

Summer 2020

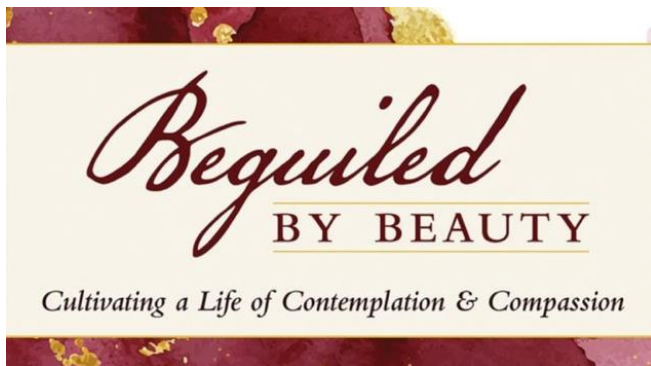
OUR SUMMER WORSHIP SEASON

“Beguiled by Beauty”

*One thing I ask of you, Divine Goodness,
one thing I seek:*

*that I may dwell in your house all the days of my life,
to gaze on your beauty
and to meditate in your Temple.*

- Psalm 27:4



An early 6th century theologian described God as “beguiled by beauty.” The Creator was lured by a longing for beauty and so set in motion a world of immense diversity and goodness. We were made for this Divine Goodness. We were made inherently worthy, not by our “doing,” but by our simply being. All things are beautiful—not by a standard of “pretty” as seen by our eyes, but by an essence of sacred worth that is sensed by the spirit. This is the root and heart of compassion and justice. Practices of contemplation help us

train our gaze to these deeper truths. In this worship series we will dwell with the God of Divine Goodness, deeply in love with us, and practice ways to return that love as we fall more deeply in love with creation and with one another.

Join us on **Facebook Live Sundays at 10:30 AM** through the summer as a number of familiar Northminster faces share their reflections on this creation-inspired worship series. Also, worship services can be found on YouTube by searching for Northminster United Church.

WE ARE THE CHURCH...with thanks from Rev. Nancy

Through all these months of maintaining physical distancing, you as a church family have done so much to keep connected. You have supported each other in deeper ways than ever before. Thank you for phoning each other, knitting prayer shawls, dropping off things people needed, donating food to the Friendship Centre, overcoming anxiety around technology to participate in worship, gatherings, meetings and more online... you are amazing! All you have done are examples of compassion and caring of our church community. And that is transformative – just as Jesus was carried to life beyond death, the promise is there for us and it’s witnessed in our actions. What we do changes the present and it shapes our future. Thank you!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS OF GENEROSITY

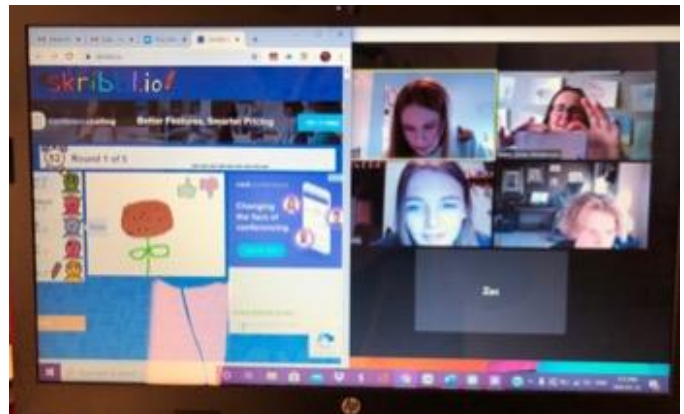
It is with the deepest thanks that so many of you are able to continue with your offerings through this time. Your giving makes a difference – the ministry we share in is ongoing and we continue to serve our congregation and community. Your generosity supports our worship, pastoral care, outreach, ministries of all ages, music, and even our aging building. We might not be in our building, but those expenses and upkeep continue.

Please continue to make sure your offerings and donations get to the church through the summer. Drop them off, or make a donation on the website, or use Tithely or PAR. Contact the office if you have any questions about these simple options.

YOUTH GROUP - Spring Update

In this time of social distancing Mary Anne Wickerson has been working to give the Youth a variety of opportunities to maintain connection, routine, to have fun, and as well continue with teaching youth focused KidZone classes on Sundays after the weekly worship service on Facebook Live. Here are some highlights:

- Weekly KidZone classes on Sundays – via Zoom, using the new Youth KidZone resource Re:Form which was purchased in February, as well as helping Rev. Nancy with the youth components for the services each month with youth participation.
- Weekly Tuesday Games Night – online – using Houseparty App, Skibblo, JackBox Games, Board Game Arena, etc. They play a variety of games and have an open Zoom window to chat and visit while playing for the social connection.
- Weekly Friday Netflix Party Movie night – began with a check in/visit on Zoom, then used the Netflix Party extension the group choose a movie from their list of suggestions. There is a chat window they can type in during the movie and then after the movie they resumed their Zoom meeting and visit for a bit before signing off.
- Naked Faith Online – once a month – again, the group connected on Zoom, then watched the live stream and then re-connected and chatted afterward.



