



Tweedsmuir Tidings

Tweedsmuir Memorial Presbyterian Church
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From the Minister

This is a sermon by Pat Gushue, written for his Preaching Course at Knox College which seems to fit perfectly with the theme of this issue of Tweedsmuir Tidings, "Your Church at Work" Blessings, Harvey

"An Epistle of Patrick to the Church of God at Tweedsmuir"

From Patrick who has been called by the will of God to be a servant of Christ Jesus, to the Church of God at Tweedsmuir, which has been gifted by the Holy Spirit to be a blessing to one another and to the town of Orangeville, may God our Creator, Jesus Christ our Saviour and the Holy Spirit our Inspirer grant you grace and peace.

Listen to the insights and the message that St. Paul gave to the community at Corinth 2000 years ago. St. Paul recognized that in that community there were people from different backgrounds: Jews and Greeks, Freeman and Slaves, those who were Pagans and those who had different traditions of religious practice. And Paul recognized as well that the members of the community had a wide range of different spiritual gifts: some had the gift of wisdom, others utterance of knowledge, others faith and others the gifts of healing and doing miracles.

As it was 2000 years ago, today the Spirit has granted to each of you a spiritual gift for the common good. To one is given, through the Spirit, the gift of music, to another the gift of listening, and to another the gift of welcoming and hospitality and still to another the gift of administration. Yet to another has been given the gift of baking cookies and to another knitting and to another the gift of welding or carpentry. You have been given all the gifts that are required for what God has called you to do. And it is the Spirit who has determined and allotted and activated these gifts in each of you.

Easter Food Drive

During this Easter season, the Care Committee will be collecting food to be given to the Salvation Army to be distributed to those less fortunate.



On April 10th and 17th, we will be collecting your donations of non-perishable food items. Please do your part to help others.

Hasn't the Spirit bestowed a gift on all of you for the good of all? Then do not hesitate to be invited to use your gift. If the Spirit has bestowed these gifts on you is it not your calling to discern what that gift is and then use it to be a blessing to others in this particular place and in this particular time?

Discernment is not easy my brothers and sisters. It challenges us to transform our perspective and our life. It is uneasy, unnerving and unsettling because it causes us to deal with new ideas and new relationships. To discern is to listen. Discernment is listening to God but also listening to others. Discernment happens in the community for the common good. In Corinth, 2000 years ago, they did not understand this. There was a community that was divided where individual members were not willing to see things from a common perspective for the good of all.

My brothers and sisters do not be like the Corinthians! Do not let your heritage, traditions, habits, or the way you have always done things to be a stumbling block for others or for newcomers. Do you not eat together from the same loaf and drink from the same cup, waiting for each other until all are served? Do you not play different styles of music, learning to appreciate how the Spirit moves through both? Do you not welcome the little children, being enriched by their laughter and joy? So then remember that there are a variety of gifts but the same Spirit and a variety of services but the same Lord. And it is the same God who activates them in everyone.

Finally, brothers and sisters I bid you farewell, for my time among you has ended. Listen to my appeal: be welcoming to the strangers among you and to the child who lives on the street. Do not let your traditions be a hindrance to others, nor your age be an excuse for inaction. Greet one another with the peace of Christ and pray for one another and for those in your community who need God's love. I pray that the Lord blesses your love and concern for each other and that your faithful service will serve as a witness to others. The grace of the Lord Jesus, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Patrick Gushue



Your CHURCH at Work

Presbyterians Sharing – supports the work done by the Presbyterian Church in Canada including:

- Head Office
- New church development
- Theological colleges: Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver
- Inner city missions including Evangel Hall (Toronto) and Flora's House (Winnipeg), Edmonton Urban Native Ministry
- Native ministries including:
 - the Cariboo-Chilcotin Region area
 - Anamewigummig (Kenora Fellowship Centre)
 - Mistawasis Memorial P.C.
 - Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry
 - Nazko and Area Dekelh Outreach
 - Hummingbird Ministry
- Oversea Missionaries in Africa, Asia, India and Central America

In 2010, our congregation donated \$17,700 to this important part of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Goal for 2011 - \$18,500

What is the difference between Presbyterians Sharing and PWS&D?

While Presbyterians Sharing supports the mission work of local and international ministries, which focus on church development, evangelism and theological education, PWS&D has a specific focus on development and emergency relief.

