

# CENTENNIAL HOTSPOT

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

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## IN THIS ISSUE

Minister's Musings	1
Prayer Calendar	1
Notes from the Loft	2
Worship Committee	2
Pews News	2
Upcoming Events	2
FISH Network	3
Christmas Shoeboxes	3
Family Night	3
From the Office	3
Session	4
Board	4
On the Lighter Side	4
Volunteer Certificate	5
Shoebox Lists	6-10

## MINISTER'S MUSINGS

### Strength in weakness

Through the life of Paul, I think, what God is showing us is that we possess weaknesses that will not immediately go away, if ever, and that this shouldn't be the cause for frustration or despair. Instead, we learn that when we embrace and accept our weaknesses, they can be the means by which the power of God is displayed in all its glory, a power perfected in weakness.

It seems to me that this is where ministry begins - no matter which flavor of Christian we happen to be. God calls us to use our Achilles heel, where we limp most, to lead us through our natural weakness or woundedness of personality, to grow strong. Our weakness may be our greatest asset because it continually keeps before us our absolute dependence upon God."

I've had a wonderful time since I began my ministry. But it's been also a very challenging time for me. Above all, English is my second language. I used to regard language as my strength. But it's been my weakness. My handicap. I want to consider the possibility that my poor English may prove to be the key to my usefulness in the service of Christ.

What a difference this would make if all our churches engaged in ministry from this starting point. Maybe the greatest resources for the church and its work [today](#) will not be found in appealing to our strengths, but to our weaknesses, our brokenness. Maybe it's those places where the power of God can be witnessed, in the places of human suffering and crucifixion.

It's sort of like Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*, who all along had the power in her ruby slippers to return home to Kansas. So will we see that our strength can be found in the weaknesses we have had all along, maybe our whole lives, but failed to see them as having any value. Knowing that we have been gifted in our weakness will empower all of us to proclaim the gospel with greater love, conviction, honesty, integrity - and most of all - *grace*. The apostle Paul considered this and lived by it." And I pray that we consider this and live by it.

Jerry Cook was a pastor in Oregon. He had open-heart surgery and multiple bypasses. After he recovered, he visited a man who was facing the same prospect of bypass surgery. The man was afraid and said to Cook, "I want to see your scars." Jerry took off his shirt. The man traced with his finger the purple scar that ran down Jerry's chest. The man continued, "The doctor says the most painful part will be the surgery on my legs to remove veins from my calves. Can I see your legs?" Jerry rolled up his pant legs. The man got down on his knees, touching Jerry's scarred calves. When he rose to his feet, the man said, "Thank you. Now I have hope." (Jerry Cook, *Some Things I Have Learned Since I Knew It All*)



## 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.

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.

December Newsletter submission deadline is November 26.

## NOTES FROM THE LOFT

This is the season that the choir has always looked forward to. Great music for celebrating Advent and Christmas. We usually start our seasonal music in October, just to be ready for the end of November.

Once again our Advent Carol Festival is put forward to next year. When we are able to comfortably host it again, we will make it worth your while, an event for the ages!



Carla Zacharias  
Music Team Leader

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

As we are back worshipping together we hope to see more of you as we all get more comfortable with being out and about.

As always, with respect to matters for which the Worship Committee is responsible we can use you in the following ways:

- ♦ Membership on the Worship Committee
- ♦ Lay reading
- ♦ Powerpoint preparation
- ♦ Sound operation
- ♦ Slide show operation
- ♦ Video operation (we are planning to record our services)
- ♦ Ushers
- ♦ Greeters

### **Upcoming special services include:**

- ♦ Remembrance and Memorial November 7
- ♦ Advent I November 28
- ♦ Advent II December 5 – Mitten Tree Service
- ♦ Advent III December 12 – White Gift Sunday
- ♦ Advent IV December 19 – Children's Pageant (to be determined)
- ♦ Christmas Eve (to be determined)

We apologize that we don't have final information on the last two items as of our editorial deadline. We will keep you informed by way of our weekly announcements.

Please continue to let us know your upcoming family celebrations so that we can acknowledge them in the announcements. We want to continue for physical services.

The difficulty in obtaining a reasonably priced video camera that meets our needs remains. 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.

Please be patient with us as we struggle with the computer used for the PowerPoint presentations at morning worship. If we cannot improve the performance of the existing computer, we may have to replace it.