UPDATE FROM OUR TASK FORCE

Phyllis Snider, Sarah Hughes, Ernie Abbott, Mark Vandervoort, Ted Carter (chair), Rev. Nancy Nourse, and Joel Den Haan (resource person from Chinook Winds Region)

The last opportunity the Task Force had to meet with the Congregation was March 01, 2020. At this meeting we had four options for the congregation to review and to forward their feedback to the committee by March 15, 2020. The majority of the responses said to us that their preference was for us to explore Option 4, with Option 3 being the second choice. To summarize these options (as communicated with the congregation previously):

- Option 3 – find a mission / capital partnership and adapt the existing building.
- Option 4 - remove existing building and redevelop new ministry space with other potential shared land use for revenue generation.

The Task Force made a presentation to the Board at their April 08, 2020 meeting explaining that we have come to the point where we need to have a financial commitment if we wish to investigate future feasibility development possibilities. The Task Force presented the following motion to the Board, and it was passed.

Motion: "That the Board make available funds to cover the costs of an economic and feasibility study on our site for up to \$25,000. The Board empowers the Task Force to select a suitable consulting firm to conduct the study"

The Task Force then met with Quantum Place Developments requesting a proposal to complete a Feasibility Study for our current site. Quantum Place Developments have experience working with the United Church of Canada and many successful developments in the city. A contract with them has since been signed to study the most effective options for a new facility on our current site. This study would look at what we would want in the way of space and what else would be in the facility, such as commercial and / or residential space. We need to decide if we want to own the facility and contract a Project Manager to manage it. The other option is to sell it to a developer and lease space in the new facility.

The Task Force has continued to communicate with Board and shared at the May meeting that they have signed an agreement with Quantum Place Developments for \$17,000 plus 8% Administration fees plus GST. The study by Quantum Place Developments will take 12 to 14 weeks to complete. The study will review and gather data for future development, assess market and community needs, analyse current market data, refine the research and evaluate a financial model, and produce a report detailing selected options and associated benefits and risks of each option. This important study will give us a competitive edge with developers should the congregation decide to proceed with development, and will outline for us the most financially effective opportunities for what is possible within our zoning and with regards to city long term planning in our area.

Thank you for your continued input. These are exciting possibilities for the long term future this can create for Northminster...that we can maintain a viable ministry in this area of the city for generations to come. That said, we are also aware that these are significant decisions to make down the road, and with such changes come concerns and apprehension...not to mention the dear memories we hold of wonderful times in this space. If anyone has any questions or concerns please contact the committee members to share your thoughts. We are grateful for the feedback to date as this guides the work of the Task Force. The Task Force will continue to provide regular updates to the congregation and the Board.

TRC EVENTS - In Partnership with the City of Calgary



In our partnership with the City of Calgary, we hosted a virtual concert on June 24 - Music is Medicine; Dancing is Freedom with The Healers; Curt Young & Pearl White Quills. It was well attended by members of our congregation as well as community members.

On August 12 at 7 pm, we will be hosting a virtual beading class with Pearl White Quills. Space is limited (only 8 spots available), so please be sure to register as soon as you see the information and registration link in your email if you would like to participate. Supplies and instructions will be delivered August 05 with zoom link to follow.