Presbyterian Church World Service Development (PWS&D)

- Development and relief agency of The Presbyterian Church in Canada
- Responds to emergency relief needs in disaster situations: 1997 Red River flood, 1998 Ice Storm in eastern Canada, 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and massive tsunami, 2010 earthquake in Haiti etc.
 - Supports local initiatives in community-based development projects Special projects: aid to women to start businesses in Africa
 - Supports refugee sponsorship by local Presbyterian congregations around the world

PWS&D's mission is to help people and communities around the world according to their need and regardless of their faith

Our congregation donated \$11,998 - which includes \$4,950 specifically in aid of Haiti.

Benevolent Fund – Gives assistance to needy families both in the congregation and community. At Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, donations are collected for the Salvation Army's food bank in Orangeville.

Headwaters Hospital Chaplaincy – Orangeville churches each donate \$500 to pay the Chaplain at the hospital. The 2010 fee was paid by the Tweedsmuir Ladies Fellowship Group.



Canadian Foodgrains Bank – every year, **John Rayburn** grows fall vegetables, which are sold to the congregation to decorate their houses at Thanksgiving and Halloween.

This is a fun way to support the Foodgrains Bank whose overall goal is to reduce hunger and its consequences among hunger-affected individuals, households and communities in developing countries.

For every dollar given to this cause the government matches it 4 to 1.



Tweedsmuir Ladies Fellowship Group

This active group has consistently worked hard to raise money for many projects in a variety of fun ways from the Fall Bazaar, the Burn's Supper, the Strawberry Lunch and Pasta Dinner.

In 2010, these busy ladies raised over \$8,600 to support various projects including:

- Campus Crusade (Allan & Natalie Self)
- Highlands Youth for Christ
- Choices Youth Shelter
- Hospice Dufferin
- Lighthouse Food Kitchen
- Pastoral Care, Headwaters Hospital, Rev. Barbara Moulton (Chaplain)
- Sleeping Children Around the World
- Mission Fund (Presbyterians Sharing)
- Tweedsmuir Church finances

In addition to the donations they give, this group supports the Church in other ways such as:

- Meals served after funerals in the Church
- Flowers sent to shut-ins
- Food and clothing sent to Choices Youth Shelter



Sunday School – The Mission of the Sunday school is to teach the scriptures and faith modeling, so that children of all ages may come to know God loves them, and they are given the opportunity to start on a life long faith journey.

Some of their projects include:

- Support of Yannick Compaore in Africa through the Christian Children's Fund of Canada – the sale of eggs donated by **Anne Wilson** supports this project.
- A Night in Bethlehem (pictured): a rich opportunity to see, taste, touch, and feel for oneself what life was like during the time of Jesus' birth. We are looking forward to experiencing this again in December 2011
- Vacation Bible School: which runs for a week in August. This year: **Panda Mania!** Children are welcome to attend with no costs. Money raised through the annual Silent Auction contributes to financing this venture.



Women's Missionary Society – The mandate of this society is to support Presbyterian Missionaries in the field both in Canada and Overseas. This group collects warm clothes for Evangel Hall in December and January; makes and collects Pneumonia Prevention Vests, which, along with baby hats and receiving blankets, are sent to the Bhil (Aboriginal) people in India. The WMS also provides gift boxes to local shut-ins at Christmas and as a year-round project, knits and crochets prayer shawls for those in need or crisis.

NCR Report – the Natural Church Development (NCD) process is a way to identify areas of focus and direct activity towards maintaining itself as a healthy congregation.

In the past six months, a small working group has been engaged in the understanding and planning stage of the NCD process focused on the area of Need-Oriented Evangelism. (You may have noticed that evangelism has been referenced in a number of Sunday sermons.)

Most significantly however has been the realization that underlying all things we do here at Tweedsmuir there has to be prayer: a passionate spirituality rooted in prayer and guided through relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Over the next couple of months you will notice a number of initiatives focused on the re-energizing and development of vibrant prayer life. You are invited to lend your prayers with the leaders of the congregation as we place our trust in the spirit and ask for assistance as we discern God's will for his church at Tweedsmuir.

Patrick Gushue



Riverforce– Riverforce is our Youth Group which meets on Wednesday evenings at the church from as well as providing on-going web support for members who are away at college, university, work or mission through Facebook and Skype.

The mission of Riverforce can be summed up through the 5 "R" categories:

- Receive God's Teaching
- Respond to God in Worship
- Relate to each other
- Reveal God's love
- Reach out to others

In addition, this group works with other Youth Groups to support children by participating in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine, helping at Sunday school and VBS and raising money to send gifts to children around the world.

