

Paulin Newsletter

February 2023

Message from Reverend Lisa

The season of Lent is almost upon us, are you ready? In the past this would mean that it was time to clean out your pantry and fridge of anything that could be considered a luxury, from butter to sugar as it was believed that in order to prepare yourself for Holy Week you needed to fast from earthly things for the sake of Jesus. This eventually evolved into the idea of giving up something for Lent, so you might find some people a bit grumpier having given up coffee or chocolate as a sign of their love for Christ. But we in the Presbyterian church tend to celebrate Lent a little bit differently, for rather than giving up something that we love we instead chose to give up some of our time to be with God. This allows us to walk with our great creator during this season of preparation for the passion and resurrection of Jesus. There is a lot that happens in the lead-up to Easter Sunday, and try as we might, we're not able to do everything in the seven days of Holy Week and instead we're invited to take the time during our Lenten season to centre our hearts on God and what he did for his people out of love.

There are many different ways in which we can do this, and there is no one way to prepare yourself for Easter but I thought that I would share with you some of the ways you can prepare yourself for the glory of Easter Sunday. One of the best ways is to take some time to dive into scripture to allow yourself to hear the word of God daily as you prepare during the Lenten seasons. One way you can do this is by trying to read through the gospel of Matthew or Luke in the days leading up to Easter, or if you prefer you can listen to an audio version of the gospel and allow yourself to hear the word of God proclaimed to you. Another way is to dive into a good book that speaks about our life in Christ, a great author to look up is Adam Hamilton, he has written a book on the last twenty-four hours of Christ that I recommend. Also, if you are interested there are online bible studies on several different Christian books that we at Paulin have access to on Amplify Media, if you are interested in looking at any of them please speak to me and I will give you the password. These offer new insights to some of our most well-loved bible stories and some of them will take you to the Holy Land where you can see where these events happened.

The last way that you can prepare yourself is by seeking to serve as Jesus calls us to serve, by reaching out into the community to support a local or international mission project. Our church is walking on the coldest night and that is a good place to start, but there are countless ways in which we can reach out to serve one another in the name of Jesus. And each time we are able to do this we're also able to share the light of Christ with the world that longs to see it.

There are countless ways to help us to prepare our hearts for what is coming, but it is up to us to find something that will help us prepare our hearts to shout hosanna in the highest, as we ready ourselves to face the cross of our salvation and rediscover the wonder of the empty tomb as we boldly proclaim that Christ has risen. But we still have time before that great day and so now is the time to prepare ourselves for what God is about to do in our lives and in the world around us.

Thanks be to God, amen.

Reverend Lisa

A Few Words from your Board of Managers

As we move into 2023, Margaret Douthart has recruited the assistance of Jim Marchand and they have been very busy cleaning up forgotten areas in our building such as storage units, the library, and the stage area. They have even gotten our minister helping and I am told that her office is next for a new look! Be sure to check it out! The Board is very grateful for their donation of time and labour! It is a busy time of year for the Finance Committee with year end and finalizing our 2023 Budget. Paulin ended 2022 with a true deficit of \$16,896. Our concerns continue to grow as we begin 2023. We thought we would share specifics about our three fixed expenses - payroll, insurance and mortgage. These three very important expenses represent 65% of our projected expenses for the year and total \$12,076 per month. Payroll & benefits alone are \$10,000. In an effort to bring down our payroll costs in 2023 our custodian offered to reduce her work schedule by one day a week during Sept through May and we gratefully accepted. The reality of our situation is that our monthly average receipted income in 2022 was only \$12,335. While we do have income from other resources such as fund raising and the rental of our facility, they are not guaranteed and are difficult to estimate. In the past few years it has not been enough to cover all the other costs of operating our building. Hence our dilemma! We need to stress the importance of regular givings. We ask everyone to consider their financial support by donating regularly each month. If you need envelopes, wish to set up Par, e-transfer or Tithley, information is on our website or contact our treasurer, Deb Naklie, for assistance.

Mission & Outreach Committee

Our February mini-mission project is to take part in this year's Coldest Night walk to help raise money to support some of the most vulnerable in our community. We are looking for people to sign-up to walk on February 25th and join us back at the church for dinner following the walk. You can sign up for the Paulin team on the "Coldest Night" webpage.

Robbie Burns Dinner

Update



Natasha Oginski

The Robbie Burns Dinner was a huge success. Over one hundred people gathered to enjoy a roast beef dinner with all the trimmings, including haggis, which was piped in. We listened to the bard's story and his poetry. We were entertained by Scottish dancers and enjoyed the music of the bagpipes and our own George Boden. A grateful thanks to all who helped with this event



Alec Rocheleau

Stewardship Moment

Like good stewards of the manifold
grace of God, serve one another
with whatever gift each of you has received.

1 Peter 4:10



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

presbyterian.ca

Crafty Thursdays

For the month of March, the Stewardship Committee will be hosting Craft Thursdays. Every Thursday in March from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, we invite you to join us in the church library to make crafts for our Christmas Poinsettia Tea. Materials will be supplied, but crafters are encouraged to bring their own scissors, markers and glue. If interested contact Joanne Zuk to reserve a space.

PANCAKE SUPPER

Save the date for February 21st when we will be having our Pancake supper at the Church at 6 pm. All are welcome to attend. The cost is \$7 a person or \$20 for a family. All money raised will be going toward Presbyterian Sharing. There is a sign-up sheet on the fellowship board and also a sign-up sheet for volunteer the night of the dinner.

VBS

The date has been set for this year's VBS. You are invited to join us as we discover the secrets of the Knights of the North Castle from August 21-25. The cost is \$50 a child for a full day of excitement, games, crafts and snacks. We hope to see you then.

Sometimes I hesitate

to approach at all

this table of the Lord

my sins to recently committed

to believe forgiveness flows

I doubt my faith a thousand times

feel blackness in my soul

I stop just short of the table's edge

for fear I am not called

But then I hear the voice of God

who calmly tells me "Come

sit here with me and let us share

the bounty of my love.

I sit beside the table's edge

see him break the bread

the warmth of newness enters me

I am his child yet

And when the cup is passed to me

I drink his healing grace

The blackness in my soul is freed

salvation takes its place

The table is my refuge found

I hesitate no more

For God, his son, his spirit lives

To save me once more.

Audrey Landon

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WORSHIP SERVICES FOR LENT AND HOLY WEEK

This is a special time in the life of the Church. We hope to celebrate its meaning through our worship.

February 26: First Lent, with communion. The Lenten Services will centre on the theme of “I AM” from John’s Gospel, “the Vine,” “Light of the World,” etc.

April 2: Palm Sunday. We hope to have palm branches as before.

April 6: Maundy Thursday, with communion. Following the example of the Last Supper we are asking for simple items for a potluck meal at 6 pm.

April 7: Good Friday service at 11 am preceded by hot-cross buns and walk with the Cross.

April 9: Easter Sunday, with communion.

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