



Twædsmuir Tidings

Twædsmuir Memorial Presbyterian Church
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From the Minister



"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed" (John 20:20)

In the 2015 Easter Sunday Edition of Our Daily Bread, I came across a wonderful Easter story. It went like this,

Charlotte Elliot wrote the hymn "Just As I Am" in 1834. She had been an invalid for many years, and though she wanted to help with a fund-raiser for a girl's school, she was too ill. She felt useless, and this inner distress caused her to begin doubting her faith in Christ. She wrote "Just As I Am" as a response to her doubt. The crux of her distress is perhaps best expressed in these words from her hymn:

*Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come!*

Three days after His death and burial, Jesus rose from the grave and invited the disciple whom history has nicknamed "Doubting Thomas" to examine the marks of His crucifixion (John 20:27). When Thomas touched Jesus's wounds, he finally believed in the resurrection. Christ responded, "Thomas because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed" (v.29).

As Christians today, we are the ones who have not seen but still believe. Yet at times our earthly circumstances create serious questions in our souls. Even then, we cry out: "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24). Jesus welcomes us to come to Him just as we are.

That is the wonderful Good News of Easter! That is the truth that, "The Lord is risen, He is risen indeed!" (Luke 24:34)

Prayer: Dear Jesus, help me to trust You when life doesn't make sense. Please take my doubt and replace it with fresh faith in You.

Blessings,
Harvey Self

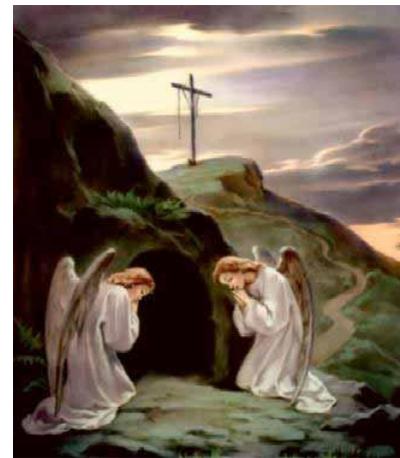


Presently, **Joan Elchuk** and the Choir are hard at work preparing special music for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. We look forward to celebrating the season with music.

On March 22nd, the choir sponsored an **Irish Lunch** where a marvellous time of great food and wonderful companionship was had by all!



The Praise team is now actively taking part during the church service.



Easter Food Drive

The **WMS Care Committee** will be collecting our contributions of non-perishable goods on March 22nd and 29th. Items collected will be taken to the **Salvation Army Food Bank** who reports that each year, there are more and more families needing to use their Food Bank.

Thank you for your support.

2015 Annual General Meeting

Marjorie MacDonald has completed two terms as Clerk of Session. In her final report, Marjorie explained the difference between Presbyterian Sharing and Presbyterian World Service and Development. We thank Marjorie for her years of devoted service.

The 2014 Financial Statement was discussed and approved and the 2015 Budget was presented and passed. **George Agar** has stepped down as treasurer. We thank him for his service to the church. At this time, this important position has not been filled.

Our contract with the bookkeeper has ended and the position will be filled by **Jane Aultman** and **Pam Duffield**.

Session and Congregational Committees

- Session: **Doug Lackie** and **Lynn Ritchie** were elected to the Session. **Judy Bryan** is the new Clerk of Session.
- Pastoral Care: Judy Bryan is the new coordinator
- Christian Education: **Wil** and **Marie McGilvery**
- Property and Maintenance: **Ron Mikulik** gave a report on the work being done on the Accessibility Program. Thanks were given to **John Ritchie** for his input on this project. Last year, the Maintenance Fund was established to cover costs of repairs to the church and the manse. Both buildings are old and require constant attention to maintain building and structural integrity. Envelopes are available to give donations to this fund.
- Worship: **Mindy Swick**
- Stewardship and Finance: **Marjorie MacDonald**
- Personnel: **Lynn Ritchie**
- Roll Clerk: **Jane Smith**
- Mission and Outreach: a Chairman is still needed

Copies of the Annual Report are still available.