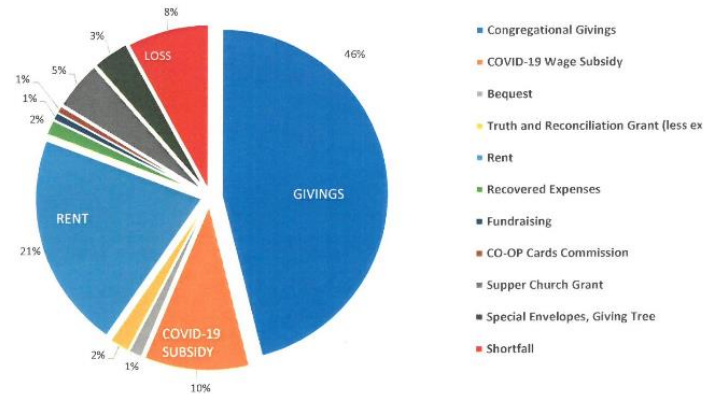
FINANCIAL INFORMATION



Financials to May 31, 2020

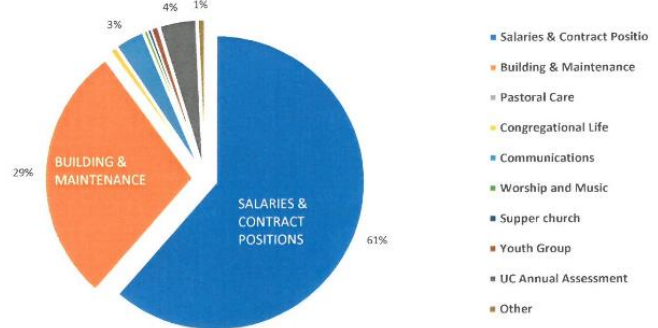
REVENUE	
Congregational Givings	\$ 48,585.00
COVID-19 Wage Subsidy	\$ 10,818.00
Bequest	\$ 1,425.00
Truth and Reconciliation Grant (less expenses)	\$ 2,098.00
Rent	\$ 22,284.00
Recovered Expenses	\$ 1,589.00
Fundraising	\$ 815.00
CO-OP Cards Commission	\$ 750.00
Supper Church Grant	\$ 5,000.00
Special Envelopes, Giving Tree	\$ 3,671.00
Shortfall	\$ 8,420.00
Total Income	\$ 97,035.00

REVENUE ACTUAL TO MAY 31, 2020



EXPENSES	
Salaries & Contract Positions	\$ 64,782.00
Building & Maintenance	\$ 29,998.00
Pastoral Care	\$ -
Congregational Life	\$ 741.00
Communications	\$ 3,299.00
Worship and Music	\$ 437.00
Supper church	\$ 394.00
Youth Group	\$ 781.00
UC Annual Assessment	\$ 4,225.00
Other	\$ 798.00
Total Expenses	\$ 105,455.00

EXPENSE ACTUAL TO MAY 31, 2020



NOTE:

Without unexpected income of:	
Covid19 Wage Subsidy	\$ 10,818.00
Truth & Reconciliation Grant	\$ 2,098.00
Supper Church Grant	\$ 5,000.00
Financial Loss to May 31 would be:	-\$ 26,336.00

Thank you Michele Gole

It is with great sadness we share the new Michele Gole will not be working as the Community Engagement Coordinator after June 30, 2020.

In the last two years, Michele served our church and community in the role of Community Engagement Coordinator. In that time, she helped grow our visibility in the community and found new ways for us to be the church in the world. With her leadership, we renewed our nursery space and hired a caregiver, started having youth-hosted lunches after church, we deepened our relationship with our neighbourhood school, we developed a partnership with the City of Calgary around Truth and Reconciliation, furthered our communications strategies, and raised awareness of our programs like Supper Church, movie nights, community connections, and all our other events that bring church and community together!



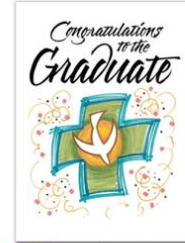
Michele, we thank you for helping us live out our values of welcoming, celebrating, becoming, and for your caring heart and spirit that helped us grow and live our faith beyond our church walls!

THANK YOU NORTHMINSTER

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff and congregation at Northminster for welcoming me into your fold! I have enjoyed my time and my work here and am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with such wonderful people. These past two years went by quickly with all the events and the connections that I was lucky enough to make but as my career in real estate is evolving into a full-time job, I am not able to devote the time required to do the position justice. All the best to everyone and I will likely see you in September (you haven't gotten rid of me quite yet) ... Michele Gole

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

We send many blessings to **Jack Johnson, Tristan Westbrook, and Jeramy Swalm** and celebrate with them the completion of their High School journey. A prayer shawl was delivered to each of them as a gift from their church family.



NORTHMINSTER UPCOMING EVENTS ..

WOMEN'S RETREAT – October 23-25, 2020

Register for a weekend of refreshment hosted by Northminster at Kingsfold Retreat Centre northwest of Cochrane. Some light programming will be offered but there will be plenty of space in the weekend to make it your own...for rest, reading, crafting, walking, meditation, etc. Meals and bedding provided. Cost is \$275. Please register by contacting the office and secure your spot with \$100 deposit.

Kingsfold has ample room for us to spread out for gatherings, meals, and even sleeping. We have 14 rooms

booked to hold 15 people – so most who attend can have individual rooms, leaving a shared loft room for families or close friends.



ODDS & ENDS ...

IF YOU ARE IN HOSPITAL OR MOVE

Seniors, in the busyness of a sudden illness or move, your family members may forget to notify the church where you are. Please remind them to call or email us so we can keep in touch and support you as needed. Also, when you are admitted into hospital, remember to put Northminster United or United Church on your forms so that a chaplain can be in touch and connect us.

KEEP IN TOUCH

You can always find details about events upcoming at Northminster by checking out our website and by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Thanks for all the “likes” and “follows” – don’t forget to share our events and posts on your own newsfeed so others can see the great things that happen!



northminster
UNITED CHURCH

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