

NORTHMINSTER NEWS

September 2009

Fall Dates To Remember



Choir Practice
September 10th

World Wide Communion
October 4th

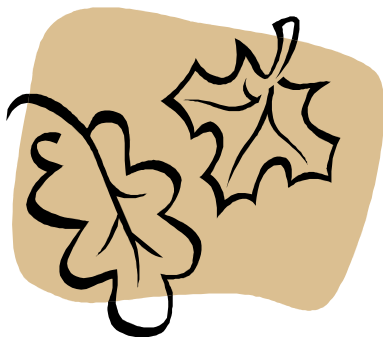
Commemorative Service
October 18th

Reign of Christ Communion
November 22nd

Sunday School Registration
September 13th

Turkey Supper
October 17th

Craft Fair
November 14th



Message from the Chair

As I contemplated what to comment on in the message, it occurred to me that September rather than January signifies the beginning of many things for us. Back to school, the “official” end to summer vacations (at least for the non-retired!) and the beginning of the fall season. For the Board at Northminster it means starting out this “new” year having had a rest to rejuvenate and chance to reflect on what our goals and vision will be for the coming months.

By the time you read this newsletter the Interim Transitional Committee will have had one if not two meetings already. The members of this committee include Susan Smith, Ted Carter, Sheila Johnston, David Ng, Mary Glessing and me. Rev. John is an active member of this committee and we have Presbytery Lay rep. Ernie Park and a Presbytery Ministerial representative (unknown at the time of this writing). Our first discussions showed an eagerness to work toward the resolution of questions and concerns of our congregation in a timely fashion. This team will be calling upon the congregation throughout this process to provide honest opinions and ideas as they gather information to present back to Presbytery in the form of a *final* JNAC report.

I would like to mention that the Board will be looking at a few empty seats come next February so I ask you to faithfully contemplate an elected position on the Board or to add your talents to any committee. The position of Chair is also up next year, so please think about who you would like to lead your Board.

I look forward to seeing everyone again and hope that you had a chance to attend services at Wild Rose or other churches in our city and beyond over the summer months.

Blessings
Lori Arndt

Administration

We are in a recession and the financial results bear this out. Operating revenues are weak and we encourage all that can to make additional donations. Due to the recession it was deemed advisable not to hold the silent auction in 2009. We are missing \$11,180 in revenues that this project contributed last year. The UCW did not make Easter eggs in 2009 either and therefore were unable to make a donation to the operations of the church as they have in many previous years. In addition, last year the Lobster dinner contributed \$1,006 and was not held in 2009. Our insurance annual invoice will now be due for payment. This is a considerable expense to the church and your Board encourages you to make special contributions towards paying it. We anticipate the premium will be in excess of \$8,500.

Administration Continued

At the end of July we have an overdraft at the bank and the line of credit is maxed out. Your church is desperate for your help. Please ensure your contributions are up to date and consider adding an additional amount this year. One way to ensure you are always current is to join the United Church PAR program. Your donations to the church will be automatically charged to your bank account each month and the proceeds deposited directly to the church each month. The cost to the church is much less than the envelopes many members have faithfully used for years. If you are already on PAR consider increasing your monthly allocation.

On the bright side, we received the final distribution from the Jean Dagg estate, nearly \$12,000. These funds will be used as per the recommendations of the committee and the Church Board. Funds received by way of estate settlement are not used for current operations. Many projects within the church are, however, financed using the proceeds received from estates. During the summer the following projects were funded by the proceeds received from the Dagg estate:

- The sound system was upgraded.
- Necessary upgrades were made to the plumbing. New sinks, cabinets and some lines were installed and piping was cleaned out. A video of the main sewer line to City Property to verify its condition was made and no new work was required as a result. The sewer flow lines are functioning properly now.
- Two floor mount air conditioners were purchased for the administration and minister's office.

New plugs were installed in the Small Gym and wired with 20 amp breakers. These plugs in addition to new plugs in the kitchen ensure adequate electricity for the Churchill Family Care Centre and for church functions.

The Administration Committee and the Board continue to upgrade and add new facilities to the property as is possible with the Dagg estate monies.

The Church continues to house the daycare operated by the Churchill Family Care Society and provide administrative office space. Church members will see a new sign placed on the north wall of the building declaring that this daycare is in operation. The addition of the sign received prior approval from the Church. This summer Churchill placed synthetic grass in the play area adjacent to Centre St. This cleaned up the area and provided a welcome space for the children.

Once again the Administration Committee thanks all those who helped throughout the summer in keeping the property maintained and in good condition.

Respectfully submitted
Clarence Glessing
Chair, Administration Committee



Turkey Supper

Saturday October 17th

Sittings at 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm

Tickets will be available September 27th to October 15th.

To reserve your tickets call:

- the church office at 403-277-0322 or,
- Jane Borbridge at 403-276-1384

Ticket Prices:

Adults: \$12.00

Seniors(65+): \$10.00

Youth (age 13 to 17): \$10.00

Children (age 4 to 12): \$5.00

Children (3 and under): free

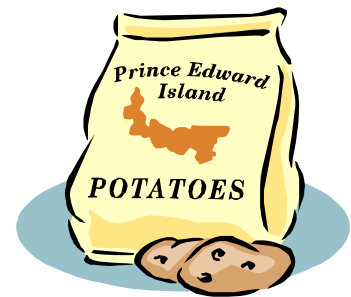
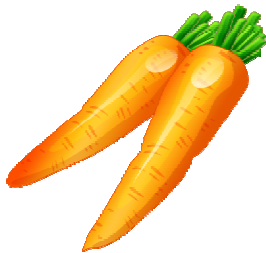


This price includes a piece of pie!