Lenten Services

Are being held each Wednesday at noon during Lent in our church.

March 25th service will be hosted by Covenant Alliance Church and Broadway Church and the April 1st service will be hosted by Youth for Christ and Hospital Pastoral Care Team

Fellowship Group

The Fellowship Group started 2015 off with the Burn's Night Supper at the end of January. The supper was a big success. Everyone enjoyed a delicious supper along with super entertainment. It was a great evening for everyone.

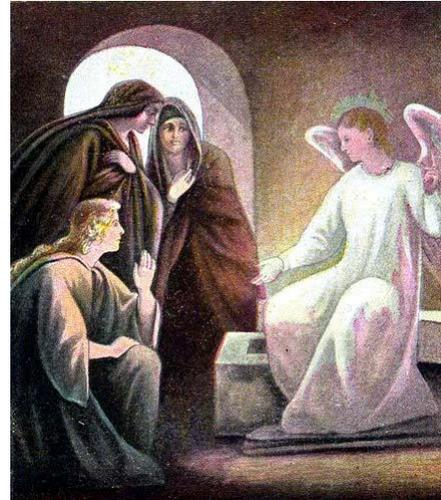
The group will be assisting with the Pasta Supper on Friday, March 27th. This evening is a fundraiser for Highland Youth for Christ.

In June, we will be having our Strawberry Lunch.

Also in June, we will be having our Spring Pot Luck on the 16th. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00p.m. New members are always welcome

Please watch the bulletin for more information on these and other events.



Stewardship and Finance Committee Update

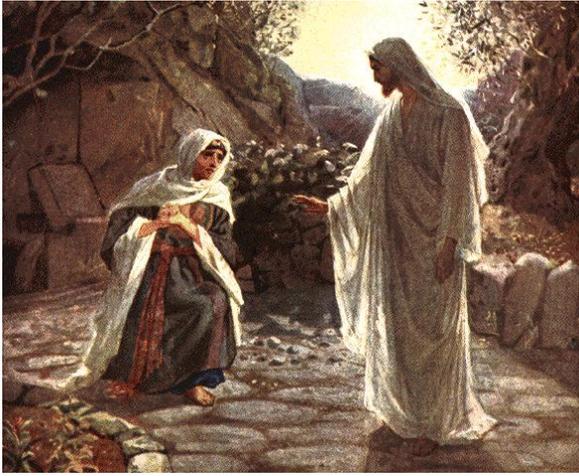
In the 2015 Annual Meeting, it was announced that the church requires \$14,500.00 per month to meet our budget. (This amount does not repay funds borrowed from the memorial account.)

January 2015 revenue:	\$13,374.00
Expenses:	\$15,387.70
Deficit:	\$ 2,013.05

February 2015 revenue:	\$10,956.36
Expenses:	\$13,978.88
Deficit:	\$ 3,022.52

Total Deficit	\$ 5,035.57
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In order to meet our obligations we respectfully ask that you consider increasing your donations by 10%. Please review your PAR donation or use every envelope in your box (if you are away use 2 envelopes the next week).



Spotlight on...The Harkies Family

Did you know that the Harkies Family and the Presbyterian Church in Orangeville have had a long association? There have been Harkies at this church for 90 years. Here's a report from **Ralph Harkies**.

In 1925, the United Church was founded between The Methodist Church of Canada, the Congregational Union of Ontario and Quebec and two-thirds of the congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. In Orangeville, the members of Westminster Presbyterian Church voted to become United and the Presbyterians were without a church. A small group met and kept the Presbyterian Church alive.

On February 14, 1925 - one month after the church union vote - the first Church service in Orangeville was held. Ralph's oldest sister attended Sunday school and his mother attended church at the Gem Theatre (silent movies).

Just over a year later, (April 1926) church services were moved to the building immediately west of the CIBC (205 Broadway). Services continued there until May 1941 when Tweedsmuir was officially opened at its location on John Street.

Ralph was Baptized in 1933 and attended Sunday school and Church continually for 82 years. Ralph and his wife, the late **Jean Harkies**, were married in 1949, and set a record in Tweedsmuir by continual attendance until 2012 when Jean passed away.

