

# CENTENNIAL HOTSPOT

Centennial Presbyterian Church

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## MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Phillip Keller, the Canadian sheep rancher gives us a good clue about the meaning of this phrase when he reminds us about "the general restlessness of sheep. "They are," he writes, "skittish, resistant to lying down in a pasture unless they know they are safe." Then he compares. For many of us, like sheep, are skittish too. We're moving, he notices, always moving, from one task to the next. As our "to do" list grows, our stress level rises. And as it does, we find it tough to concentrate, hard to relax, and oddly enough sometimes it's difficult even to lie down and go to sleep. Now, the antidote for a frenetic, fast paced life is this: God make you to lie down in green pastures; Notice that the shepherd "makes" me lie down. Josephus, a first century scholar, has written that sometimes the shepherd would institute forced rest periods for his sheep, especially for the frolicking lambs. A little child does not like to lie down, to rest. Kids say, "I'm not tired yet." Resistance to rest is a mark of immaturity. Sheep don't like to rest, to lie down. "He makes me lie down." That's

a forcing. The shepherd would take the sheep and fold their legs in such a way that they would become paralyzed for a while and therefore had to lie down and get their much-needed rest.

Keller says that in order for sheep to lie down 4 things are required: 1. First of all, they have to be full. Hungry sheep stay on their feet searching for another mouthful of food. Our shepherd provides us with the spiritual food we need. If we hunger and thirst after righteousness, he has promised to fill us. That's why "he makes me to lie down in green pastures." 2. Secondly, they must be unafraid. They will not lie down if they're fearful. The least suspicion of wolves or bears & they stand ready to flee. But nothing quiets a flock of sheep like seeing their shepherd in the field with them. Like sheep, we also are easily frightened. We live in an uncertain life. Any hour can bring disaster. And generally, it is the unknown, the unexpected, that frightens us most. But nothing quiets our souls like knowing that our Shepherd is near. Suddenly things are not half as black nor nearly as terrifying. Our Lord is with us. "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." (I Timothy 1:7). 3. Thirdly, they must be content. If flies or fleas are bothering them, they'll not lie down. They must be comfortable before they'll lie down. 4. Finally, sheep will not lie down unless there is harmony in the flock. In every animal society there is an established order of dominance or status. In chickens, it is known as the pecking order. Among sheep it is called the butting order. Sheep maintain their status by butting and driving away other sheep from their favorite grazing spot. When there is this tension in a flock, the sheep can't lie down and rest. But whenever the shepherd is around, they forget their rivalries and stop their fighting.

In a letter to his friends, hymn writer Wendell P. Loveless related this story: One evening a speaker who was visiting the United States wanted to make a telephone call. He entered a phone booth but found it to be different from those in his own country. It was beginning to get dark, so he had difficulty finding the number in the directory. He noticed that there was a light in the ceiling, but he didn't know how to turn it on. As he tried again to find the number in the fading twilight, a passerby noted his plight and said, "Sir, if you want to turn the light on, you have to shut the door." To the visitor's amazement and satisfaction, when he closed the door, the booth was filled with light. He soon located the number and completed the call.

In a similar way, when we draw aside in a quiet place to meditate on God's word and to pray, we must block out our busy world and open our hearts to the Father. Our darkened world of disappointments and trials will then be illuminated. We will enter into communion with God, we will sense His presence, and we will be assured of His provision for us. I pray that we may find some rest in the presence of our good shepherd and come back refreshed and satisfied. God bless you all!



## NOTES FROM THE LOFT

Over the summer, I will be contacting our choir members to see what their intentions are for fall.

I will also be calling to see if we have interest for any new members. If you want to be a part of the music team, either choir or praise team, feel free to talk to me, ask questions to see what it is all about.

July 7, Doug Zacharias will be back and we will have his skills and talents to guide us again.

Carla Zacharias  
Music Team Leader



## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

We are thankful to God as things return more and more to 'normal' worship. We now have full access to all the pews and are looking forward to more fellowship events.