Did you know, it takes 15 turkey cookers, 100 lbs of potatoes, 90 lbs of carrots, 55 lbs of peas and 36 cans of cranberries to feed 360 people turkey dinner.

Sign up sheets will be available in the large gym on September 13th.

Please sign up to donate food and volunteer your time. Help us make this event a success.

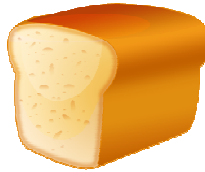


Craft Fair
Saturday November 14th
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Don't miss the Northminster Craft Fair!

We need your help! Not sure what to bring? Here are some suggestions:

- Preserves: jars of jam, relish, antipasto, salsa, pickles
- Christmas items: santas, tree skirts, stockings, angels, snowmen
- Knitting: mitts, toques, sweaters, afghans
- Woodworking: cars, trucks, trains, planes, clocks, mirrors, ornaments, candle holders
- Kitchen: hand towels, knitted dish clothes, casserole carriers, pot holders
- Toys: dolls, stuffed toys, puzzles,
- Sewing: aprons, quilts, vests, bags, cushions, table runners, place mats, oven mitts
- Baking: bread, buns, loafs, pies, cakes, squares
- Cookies by the dozen: hundreds of Christmas cookies are needed



What is cookies by the dozen?

Hundreds and hundreds of different types of cookies will be available. This is the only fair that you can purchase one of each kind or a dozen of each kind.

You might be feeling hungry after your shopping
Come to our café. We will have coffee and a muffin, hotdogs, chilli, homemade soup.
Don't forget a piece of our home made pie.

We need help to make this year's craft fair a huge success. Sign up sheets will be in the large gym closer to the fair.

If we all do a little bit, we can make this church project a great success again!

Mission and Outreach

During the last few months there were several requests from North Central Resources for Emergency Food Hampers for people within our church area. A hamper was delivered to a single mom with 3 small children as well as a single man with health issues who currently is unable to work. As always, the hampers are so gratefully received and appreciated and the recipients always want a big THANK YOU passed on.

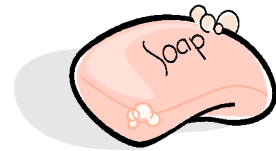
Currently the cupboard is low on the following:

Canned vegetables and fruit, rolled oats, cereal, pasta and sauce, canned meat

Household items such as dish soap (this one people really appreciate), toilet paper, bar soap and toothbrushes.

Your continued support of this ministry is very appreciated, and remember your donations do make a difference in someone's life.

Lori Haydu



Christian Development

Hope everyone had a fun and relaxing summer!

We are looking forward to the beginning of Sunday School classes on Sept. 13th. We will once again have one combined class, and re-evaluate the need for more classes as we see how many children we have and what ages they are. We are again using the Whole People of God online curriculum. Thanks so much to Tracey Abbott and Suzanne Walker for teaching.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Latter



Prayer Shawl Ministry

This exciting ministry provides hand made quilts and shawls to member of our congregation. For more information please contact Sheila Johnston.

Book Club

Come share the fun of reading books and then discussing them over coffee, tea and goodies. We meet the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 – 10:30 A.M.

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| October 3 | Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society
By Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows |
| November 7 | The Last Child
by John Hart |
| December 5 | Three Cups of Tea
By Greg Mortenson |

Thank you to Jim Van Camp for adding a number of books to our exchange library. This library works as follows; you read and then pass the book on to someone else. We hope this means the books are always with someone who wants to read them. There is a list at the beginning of the book that you can add your name before you pass it on. Everyone is welcome to request any of these books from Jean Love, 403 248-5838.

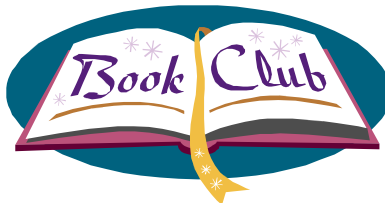
The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society
By Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

The Children's Book
By A. S. Byatt

The View from Castle Rock
By Alice Munro

Shanghai Girls
By Lisa See

The Good Mayor
By Andrew Nicoll



Pictorial Directory

We are extremely pleased with the turn out of members to have their picture taken on August 10th.

The next photo session will be on September 28th and 29th.

If you have not been contacted to have your picture taken or want to book an appointment please contact Julie Latter by phone at 403-226-4920 or by email at Julie.a.latter@hotmail.com.

Kids in Church

One particular four-year-old prayed,
'And forgive us our trash as we forgive those
who put trash in our baskets.'

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Northminster News is published four times a year by the Unified Board. It is available at no charge from the church, by mail or by email.

The next newsletter will be released on November 20th. All contributions to be included in the newsletter must be submitted to Leanne Demerais at diversebenefits@shaw.ca or left in the communications box at the Church no later than October 31st. All articles are gratefully accepted.