

CENTENNIAL HOTSPOT

Centennial Presbyterian Church

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Disciples vs. Volunteers

A lot of people tend to think of the words 'disciple' and 'volunteer' as meaning the same thing. But the truth is they are quite distinct in meaning. A volunteer gives their time to a charity or a cause. But a disciple gives of themselves to God. Volunteers and disciples may outwardly be doing the same thing. But a volunteer is just that, a volunteer, and is only answerable to themselves. A disciple understands that they are answerable to God. So outwardly volunteering and discipleship may not appear different, but each one represents a very different perspective. St. Paul was definitely not a volunteer. Volunteers generally don't get shipwrecked or lost adrift at sea, unless you want to count cruises. Volunteers generally don't get beaten, at least not at Centennial.

But the key distinction is in the level of commitment to God. Anyone can volunteer with a minimal commitment of their time. Being a disciple takes a commitment of your heart. Being a disciple is responding to the inner call from Christ. To be a disciple is to answer very affirmatively to the call from God that He issues to all of us. To be a true disciple is an awesome thing, and yes it can be scary too. Everyone is familiar with the old workplace adage, "The boss is coming. Look busy." And a few years ago, someone came up with the

bumper sticker, "Jesus is coming. Look busy." But looking busy is far from what the Church is about. Indeed, busyness can sometimes obscure the true purpose of the Church.

Paul understood that this was a human weakness. He pointed out how nothing else in his life, gains or losses, can even begin to compare to the eternal benefit of being close to Christ. He said, "I have come to regard everything else as loss, because of the surpassing value of knowing Jesus Christ my Lord." This is a remarkable perspective, but one that digging deeper into the truths of God compels us towards - the realization that a close relationship with Christ is the most important thing we can attain in this life. Paul didn't believe in himself any more than anyone else, but he did believe in God who called him to be more than he thought he could be.

Could it be that when you hear an inner prompting of God calling you to be closer to Him, to really be His disciple for the rest of your life, that you could say: "Lord, I may not be good enough for you, but you are definitely more than enough for me. I don't want to hold you at arm's length anymore. So yes, Lord, here I am. I want to be your disciple."



PEWS NEWS

Birthdays to celebrate in October

October 5, Jim Broadwell; October 9, Kwame Oppong; October 11, Lynn Bradford, Corilyn Lasher; October 12, Patience Matute, Ryan Christian; October 14, Livanmond Matute; October 23, Tony Singh; October 26, Marjorie Halliday

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1	CCWF, 11:00 am at the church
October 2	Communion
October 5	Family Night Dinner
October 19	FISH Network Meeting, 7:00 pm, zoom
October 23	Registration deadline for Nov. 2 Dinner Night
October 25	Worship Committee, 11:00 am, church Session, 7:00 pm

NOTES FROM THE LOFT

Our choir this season looks a little bit different! A bit smaller, but we earned the moniker “small but mighty” the first year we participated in the LDS Easter Choral Festival when 8 of us tackled “The Holy City” and nailed it!

We would like to acknowledge the retirement of a few of our members, Godfrey Philip, Tony & Val Singh. Thank you for your decades of dedicated service.

We will be practicing after church every other week, and this year we are starting a Junior Choir that will practice after church on the alternating weeks after church Sunday mornings.

Doug Zacharias is still recovering from his foot injury and will join us as soon as he is able.

Our Praise Team: We are looking for a few singers to help us lead the songs during the Praise Time at the beginning of the service each week. The requirements are pretty simple. We would have a practice to learn the newer songs, or ones that are not familiar, and then we meet Sunday morning at 9:30 to run over the praise songs for the service and work out any kinks that inevitably pop up!

Please talk to me and let me know if you are interested.