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 November!**

November 2, Bradley Anung, Francis Leumen Djakan; November 7, Jalie Serina; November 8, Maya Ayongwa; November 15, Richard & Rosalinda Carter; November 16, Doug Zacharias; November 19, Lindsay Zacharias; November 24, Sam Kiplagat; November 29, Doug Bonar, Brad Kriwoken, Loveline Emeh; November 30, Ann Laverty

Please keep Reid McPhee in your prayers as he recovers at the Fanning Centre.

### **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

November 7	Remembrance and Memorial Sunday
November 17	FISH Network, 7:00 pm
November 21	Shoebox Dedication
November 24	Worship Committee, 4:00 pm
November 30	Session, 7:00 pm
December 5	Mitten Tree
December 12	White Gift Sunday



## 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

A decision has been made to postpone the November family night event, with consideration to the continuing numbers. We feel it is the right decision at this time and look forward to when we can have our second event!

The FISH Network encourages you to keep in contact with others – in addition to greeting one another at Centennial’s Sunday church services. Call or text or email. Keep in touch with members of your congregation. Reach out in friendship.

Do 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 are a resource for you – one of Friendship, Inspiration, Sharing, Hospitality.

The FISH Network

## CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

The response to the shoeboxes has been amazing! We had 30 boxes available this year and as of this writing, there are three left, two returned and two regular shoe boxes returned already.

When you bring the shoeboxes back, please bring them to the church office and stack them beside the filing cabinet with the others. If you include a donation, please let Carla Zacharias know so that it can be included with the others, as well as being put in a safe place.

Attached to this newsletter are the gift suggestion lists for boys and girls of various age groups. You can check with these if you need some ideas.

As we learned many years ago, there are a few things we can’t send because of the potential risk of damaging the shoeboxes. This includes liquids, chocolate bars and the like.

November 15-19 is the week for collecting the shoeboxes so they can be delivered to Samaritan’s Purse. Boxes can be dropped off at the church anytime once they are filled.



The Shoeboxes will be dedicated Sunday, November 21.

## FAMILY NIGHT

### Family Night, November 3

Our next Family Night was planned for **Wednesday, November 3, 2021**. Please note that it has been postponed until such a time as we can get together safely.

## 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.

## SESSION NOTES:

A Session workshop on priorities was held on October 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 11:30 AM. The plan is to set priorities and then work on focussing our resources on these issues.

There will not be a Communion Service at the beginning of November due to Covid restrictions.

Session has approved having a Christmas Eve service this year. As usual this will depend on the Covid numbers staying low with no further government restrictions at the time.

Nominating and salary review committees have been set up. The nominating committee consists of A. Colina-Carter and O. Aballa plus any help they may need and will be working to fill volunteer and committee positions prior to the Annual Meeting. The salary review committee is comprised of O. Ochudo, T. Singh, D. Bonar plus another member of the Board and will be looking into salary concerns for budget purposes.

Doug Bonar  
Clerk of Session

## FROM THE BOARD:

### FINANCIAL UPDATE (as of September 30, 2021)

#### Overall Financial Status (to above date)

Revenue	\$ 66,828
Expenditures	\$ 103,384
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$36,556)

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#### Sources of Revenue

Offering	\$54,698
Rent	\$ 660
Gov't Subsidy	\$11,471

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NOTE: \$40,000 has been transferred from the PCC investment to the chequing account to fund church operations, Presbyterians Sharing, and other charities.

SNOW, yes it will be coming, and the Board needs your help to remove it from our church sidewalks. We are fortunate that the folks at the Leisure Centre usually do the city sidewalk for us.

We are responsible for the walkway that runs behind the church across to the Leisure Centre parking lot. There is an **"Opportunity Sheet"** (sign up sheet) in the narthex waiting for your signature or call Tony Singh to volunteer.

You can also call the church office Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings and have Carla add your name to the list.



## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

What did pirates call Noah's boat? "The *arrrrrrk*."

Why did Adam and Eve do math every day? They were told to be fruitful and multiply.

How do you know that atoms are Catholic? They have mass.

What did Daniel tell his real estate agent? "I'd prefer a house with no den."

Who in the Bible knew the most people? Abraham knew a Lot.

When someone needed a boat made, what did the people in town say? "We Noah guy."

What's a miracle that can be done by a complainer? Turning anything into *whine*.

How do pastors like their orange juice? With *pulpit*.

Where was Solomon's Temple located? On the side of his head.