority in how we orient our lives.

If transformation is to be Christian in any meaningful sense of the term, it will not end with us. In other words, it will not only be a matter of the heart, though it may very well begin there. That's because, in Barton's words, "Spiritual transformation results in an increasing capacity to discern the will of God so we can actually do God's will in the world. This is how spiritual formation and mission come together in fruitful synergy for the good of all."

I've been working on a spiritual formation program to help people at Centennial (including myself) to be connected to God and to each other and continue to grow. I want to work with you on this endeavor together. Let's think together about "plans" for moving forward. Let's con-sid-er "prac-tices" for this glorious life in the kingdom of God.



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.
 March Newsletter submission deadline is February 24.

UPCOMING EVENTS		Meetings:	
February 7	Communion via Zoom at 11:00 am	February 17	FISH Network at 7:00 pm
February 14, 21, 28	Virtual Coffee Hour	February 23	Worship Committee Meeting @ 4:00 pm Session Meeting @ 7:00 pm

NOTES FROM THE LOFT



February 17 is Ash Wednesday. We have in several years past had a jazz service the Sunday before, sometimes even complete with a pancake brunch to celebrate Shrove Tuesday.

It wasn't until I was here at Centennial that I became aware of that celebration. I often wondered what its symbolism was. It is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent, the 40 days leading up to Easter was traditionally a time of fasting.

I also learned that Mardi Gras refers to the events of the Carnival celebration, beginning on or after the Christian feasts of the Epiphany and culminating on the day before Ash Wednesday, and always occurs 47 days before Easter.

While it originated as a pagan celebration of spring and fertility, when Christianity arrived in Rome, the religious leaders decided to incorporate the traditions into the new faith. The excess of Mardi Gras season became a prelude to Lent, again a time of fasting.

Will you be celebrating Fat Tuesday with a healthy serving of pancakes for one of your meals?

Here is a link to a New Orleans version of When the Saints Go Marching In. Enjoy.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vnCV6OQ0ZTA>

Carla Zacharias
Music Team Leader

WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

Given the age profile of our congregation, it is becoming more apparent that virtual worship will continue for a time. We do continue to consider reopening at the appropriate time as we pray that the ongoing distribution of vaccine will hasten that day. 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

Virtual communion services are continuing and will be celebrated the first Sunday of each month at 11:00 am.

We are pleased that the reinforcement of the wall in the sanctuary was accomplished at a far lower cost than many of us feared. Unfortunately a casualty of the repair is a beam bisecting our rear screen. We have received sad news that Paul Hartsok, our tech go-to guy has died. His son is continuing the business and will be providing us with a quote to relocate the screen.

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 February!

February 4, Reid MacPhee, Annie Edie; February 7, Doris Edie; February 8, Christerlen Arguilles; February 9, Joe Peter; February 14, Judejunior Enyeawah; February 20, John Bradford; February 22, Frank Tigley, Partek Changach; February 23, Morgan Muma; February 26, Pam Flim; February 28, Lily Serina

Please keep Priscilla Towers in your prayers as she moved to the Carewest Glenmore Park facility for rehabilitation work.

Mavis Williams, the first person many of us met when we came to Centennial is at the George Boyack Centre, where she has been for a while. Recently she has not been doing very well and we ask that you keep her and her family in your prayers.

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!

February 7 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 February 14, 21, 28 (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=Ri9JTUorNFRKeWNUUlpUK2xUQWREQT09>

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 Session is planning a Retreat (using Zoom) to be held on Feb. 20th to work on recommendations from the Presbytery Visitation and do some training.

An application has been made to the Chisholm Fund for a grant to cover the costs for the structural repair of the east wall, the installation of a grease trap in the kitchen and the installation of an alarm system. The Fund meets in April to decide on approvals for funding requests.

The Annual Meeting date has been set for March 7, 2021 and will be an online meeting using Zoom. The meeting is scheduled to start at 11:00 AM. Members can attend using computers/laptops with video and audio capabilities, tablets/Ipads, smart phones or can call in on regular telephones. More information on how to attend will be supplied closer to the date. There are items to discuss such as our financial investment and mission work involving approval of another refugee sponsorship. Committees will not be reset at this meeting with the intent being to hold a congregational meeting in the fall for this purpose when hopefully we are able to meet in person.

Doug Bonar
Clerk of Session

FROM THE OFFICE

Due to the current restrictions as of the end of December, Carla's in office hours will be Friday from 9:30-12:00. At home office hours will be Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00-12:00.

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

Your **OFFERING ENVELOPES** are in your mailboxes. Pop by anytime during office hours (↑) to pick yours up!

The **Today magazines** and **Daily Bible Reading Guides for 2021** 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.

Offering envelopes have arrived at the office. Francis has placed them in your mail slots. You are welcome to pop by anytime during office hours (please see above) to pick them up.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Random Acts of Kindness

Please continue to keep in mind to submit a random act of kindness that you have either given or received so that we can share some happy news with each other

One of young families expressed a need for some baby items and the request was answered quickly! We are pleased to say the items have been received and were gratefully accepted.

Carla Zacharias,
Pastoral Care Team Leader
centpastoralcareteam@gmail.com

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Q. How did the phone propose to his girlfriend on Valentine's Day? A. He gave her a ring.

Q. What did the girl cat say to the boy cat on Valentine's Day? A. You're purrrr-fect for me.

Q: What did the toast say to the butter on Valentine's Day? A: You're my butter half!

Q: What did one watermelon say to the other on Valentine's Day? A: You're one in a melon!

What's the difference between a \$20 steak and a \$55 steak? February 14th.

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

Our initial **FISH Network** meeting for 2021 was one of sharing, inspiration, and hospitality as we enjoyed the company of one another. Engaging initiative ideas included movie nights, a book club, random – and deliberate – acts of kindness stories. Our prayer partner network continues to be strong and we are preparing to increase the network.

We encourage you to continue to reach out to one another. Think about how good it is to receive a call from one of your Centennial friends. Be that Centennial friend. Make a call or two! We will continue reaching out to you. Please feel welcome to contact our **FISH Network** -- Annie Edie, Carla Zacharias, 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