Carla Zacharias
Music Team Leader



WORSHIP COMMITTEE

We are back to regular worship. It is great to see everyone again

Upcoming services include:

World Communion – October 2

Thanksgiving – October 9

Advent I – November 27, communion

Advent II – December 4, Mitten Tree story for Children’s Cottage

Advent III – December 11, White Gifts for Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre

Advent IV – December 18, Pageant

Christmas Eve – December 24, 7:00 pm

Christmas Day – December 25

In our budget for 2023 we will be recommending replacement of the projectors at the front of the church in order to make them more useful with better colour.

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

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Shoebboxes are here!

Pack for boys or girls 2-4 years, 5-9 years, 10-14 years

A few quick suggestions: school supplies, hygiene items, fun things. Some restrictions are no liquids, breakables, candy or unethical items

The collection dates are November 14-20, so please have them in on or before Sunday, November 13 or into the office by Thursday, November 17 so the team can collect and deliver them



At the back of the newsletter you will find the suggestion lists to help you make your choices.

Evelyn
Missions Committee

SESSION

At the Session meeting on September 27th the following was resolved:

- Covid related protocols have been removed for now but masking is still by personal choice and hand sanitizer will be available in the Narthex.
- We will also be restarting the passing of the Friendship Register as we have new people attending and a number of addresses have changed.
- It was decided to postpone the Election of New Elders until we have a better understanding of the active members still with Centennial. The Session will also be looking into a restructuring of committees to fit priorities which may also change the number of new elders required.
- Attendance has been increasing and the Sunday School has been very well attended. Monthly Intergenerational services will begin on October 2nd and a Junior Choir is being looked into.
- There will be a joint meeting with the Board prior to the next Session meeting to discuss concerns including our finances and stewardship.
- Discussion has begun on ways to work on meeting human resources needs and accountability.
- Work is proceeding with regard to filling the position for a leader of the Young Adult group.

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 Thursdays and Fridays from 9:30—12:00, and working from home on Tuesdays, 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.

*** **ANNUAL DIRECTORY UPDATES:** Does it seem too soon? Not really. In order to get our address, phone numbers and new family members updated, I am collecting that information now. If you would like your family photo included in the directory, as well, check last year's directory and see if your family has changed and the photo needs to be updated, please email a copy to office@centennialchurch.ca for inclusion. ***If you have had an address or phone number change, or additions to the family, please send that in to the office so that the directory and in-house database can be updated.*** ***



