

CENTENNIAL HOTSPOT

Centennial Presbyterian Church

103 Pinetown Place NE, Calgary, AB T1Y 5J1 403-285-7144

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Elder Election

The Presbyterian Church in Canada ordains people, elected by the congregation where they are professing or communicant members, to the office of ruling eldership. Elders serve the office of the ruling eldership as members of the church court called the session. As individual elders they visit among the flock, caring for them, praying with them, seeking members' growth in grace. When they gather together to deal with the collective needs of the church they meet in Session, and so sometimes you will hear the elders of our church referred to collectively as the Session. It is the responsibility of the Session to oversee within the local congregations all matters of worship, spiritual growth, evangelistic witness, and church discipline. They are a group of godly men feeding the church, leading the church, setting

the example of holy duty, faithfully proclaiming the truth, warning of error and serving with all humility. They set the model for humble service, the model for cooperating love, the model for devotion to one another, the model for commitment to prayer, the model for exposition of the Word, the model for zeal for the lost.

Over fifteen years ago the General Assembly approved Term Eldership. A significant number of congregations now have the Term Eldership and the session has decided to follow their example. Elders are ordained for life. Once an elder, always an elder. With Term Eldership, elders are appointed to SERVE ON THE SESSION for a term of six years after which they have the choices of immediately continuing for another six year term, or retiring from the Session. They still remain an elder, but are no longer active. We hope that it may make it much easier to attract new elders. Many members who have been hesitant about making a commitment to serve on the Session for life may be prepared to serve for a defined six-year period.

There is more to electing elders than simply following the right steps. It is, above all, a journey of discernment. The members of the congregation discern who they believe can serve as elders by voting for specific people. Elder candidates search their own hearts to discern if God is calling them to this wonderful privilege and vital responsibility. The session ultimately discerns who will serve this office. Every step of this journey ought to be steeped in prayer. It is sincerely hoped this new election process will facilitate this journey. As the Psalmist put it, "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

The character of a congregation will never rise above that of its leaders. Pray that Christ will continue to furnish faithful leaders to serve the church he loves, which he has purchased with own blood. As we take our part in the discernment of leaders for our church, we pray for wisdom, that we who have been made members of God's family together, may be led by those who have been called by God to our life together in the coming 6 year term, for his honor and glory.



PEWS NEWS

Birthdays to celebrate in May

May 1, Richard Halliday; May 14, Phyllis Russell, Pride Muma; May 15, Ama Oppong; May 16, Catherine Mbanwie; May 25, Charles Carter; May 29, Colleen Doyle

Anniversaries to celebrate in May

May 14, Frank & Becky Tigley

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 6	CCWF, 11:00 am at the church
May 17	FISH Network, 7:00 pm, zoom
May 21	Anniversary Sunday
May 28	Music Appreciation Sunday
May 30	Worship Committee, 11:00 am, church Session, 7:00 pm

NOTES FROM THE LOFT



We have been enjoying some special music with Ryan Christian playing violin in recent weeks. Mary-Claire Chesami will also be playing special music during the service in the coming months. We can't wait to share with the congregation.

If you play an instrument and would like to join in with special music, please speak to me.

Carla Zacharias
Music Team Leader

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

We are pleased to announce that Evie Lee has joined as a volunteer with the Praise Team. We welcome her as she brings her gift for music to praise God in the service.

We continue to work with our video recordings and are attempting to make the audio portion of the music selections more balanced. Please visit our YouTube channel to watch. We welcome any suggestions for improvements.

Future services include:

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| - May 21 Anniversary Sunday | - November 5, Memorial Sunday and Remembrance Day Service |
| - May 28 Music Appreciation Sunday | - November 19 International Sunday |
| - June 25 Promotion Sunday | - December 3 Advent I Communion |
| - July 16 Stampede Sunday | - December 10 Advent II Mitten Tree |
| - September 10 Rally Sunday | - December 17 Advent III White Gifts |
| - September 24 Cake Sunday | - December 24 Advent IV Church School presentation |
| - October 1 World Wide Communion Sunday | - December 24 Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 pm |
| - October 8 Thanksgiving Sunday | |

We continue a search for fill-in pianist(s) for Sundays when Carla is not available. If your talents lie in this area, please let us know.

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

Jim Broadwell
Chairman

SESSION NOTES

A congregational meeting will be held following the service on Sunday, May 14, 2023 mainly for the purpose of approving the financial statements for 2022.

The Elder Election process is proceeding well but not quite complete. The Ordination of new Elders will be at the service on Sunday, May 28, 2023, our Anniversary Sunday.

We are planning a Reception of New Members service on Sunday, June 11th. If interested in becoming a voting member of the congregation or unsure of your status please contact Rev. Jin Woo Kim, Clerk - Doug Bonar or your elder.

The Session is working on starting a Senior's Ministry at Centennial to assist some of the seniors in our congregation. This ministry will be open for anyone interested in helping. We are looking into having a workshop to get more information and training on how best to do this. Stay tuned for more info.

Doug Bonar
Clerk of Session

FROM THE OFFICE

Office Hours:

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

Carla will be in the church office Fridays from 9:30—12:00, and working from home on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 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 or call Carla Zacharias and we will get them in for celebrating.

CCWF

Dear Ladies of Centennial Presbyterian Church,

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and great spirits.

I am excited to share with you that the CCWF meetings will be coming back to the church for the Summer starting May 6th 2023 at 11:00AM, please mark your calendar. Please come with your thoughts of where and how you see our group going and growing for 2023 and beyond.

If you have students in your family, please remind them of the opportunity to apply for the CCWF Scholarship which the deadline is May 1st, 2023.

The CCWF Group would like to thank everyone who came out to help us clean the church on April 1st, you did a wonderful job. Thank You.

The theme of our group is "Empowering Women" and as Chair of the group, I am asking you all to come with an idea of something that will help us grow stronger in our church and our community, also please bring a friend.

Lastly, I want to encourage all of us to support and uplift each other during these unprecedented times. Let us continue to pray for one another and extend a helping hand whenever possible. Our group is a community of strong passionate women, and together we can make a positive impact in our church.

With love and blessings,

Phyllis Russell

4033137357

bronzebeauty778@gmail.com

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.

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.

June newsletter deadline is May 30.

FROM THE BOARD
FINANCIAL UPDATE (as of February 28, 2023)

Overall Financial Status (to above date)

Revenue	\$15,368
Expenditures	\$23,407
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$8,039)

Note that there is sufficient cash on hand (about \$40,000)
to meet expenses until June 30 provided that there are no
unexpected expenses.



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

What did the stormtrooper say when he went into a church for the first time?
Pew. Pew, pew, pew. Pew, Pew.
Pew.

If you took all the people in the world who fall asleep during church, and laid them head to toe in a straight line...
They'd all be a lot more comfortable.