

May, 2017

Minister's Message

“What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.” (Luke 13:18-19)

I love this description of God's abundant grace. To experience the reign of God as being like a great tree that offers shade on scorching days and a place for birds to nest is a powerful image. Just imagine the tiny seed from which that tree originated. Almost microscopic in size, the seed germinates and in very little time grows to become a tree of presence. Such is the way with God's glory in our magnificent world.

Sometimes it can feel as if God is hard to find in our crazy, mix-up world. And then other times it is as if God is greater than our imagination. God's grace is very much this way. Always present, but sometimes difficult to discern, God is ever embracing us. Then there are those times when we sense that we are safely nestled at one with God.

May the summer months be renewing and spirit-filling. May you experience the wonder of God in creation. May God wrap you in Holy love.

Blessings,

Rev. Laura J. Turnbull
Minister

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Your Council has worked hard at developing policies and procedures that ensure safety and comfortable surroundings for all who enter Penticton United Church. We ask you to adhere to them and encourage others to do the same.

Topic: Perfumes, After Shave and Scents, Scented Flowers

Date of Adoption: February 22, 2017

Policy:

Due to the severe reaction upon contact with **perfumes and scents** for those who have sensitivities, all persons using Penticton United Church are encouraged to refrain from using scented products.

Flower bouquets that are brought in for funerals or weddings may remain in the sanctuary after the service if scented flowers are removed and discarded outside of the building. (eg. Lilies, scented roses, etc). Any special occasion flowers and plants must be scent free.

Topic: Nuts and Peanuts

Date of Adoption: February 22, 2017

Policy:

Due to the severe reaction upon contact with **nuts and/or peanuts** for those persons who are allergic, it is essential that food containing nuts (including extracts and oils) or peanuts (including oil) **be labeled**.

Trays of food will be grouped so that there is no cross contamination.

Topic: Latex and Rubber

Date of Adoption: February 22, 2017

Policy:

Due to the severe reaction upon contact with **latex and rubber** for those with sensitivities, all persons are to refrain from bringing latex and rubber products into the building.

Procedure:

Mylar balloons are a safe alternative.

Latex free gloves are a safe alternative.

Thank You for your help in making Penticton United Church a welcoming place for all people.

Sermons That Speak

2017 marks the 10th year that Sermons That Speak are being offered. Lorna Cox has made this series a remarkable experience for our congregation and for the extraordinary high caliber preachers. We have been blessed to have heard some of Canada's best theologians. Invite your friends and neighbours to hear this year's speakers.

July 2 – Rhian Walker – theology student and Conference minister for LeaderShift, which supports the leadership skills of ministry in the BC Conference.

July 9 – Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart – Director of Presbyterian Formation, VST – Associate Professor St. Andrew's Hall

July 16 – Rev. Dr. Jason Byasse – Butler Chair in Homiletics and Biblical Hermeneutics, VST

July 23 – Rev. Debra Bowman - Coordinating Minister, Dunbar and Ryerson United Church

July 30 – Rev. Dr. Richard Topping – Principal, VST – St. Andrew’s Hall, Chair in Studies in the Reformed Tradition

Our Financial Picture

God has blessed us richly. Thank you for your continuing contributions to the life and work of our church.

April Income	17,167
April Expenses	17,963
Difference	(-796)

Year to date Income	55108
Year to date Expenses	72,501
Difference	(-17,393)

Calendar of Events

The **Penticton Concert Band** are hosting the **Spring Concert** on **Tuesday, May 30, 2017** here at **PUC at 7 pm**. Watch for ticket sales.

On **Saturday, June 3rd** Penticton United church will host a **Gospel Choral Singing Workshop** with **Marcus Mosely** from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you enjoy singing you should be there!! Please pick up a registration form today(in the narthex or at coffee). The cost is \$30.00. A wonderful experience indeed!!! register now – and invite your friends!!

On **Sunday, June 4th** the group will perform (as a major part of our service) for family and friends. This is a memorial in memory of **Shirley Myers and her parents** – who were long time members of Penticton United Church.

We would like to serve Shirley’s trademark “**Ginger Cookies**” at coffee hour. We are asking members of this congregation to “**BAKE A BATCH**” – anytime – now would be good – they freeze really well!!

Coming Up.....

Shared Congregational Picnic including Penticton United, St. Andrews, St Saviour’s and Oasis United Churches.

WHEN: Sunday June 11th after church,

WHERE: Manitou Beach in Naramata. Enjoy burgers, potato chips, fresh veggies and dip, Strawberry shortcake, lemonade, games and fellowship. Only \$6.00/person or \$15.00/family.

Please bring your own chair or blanket and name tag. Sign up at coffee time with Marion or at the office – shared picnic sponsored by Wise Elders, all food provided.

St. Stephen's Anglican in Summerland is hosting their **3rd Annual Lobster Dinner & fundraiser, Saturday, June 10th** from 5:30 onwards – delicious lobster, maritime music, door prizes and 50/50 draws \$45 for tickets.

July 9th – SUNDAE SUNDAY – Membership Committee will be serving Ice Cream and Toppings, by donation.