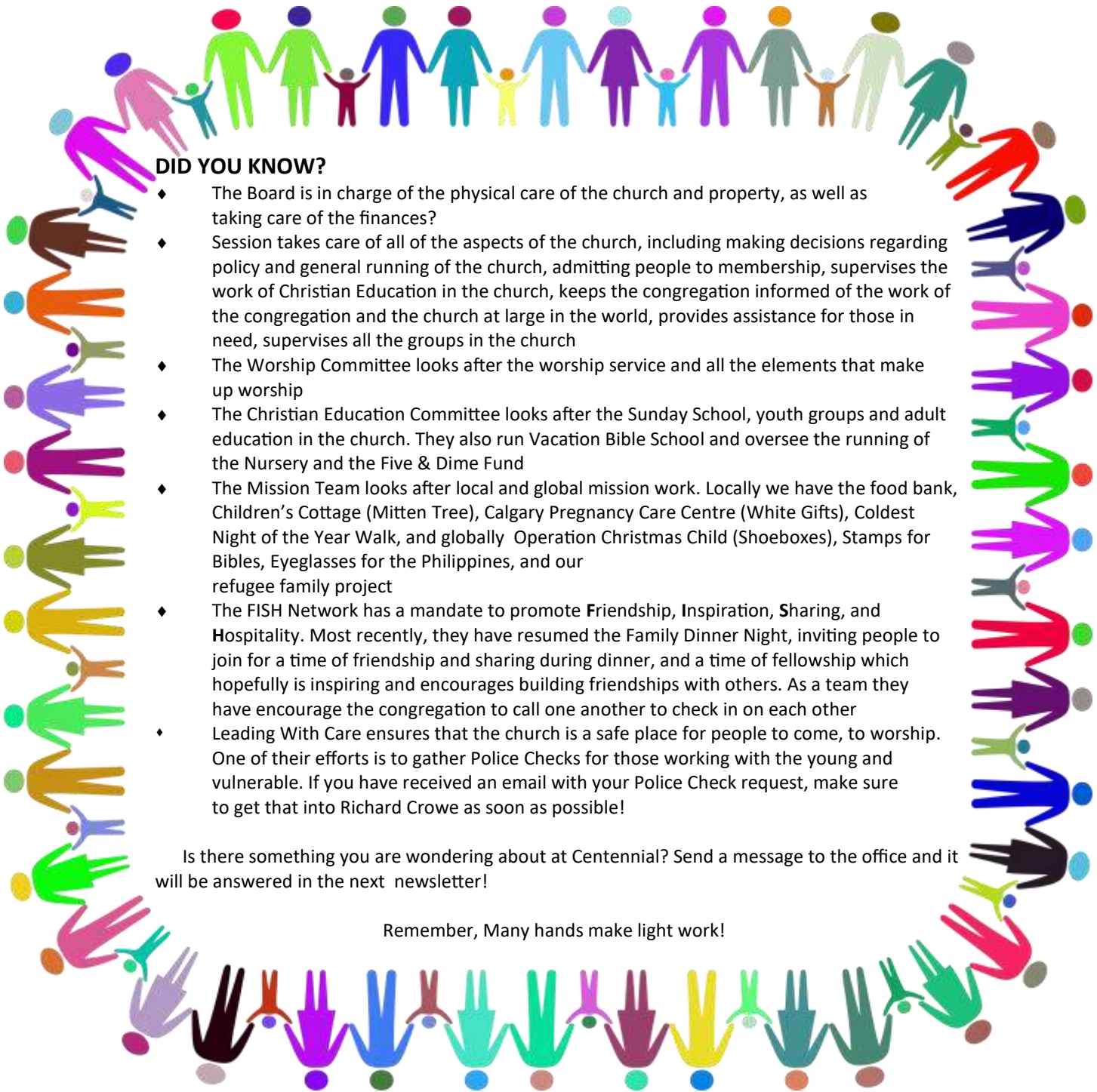
Wednesday, October 5

Doors open at 5:00 pm

Dinner served at 5:30 pm

Fellowship at 6:30 pm

Pre-registration required



DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ The Board is in charge of the physical care of the church and property, as well as taking care of the finances?
- ◆ Session takes care of all of the aspects of the church, including making decisions regarding policy and general running of the church, admitting people to membership, supervises the work of Christian Education in the church, keeps the congregation informed of the work of the congregation and the church at large in the world, provides assistance for those in need, supervises all the groups in the church
- ◆ The Worship Committee looks after the worship service and all the elements that make up worship
- ◆ The Christian Education Committee looks after the Sunday School, youth groups and adult education in the church. They also run Vacation Bible School and oversee the running of the Nursery and the Five & Dime Fund
- ◆ The Mission Team looks after local and global mission work. Locally we have the food bank, Children’s Cottage (Mitten Tree), Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre (White Gifts), Coldest Night of the Year Walk, and globally Operation Christmas Child (Shoebboxes), Stamps for Bibles, Eyeglasses for the Philippines, and our refugee family project
- ◆ The FISH Network has a mandate to promote **F**riendship, **I**nspiration, **S**haring, and **H**ospitality. Most recently, they have resumed the Family Dinner Night, inviting people to join for a time of friendship and sharing during dinner, and a time of fellowship which hopefully is inspiring and encourages building friendships with others. As a team they have encourage the congregation to call one another to check in on each other
- ◆ Leading With Care ensures that the church is a safe place for people to come, to worship. One of their efforts is to gather Police Checks for those working with the young and vulnerable. If you have received an email with your Police Check request, make sure to get that into Richard Crowe as soon as possible!

Is there something you are wondering about at Centennial? Send a message to the office and it will be answered in the next newsletter!

Remember, Many hands make light work!

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.
September newsletter deadline is October 26.