Marriages – original family:
Bessie and C. W. Eason
Grace and Nelson Patterson
Ruth and Boyd Milbury
James and Gladys Henderson
Jack and Merle McMahon
Ralph and Jean Lewis

Marriages - nieces and nephews:
Deborah and John Green
Jack and Betty Mair
Robert and Coral Lines

Baptisms: Bessie, Grace, Ruth, Mary, James, Jack, Charles and Ralph
Nieces and Nephews: Bonnie, Deborah, Jack and Robert.
Grandchild: Dylan

WMS Women's Missionary Society

We would like to thank everyone who helped make our "coat collection" such a success. Thanks to your kindness, we provided coats, hats and mitts, to Youth for Christ and still had two full car loads to take to Evangel Hall.

With all the items our church sent to the Door, Choices and Princess Margaret School, this church helped in making a special Christmas to many in our community.

Thank you to all who contributed. Your generous support made these projects possible.

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After the Church Bazaar, we received a donation from the Silent Auction to assist us in our support of the Princess Margaret School Nutrition Program. We thank them for this donation which adds to the amount we give to the school on a monthly basis.

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On March 6th, we participated in the World Day of Prayer service which was written by the women of the Bahamas. This year, the service was held at Broadway Pentecostal Tabernacle. It is always a pleasure for our group to take part in this community service.

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The WMS is continuing with our spring program. On April 26th, we are having our Mission Awareness Service, and on May 12th, we will be hosting the Brampton Presbyterial WMS Spring meeting here at the church.

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The WMS meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:30pm in the Fellowship Room. New members are always welcome!



Sunday School Corner



We think this is going to be an awesome year!

- **Nursery:** with some new infants in the nursery, we have a "Play and Worship for Babies" program including music, storyboard, flip books and soft toys.
- **Grade 1:** is continuing with the "Hands on Bible" Grade 1 curriculum.
- **Jr. High:** is also continuing to learn about the character of God.
- **Youth and Young at Heart:** this program, as part of **Riverforce**, is where we invite older youth and young adults to join us once a month for some activities, including dinner and a devotional time. A good number of people attend this program and we hope to use this to build the relationship of the youth and young adults here at Tweedsmuir. We also are looking to add a service component to this program by providing ways in which we can serve the community.

- **Summer VBS:** is back and it is all about Everest (mountains)! We will be teaching that with the power of God you can overcome all obstacles in front of you. Stay tuned for more information about this program and how you can help out.

Please continue to pray for God to move within all of our programs. We firmly believe that the most important thing we can do is build a solid foundation of faith within our Children and Youth so that they can stand firm in the years to come.

God Bless,
Wil and Marie McGilvery

For more information on any of these events please speak with Wil or Marie.

Newsletter

This is our final newsletter. We would like to thank all who have participated in making this a success.

It has been a pleasure serving Tweedsmuir's church community.

Yours in fellowship,

Caitlin Smith and Jane Smith



Because He Lives

*God sent His son, they called Him Jesus
He came to love, heal, and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my
Savior lives.*

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.
Because He lives, all fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just
because He lives.*



Bill and Gloria Gaither

Calendar

March

- 18th – Lenten Lunch
- 27th – Pasta Night
- 25th – Lenten Lunch
- 29th – **Palm Sunday**

April

- 1st – Lenten Lunch
- 2nd – Maundy Thursday Service with Sacrament of Holy Communion, 7 pm
- 3rd – **Good Friday**
- 5th – **Easter Sunday** featuring special music by the Choir
- 26th – **Mission Awareness Sunday** including Women's Missionary Society Thank Offering. The WMS Women will lead the service

May

- 3rd – **178th Anniversary Service** followed by the **Anniversary Lunch**
- 10th – Mother's Day

June

- 7th – Communion Sunday
- 14th – Church Picnic
- 21st – Father's day

August

- 9th – Communion Sunday
- 10th – 14th – Vacation Bible School (Tentative date)

