

CENTENNIAL HOTSPOT

Centennial Presbyterian Church

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Thank you!

St. Paul says, "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." – Romans 8:28. We never know what happens. Our lives are not calculated. Say for example, who would have expected this Pandemic situation? Neither grace nor love is predictable qualities.

I believe everything we have, every thing we are is God's grace. Decartes said, "I think, therefore I am." But we Christians say, "I am graced therefore I am". Listen to what Paul says in 1 Cor 15:10. 10But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. When Paul was suffering from physical weakness, God said to Paul. "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." And Paul confesses, "Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong." God has a good and wise and loving purpose for everything He allows into our lives, even pain and suffering. We can give thanks in the knowledge that He loves us, and He gives his grace to us. St.

James says, "My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing." – James 1:2-4 (NIV)

One of the reasons that God allows us to suffer is to refine our character and strengthen our faith. The Bible tells us that our faith is worth more than gold. It's precious to God. And when Christ returns, we'll see and understand that even our greatest suffering was worth it, because it brought us closer to God. I am really grateful that I am still here on this pulpit after all these years. I am grateful that you are all still here after what you've been going through all those years. You still can say, "Thank you, God". And you still can praise Him, "How wonderful".

And we also need to be grateful for each other. A letter to the editor of the Chicago Tribune was written by a man who had just buried his wife of 40 years. In it he said that after all the relatives had left, he had wandered around their house for a while, looking at the furnishings the two of them had bought together. He recalled 40 years of marriage, 40 years of companionship & happiness. "We went through some hard times," he wrote, "but she never complained. Even when money was the tightest, she always had a good hot meal ready when I got home." Then he added, "But never one time do I remember saying 'Thank you.'" His letter was published in the Chicago Tribune as an appeal to people to turn to their spouses, relatives, friends & say, "Thank you. Thank you for making my home. Thank you for loving me. Thank you for being my companion. Thank you for being my friend." So, let's thank each other. And most of all, let's thank God.



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.

November Newsletter submission deadline is October 27.

NOTES FROM THE LOFT

With the current situation, and numbers being what they are, the decision to postpone the start of choir for this season has been made. We are hoping that the situation will improve and we will be able to resume with our choir.



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. We hate to be beating the same drum repeatedly but continue to ask that you find an area where you can use their gifts for the glory of God. In the realm of 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 Thanksgiving October 10, Memorial November 7 and before you know it we'll be into Advent. 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.

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, Worship Committee

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

It's getting to be that time of year again where we can share with children around the world! Shoeboxes will be available starting Sunday, October 3. Labels will be attached for you to fill out. 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.



PEWS NEWS

Birthdays to celebrate in October!

October 5, Jim Broadwell; October 9, Kwame Opong; October 11, Lynn Bradford, Corilyn Lasher; October 12, Patience Matute, Ryan Christian; October 14, Livanmond Matute; October 26, Marjorie Halliday

REQUEST FOR WINTER HELP

Shirley Mittoo is looking for someone who may be able to help her with her sidewalks this winter. The person who previously helped is no longer available. 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

October 3	Communion—postponed
October 6	Postponed
October 20	FISH Network, 7:00 pm
October 26	Worship Committee, 4:00 pm Session, 7:00 pm



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

Appreciation was extended to all those who supported our first Family Night on September 1. It was a success thanks to you! It was a wonderful evening of friendship, inspiration, sharing and hospitality. The focus of our **FISH Network** meeting was regarding the positive experience and lessons learned from the event. Family Nights will continue to nurture a culture of kindness, compassion, and appreciation. Modifications have been planned for the after-dinner small groups, e.g. children will gather downstairs, adults will be in the sanctuary. Our Wednesday, October 6 Family Night may be further modified based on additional COVID guidelines announced by the provincial government on September 15.

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

FAMILY NIGHT

Family Night, October 6

Due to the current situation with covid numbers, **the decision has been made to postpone the October Family Night event.** More so than the desire to get together, break bread and get to know each other better, is the desire to keep our church family safe and the FISH Network, along with the Session agree this is the best decision at this time.

FAMILY NIGHT

Family Night, November 3

Our next Family Night is planned for **Wednesday, November 3, 2021.** Dinner will be provided and starts at 5:30. Following dinner, at 6:30 there will be small breakout groups for Sunday school aged children, our youth group, small adult groups, nursery can be made available for those who may need it.

Once again, the situation regarding covid numbers will be taken into consideration closer to the date. We also do not know what, if any restrictions the governing bodies may impose by then. A positive attitude prevails that we will be able to hold it!

This evening gives families a night where they don’t have to cook and can commune together in one place, providing something for the entire family without them having to run back and forth each week to different meetings. The goal is to better foster community in our church, provide for each other’s needs.

Once again, you have to **PRE-REGISTER!** That’s right, an RSVP is required so that we know how much food to provide, if we need nursery care, how many kids for the children’s activities, how many youth to prepare for, and how many small groups for the adults we need.

We will need some volunteers to make this run smoothly. We will need people to help clean up and in the kitchen, we may need people who can help in the nursery, children’s area, youth (supervisory capacity), and to lead the small groups for the adults. Don’t worry, Rev. Kim can help you out there! It’s not really a bible study, more of a conversational environment that can be whatever each group needs it to be.

SESSION NOTES:

The increase in the number of cases of Covid-19 has led to several initiatives being postponed or changed.

- ♦ The October 3rd worship service will not include the celebration of Holy Communion
- ♦ The October 6th family night has been postponed
- ♦ The intended election of new elders has been postponed until January, 2022
- ♦ Outside groups are not permitted to use the church for their meetings

Live worship services will continue but will be limited to 60 persons in the sanctuary as per government regulations. Current attendance numbers are less than 40 adults with 5-6 children in Sunday School.

The Presbyterian Church is looking into the possibility of structural changes for presbyteries and congregations that disagree with the dual approach to marriage approved at the most recent General Assembly and requests patience as this will be brought to the 2022 assembly for review.

Doug Bonar
Clerk of Session

FINANCIAL UPDATE (as of August 31, 2021)

Overall Financial Status (to above date)

Revenue	\$57,926
Expenditures	\$94,823
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$36,897)

Sources of Revenue

Offering	\$47,851
Rent	\$ 420
Gov't Subsidy	\$ 9,655

FROM THE BOARD:

Calling all able bodied folks ... young and old ... mark your calendar for **October 2, 10:00 am**. The Board is asking for your help with our **annual fall yard**

clean up. Bring whatever yard tools you think you might need. If enough folks come out the work should be done by noon.

At our September Board meeting, we authorized the withdrawal of \$40,000.00 from our Investment funds. During the Pandemic, our offerings have not kept pace with our expenses so it was deemed necessary to have these funds available to help pay our bills for the next 3 months and to help us through the first 3 months of 2022. Many of us have maintained our offerings throughout the pandemic by giving by PAR, e-transfer or by mail. Those options are all still available and we thank you for your on-going support. If you are sending your offering by mail, please use your offering envelope, or put your envelope number on your check. Mark the mailing envelope, 'envelope secretary'. Please note that mail in offerings will now be counted every Sunday with the regular offerings.



Board of Managers

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 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.