Music Ministry

Senior Choir – aside from their main focus of praising God through music at service each week, the choir conducted fundraisers in 2010 with a pancake breakfast and a concert with Father Mark Curtis. The funds raised went to the Haitian relief fund and musical instrument fund.

Praise Team – the purpose of the Praise Team is to help the congregation prepare their hearts for worship before the Sunday morning service as well as participating in the service.

Both these groups bring the joy of music to our worship every week. In particular, their efforts were greatly enjoyed and appreciated by the congregation throughout the Christmas season. Many have expressed their admiration for the hard work and time put in by both groups and especially the leaders, **Joan Elchuk** and **Dean Morrison**.

Volunteers creating a caring Christian community at Tweedsmuir:

As mentioned in the "From the Minister" column, everyone has gifts and we would like to honour the many of you who quietly go about doing what needs to be done:

- in the kitchen
- in the nursery
- on Sunday morning
- around the church (inside and out!)
- on Session and Board of Managers
- at Coffee Hour
- at the Prayer meeting
- sending packages to service men and women
- supporting refugee families
- watering the plants
- at special fundraisers, suppers and events
- opening your home for services or picnics
- donating your talents and time
- and all the other important (and often unnoticed) things you do

Blessings to you!

Romans 6:8-11

Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Eduard Klassen – Harpist / Speaker – will be providing a concert of Christian harp music from South America, North America and Europe interspersed with personal testimony and stories of God’s work in his life. Eduard’s natural sense of humour and excellent rapport with audiences guarantees a wonderful concert.

7:30 pm, Tuesday, May 31st here at Tweedsmuir.
Freewill offering.

Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast

The Choir will host a pancake breakfast on Sunday, April 17th, held after our Palm Sunday worship service.

The menu will include plain or fruit filled pancakes, sausages and ham, assorted juices and coffee and tea.

Price is set at a minimum \$5 donation to benefit the musical instrument fund and other projects. Come out and enjoy pancakes and good company!



Photo Directory Pictures – will be taken on May 16th-18th here at the church. If you would like your email address included in the directory, please email the office@tweedsmuirpresbyterian.org or you can call the office at 519-941-1334.

Debbie Hunt is the Directory Coordinator and can be reached at 519-942-1653 if you have questions.

Did you know?

In May, 2012 Tweedsmuir will be celebrating its **175th birthday!** Celebrations are being planned for early 2012 leading up to the May Anniversary Sunday.

John Handy and his committee are hard at work. Watch for more information as we prepare to celebrate this wonderful event.

People in the News!

Duncan Davidson, along with Jim Duncan, piper Doug McGhee and Scottish members of Tweedsmuir were on the front page of the Banner following the annual Robbie Burns supper at the church at the end of January. They looked fabulous in their kilts, toasting the haggis.

Spencer Finch – was honoured by the Orangeville Lions Club in December and made the 2010 Melvin Jones Fellow in recognition of Spencer’s dedication to make the world a better place through humanitarian service. This is the highest form of recognition in Lionism.

Patrick Gushue – who is finishing his second year at Knox College, and has been with us as Student assisting Harvey, was given a heartfelt farewell by the congregation with a lunch served in honour of Pat and his wife Diane on March 27th. We sincerely wish him well in his continued studies.

Jayne Self – “Murder in Hum Harbour” written by Jayne Self will be published in paperback and e-book in October 2011 by Harbourlight Books. Congratulations Jayne!

Calendar

April

- ongoing – Lenten Lunches each Wednesday during Lent at Tweedsmuir Church
- 17th – **Palm Sunday**
- 17th – Choir Pancake Breakfast
- 21st – Maundy Thursday Communion
- 22nd – **Good Friday** / Walk of the Cross
- 24th – **Easter Sunday**



May

- 1st – Anniversary Sunday
- 8th – Mother’s Day
- 31st – Eduard Klassen Harp Concert

June

- 5th – Communion Sunday
- 12th – WMS Thank offering service / Mission Awareness Sunday
- 19th – Father’s Day
- 19th – Sunday School Picnic
- 23rd – Strawberry Luncheon

August

- 14th – Communion Sunday
- 15th - 19th – Vacation Bible School - Panda Mania!

September

- 2nd – 5th – Fall Fair
- 18th – Rally Day – Sunday school resumes
- 25th – Presbyterian Sharing Sunday