

# CENTENNIAL HOTSPOT

Centennial Presbyterian Church

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## MINISTER'S MUSINGS

One of things I always dread is having to go to somewhere I've never been before and being given directions by someone who goes there all the time. Have you ever noticed that the directions always start off in the same way? 'Oh, it's ever so easy to find. You really can't miss it.' And then follow all the ... 'go through two sets of lights and 100 meters after the second set ... or is it after a third set ... no, I think it's the second set ... watch out for a Pharmacy on the left then immediately turn right ...'

When Jesus begins to talk to his disciples about going to the Father and how they already know the way, you can hear the panic in Thomas's voice as he says: 'Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' And one can almost hear the unspoken plea: 'And please don't tell us that it's easy and that we can't miss it and that all we have to do is take the second on the right after the synagogue at the bottom of the hill ...'

But no, Jesus didn't give any kind of directions. He just spoke the astonishing words that we're going to look at together for a while this morning. 'I am the way.' The way to where? Well, we've already said — 'to the Father.' John 14:12: 'I am going to the Father.' That is, to God. The Way" is the most compelling name for understanding who Jesus is and what Jesus means for our lives. Jesus is both the destination and also is the road by which we travel to the destination. Jesus as The Way is both the means and the goal, realization and the promise.

Perhaps this is why I am so attracted to Jesus when He says, "I AM the Way...follow Me." He is offering me something I desperately need. If I am willing to trust a gas station attendant or a totally stranger, who I will likely never see again, to give me right directions to my destination, how much more then should I find comfort in trusting Jesus to lead me into the presence of God?

We may not know where the way leads. But we do not travel alone. Wherever we are on our life's journey, Christ has gone before, and promises to come again to take us to himself. If we understand that, we can trust the path we walk. The Jesus we follow is our way to the Father. As we follow the way, we learn who we are, where we have come from, why we are here, and where we are going.

It may require a lifetime of walking the path to discover how simple it is, to see that the goal of our journey, the end of our pilgrimage, is the very way we have been walking all along, the life we have been living all along. T.S. Eliot describes this quest in "Little Gidding," the last of his "Four Quartets:"

"We shall not cease from exploration  
And the end of all our exploring  
Will be to arrive where we started  
And know the place for the first time."

It is like one of those moments when, after trying to understand something difficult without success, we suddenly have one of those "Aha!" moments in which it becomes clear, and we say, "Of course! I should have known that all along." And when we in the church center on Christ as our landmark, we will get that tingling feeling of confidence from knowing that we are almost home. This month, every time you find yourself on a road, a path, a trail, or a highway of any kind, whether you're driving, or a passenger, or walking, jogging, or hiking — I want you to think about Jesus as you look at the road before you. I want you to see this as a picture for your life. It's a journey.



Newsletters will continue to be emailed, 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 23.

## NOTES FROM THE LOFT



While many early Christian churches preferred using only vocal music for their worship services, there were some instruments that appeared often in Christian circles. These included a variety of categories of instruments, and often several specific instruments within that category.

Stringed instruments were one of the most common. The harp – especially the smaller, portable type – was most often used by David, for example, although it is also mentioned that he used a lute, as well. A lute is usually an instrument with a pear-shaped body and a neck similar to a banjo or a dulcimer. Larger harps were also used in the temple. Some lutes were triangle shaped and had only three strings; it is said they were not used in the temple’s orchestra, but they were common otherwise. Lyres were another stringed instrument often mentioned, which seems to have been played similarly to a guitar. The psaltery is similar to today’s harpsichord, though shaped differently and often played with a bow rather than plucking. These are the most common stringed instruments used in worship in the earliest history of Christianity.

Percussion instruments included cymbals, which were similar to the same instrument now, timbrels, which was similar to a tambourine, and what we would call a gong, usually made of brass (“sounding brass” in I Corinthians 13:1).

Wind instruments also featured prominently. Instruments in this category include:

- trumpets, which were more like bugles,
- flutes, which may have been similar to a clarinet,
- pipes, which was another type of flute, and
- shofar, which is a trumpet-type instrument usually made from a horn, and is the one most often related to early Christian worship, although it is mostly used as a call rather than for song.

Carla Zacharias  
Music Team Leader

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

Not a lot of new news this month. Session will be reporting on when we will return to in-person worship.

Fast approaching are the lenten and Easter services. It is our sincere prayer that we will be all worshipping together in the sanctuary when these come around.