As we relax for the summer we will be having our Stampede service on July 10.

We welcome Okello, Frank and Fiona as guest preachers while Jin Woo takes some well-deserved time off.

We wish everyone a blessed and enjoyable summer.

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

## SESSION NOTES

At the Session meeting on June 28th the following was resolved:

As we continue with reopening, it was decided to remove the ropes limiting access to pews. Coffee fellowship downstairs after the service will begin again as of July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Elder Okelo Aballa will be our Representative Elder to Presbytery starting in September. We noted our appreciation and thanks to Richard Crowe for his many years of service in this role.

Junior congregation for younger children will begin downstairs as of July 10th.

In Memory of Jean Graham, the wife of Centennial's founding Minister, we intend to send a donation to Presbyterian Sharing in her name. If you would like to support this please submit donations by July 10<sup>th</sup>.

The last day to donate to the Ukrainian Relief initiative will be July 10<sup>th</sup> as well.

Doug Bonar  
Clerk of Session

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education Committee:

We would like to thank the teachers and helpers for their wonderful efforts in providing a Sunday School program since the removal of Covid-19 restrictions.

**The Vacation Bible School has been canceled for this year.** There were no registrations and limited volunteer support. We hope to have this next summer and will have more lead time and information available for those interested.

There will be junior congregation classes starting on July 10<sup>th</sup> for the younger children to go downstairs for craft time and possibly videos.

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.

August newsletter deadline is July 22.

## FROM THE OFFICE

Office Hours:

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

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

Rev. Kim will be taking vacation July 11-August 7. During this time, if there are any pastoral concerns, Rev. Peter Baek will be covering for Rev. Kim. He can be reached at 403-363-1686, or through the church office.

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. Offer-



## 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. Ephesians 4:15-16

**FISH Network: Friendship Inspiration Sharing Hospitality**

**Wednesday, September 7 FISH Family Night** – mark it on your calendar! September 7 is the date of our **FISH** Family Night. Come enjoy an evening of **FISH** (fish is not the meal being served): **F**riendship **I**nspiration **S**haring **H**ospitality. No meal preparation is required by you. Doors at the church will open at 5 p.m. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. Fellowship, **f**riendship, **s**haring will follow at 6:30 p.m. with the evening closing at 8 p.m. Please note that registration will be required by August 21. We need to know the number attending to appropriately plan for the meal and for the number of breakout time leaders, i.e., how many children, youth, adults. Registration forms will be made available electronically and by hard copy. Or you can call the church office (404 285-7144) to confirm your attendance and registration information will be taken at that time.

A reminder: please continue to reach out to your church family in **f**riendship by phone, email, and text.

Do you have questions about our Wednesday, September 7 **FISH** Family Night? 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.

Experience the joy of **FISH: Friendship, Inspiration, Sharing, Hospitality.**  
The Fish Network

## PEWS NEWS

### ***Birthdays to celebrate in July***

*July 7, Regan Zacharias & Kalyan Johnson; July 15, Jacob McKinnon; July 16, Bob McKinnon; July 21, Joyce Kim, Daniel Edie; July 24, Estelle Edie; July 25, Sarah Changach*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 10

Stampede Sunday

July 16

Women's Group Meeting, 11:00 am, church

## 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.

**CCWF—Centennial Christian Women’s Fellowship**

Hello all the beautiful ladies of Centennial Presbyterian Church! I hope this note finds you all well and in great spirits. It has been a tough and painful couple of years as we have been struggling with the devastation and uncertainty of the global pandemic, and the toll it has taken on our church family. Coming together and connecting has never been more important. I am pleased and very excited to announce that we will be starting our ladies group once again on Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.

As you all know, this is an incredible opportunity for us to share our thoughts and our lives together in one loving, non-judgmental space. Let us all prepare to have a fabulous year of participation, passion, and presence. This will be the best year ever!

Yours sincerely,  
Phyllis Russell

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