The difficulty in obtaining a reasonably priced video camera that meets our needs remains. Our needs include WiFi connectivity and audio input so that we connect to our sound system, so many of the available cameras do not meet our needs. Once up and running, videos of our services will be posted to our website and available on our YouTube channel for those who cannot or are unwilling to be at worship.

As always, we value your input on all matters pertaining to worship. Please direct your comments to us at [office@centennialchurch.ca](mailto:office@centennialchurch.ca) or [broad2well@shaw.ca](mailto:broad2well@shaw.ca)

Jim Broadwell  
Chairman, Worship Committee

## PEWS NEWS

### *Birthdays to celebrate in February!*

February 4, Reid McPhee, 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

## REQUEST FOR WINTER HELP

Shirley Mittoo is looking for someone who may be able to help her with her sidewalks this winter. Please contact the office for more information if this is something you can help with. She lives just on Rundlehorn Drive, just off of 52nd street if that helps in your decision making.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

February 16 FISH Network Meeting 7:00 pm Zoom  
February 22 Session Meeting 7:00 pm  
February 26 Coldest Night of the Year Walk—Virtual

## SESSION NOTES

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held after the service on **Sunday, March 6, 2022**. Currently we are hoping to have an “in person” meeting; however, that may change depending on the pandemic situation.

Centennial will **re-open** for in person services on Sunday, **February 20, 2022**.

The nominating committee is beginning its work to fill committees for the upcoming year. If you have a committee or area you would like to volunteer in, please contact Ana Colina-Carter or Okelo Aballa.

A ‘Stewardship’ Committee is being formed to put together a visionary budget for the life and work of our church in areas such as youth support, adult education, social media presence and more. The funding would depend on surplus money being available after expenses are covered. If interested in being a part of this exciting new committee, please let Ana or Okelo know.

Westminster wants to challenge the other Presbyterian churches in Calgary to see who can come up with the most donations or number of walkers for the Coldest Night of the Year initiative to help provide food and shelter for the homeless.

Doug Bonar  
Clerk of Session

## FROM THE BOARD:

### 2022 OFFERING ENVELOPE UPDATE

Your offering envelopes are available at the church. You can pick them up from the church [call ahead to be sure someone is there] or they will be delivered to you. Continue to mail your offerings to the church, use e-transfer or PAR. The offerings will be counted at the end of each month.

Board of Managers

## FINANCIAL UPDATE (as of December 31, 2021)

### Overall Financial Status (to above date)

Revenue	\$100,307*
Expenditures	\$148,307
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$ 48,000)*

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### Sources of Revenue

Offering	\$80,920
Rent	\$ 945
Gov't Subsidy	\$18,442

## 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.

Do you wonder how you can reach out to others in the congregation? Every day on the prayer calendar is a person or family to pray for that day. Look them up in the directory and give them a quick call to say hello! It's a small gesture that could go a long way.

## FROM THE OFFICE

Office Hours:

Rev. Kim's office hours: Tuesday—Friday, 10:00—4:00

Carla will be in the church office Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00–12:00 and Fridays from 9:30—12:00.

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](mailto: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.

## Virtual CNOY Day

**Saturday, February 26, 2022** is the date for the Coldest Night of the Year Walk.

Once again it is a virtual walk, done on your own time and your own path.

Our team is "Centennial Centipedes" and you can add your pledges to the team on the webpage [www.cnoy.org/location/calgarydowntown](http://www.cnoy.org/location/calgarydowntown)

Because it is virtual, you can contact friends and family all over to participate!

You can also just make a donation/pledge if you want to participate but walking in the winter isn't your thing on the same page.

This is your own **self-organized** walk! Here are some key things you'll need to do on February 26 (or whatever day in February you decide to walk):

- Gather with your **covid-safe** bubble (or on your own)
- Map out a safe **2-5 km** route
- Let someone know where you are
- Bring a cell phone in case of emergency
- Add pledged funds in your [Fundhub](#)
- Share online as you go! **#cnoy22**
- Keep fundraising (half of all fundraising happens in the last week!)

### Be safe and have fun!

To donate or register as a walker, please follow the link below, or go to [cnoy.org](http://cnoy.org) and search for Centennial Centipedes.

[Coldest Night of the Year 2022 - Search \(cnoy.org\)](#)

Thank you Pat McKinnon for getting us registered again.

