



The Dayspring DayBook

November 2016

Dayspring Presbyterian Church

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GIFTS THAT CHANGE LIVES

As we approach the Christmas season, many of us will be thinking about the gifts that we will give to those whom we know and love — and perhaps (especially the children) about the gifts we will receive. Here is a novel idea. Why not give gifts to persons whom we do not know.

At <http://presbyterian.ca/gifts-of-change/> you will find, of all things, a catalog of gifts that you can give that will change lives. The catalog can be downloaded as a PDF booklet.

Here is a list of some gifts you can give.

- ◆ Offer Sanctuary and Hospitality to Refugees
- ◆ Ministries with Aboriginal Peoples
- ◆ Bring Hope to Families Living in The Inner City
- ◆ Give Hope to Vulnerable Women and Girls
- ◆ Supporting Congregational Ministry
- ◆ Encouraging Children's and Youth Ministries
- ◆ Bring Hope to Prisoners
- ◆ Buy a Minister a Bike
- ◆ Empower Mayan Women – Guatemala
- ◆ Equip Christian leaders in the Middle East
- ◆ Give the Gift of a Future in Eastern Europe
- ◆ Raise a Roof
- ◆ Train a Future Leader – Ghana
- ◆ Train Nurse Midwives – India
- ◆ Translate the Bible
- ◆ The Power of 50,000
- ◆ Sunday School Challenge – Farming for the Future
- ◆ Make a Bigger Impact – Give Together!
- ◆ Sowing the Seeds of Food Security
- ◆ Fresh Water Renewal

- ◆ From Sickness to Strength
- ◆ Responding to Emergencies
- ◆ A Classroom for Every Child
- ◆ Support for Refugees
- ◆ Empowered to Prosper
- ◆ Starting Life Right

And consider this ... our contributions to Dayspring offer many gifts to our community.

- ◆ An accessible building for weekly worship and learning — as well as for occasions such as weddings and the celebration of lives well lived
- ◆ Care and support by our minister and church staff
- ◆ A community of persons committed to reaching out locally with care and support through the Food Bank, Edmonton Urban Native Ministry, The Mustard Seed, etc.
- ◆ An accessible locale for organizations such as R&S out-of-school program for children, Community Fitness program, Bafut Development Manjong Association, Edmonton, etc.
- ◆ and for “start-up” congregations such as the Wooridle Church and the Word of Wisdom Worship group and for the Afrikaans Worship Service
- ◆ and for Dayspring's Kids' Club and our Youth and Young Adult programs
- ◆ and the Craft Group and Fellowship Luncheons



A WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY OF FAITH & CARE

THE CHURCH IN MISSION

A WESTMOUNT STORY

(adapted from an article in the October 2016 issue of *The Presbyterian Record*)
by Marilyn A. Carr

Once upon a time there was a church building with an adjacent manse, built on a large corner lot in north west Edmonton, known as Westmount Presbyterian Church. These structures served the congregation and the community for well for over fifty years. Time changed: people moved, people died, and an entity known as a church family decreased. The buildings also suffered the deterioration of age and the high cost of repairs was close to draining the congregation's resources.

One year, a shift in the dynamics of the congregation occurred. The families from the new church development in North East Edmonton joined with Westmount. A large family arrived from Nigeria to join with the congregation. A family moved to Edmonton from Grande Prairie Presbyterian Church, with two children. Sunday School and Youth Group existed again.

Then another new family came to church. They were the Karen people from Myanmar (formerly known as Burma). They were welcomed and the congregation befriended this government sponsored refugee family and then sponsored another daughters' family and their mission outlook was enlarged. In the meantime, the maintenance bills still continued to loom, but the minister, The Rev. Annabelle Wallace and an elder, Les Young, were prepared to excite the congregation with a new adventure. They had been to an inter city housing group and gathered information from the Right At Home Housing Society, about the possibility of a partnership to construct an affordable housing complex.

Long story, happy conclusion: plans were made with a design team to erect a net-zero energy carbon efficient town house development of 16 stacked town houses with a community building to house a daycare and a church. Edmonton City Council was impressed with the plan and permission to rebuild passed smoothly. The neighbourhood association was also in favour. The former church building and manse have been demolished and the site is now in the construction phase.

The future looks bright for this building project which will present a new look and a new emphasis to the community. It will also be an injection of new life for the congregation, who are presently worshipping in a school across the street, as they anticipate a new church home in a multi-use building.

For more information see <http://westmountpresbyterian.ca/>.



From our Minister: Love makes the difference

We've been through tumultuous weeks lately, be it on a global level or even as individuals. This brings questions to the fore that can be pressing to many of us.

How do we navigate through life in a way that makes the most sense? There is one value that stands out for me as a Christian. This is the instruction from Jesus to love God and to love our neighbour.

Keeping "love" in mind, and I'm not talking about the popular "love" which society embraces, we might make much more sense of so many of the questions that have been arising around us.

Love "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things..." as we hear it according to 1 Corinthians 13:7. If there are aspects to life that arise, whether it is politics (north or south of the 49th parallel), gender diversity conversations, or whatever the issue, love has a way of making the best of it all. It hopes all things and brings hope into the picture, regardless of our rational human expectations. It would rather see the best in what is happening around us.

So much of what we do as believers is shaped by our attitudes and when love is the foundation, our lives can be positive and we can continue being the light of the world.

As we head into the season of Advent, let's allow "love" to shape us, as Christ is love that became flesh on that first Christmas.



Heinrich

We believe in a word that forms on the lips of the creator
and echoes in our souls: a word that is love.

We believe in a word that breaks the silence of injustice
and disturbs the noise of ignorance: a word that is peace.

We believe in a word that brings life out of death
and laughter with the morning: a word that is joy.

We believe in a word that tears up the darkness
flooding it with light: a word that is joy.

We believe in a word that speaks to our futures
calling us by name, to trust anew,
and to believe once more in the Word called Christ.

Source Unknown.

Restorative Justice Week: November 20-27



Restorative Justice Week 2016 will be held in Canada and throughout the world from November 20-27. This year's theme for the Church Council on Justice and Corrections (CCJC) is "Imagine Justice." CCJC, a partner organization of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, promotes a restorative approach to justice with an emphasis on addressing the needs of victims and offenders, mutual respect, healing, individual accountability, community involvement and crime prevention.

What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative justice is a philosophy and an approach that views crime and conflict as harm done to people and relationships. The goal is to reach meaningful, satisfying and fair outcomes through inclusion, open communication and truth.

The Rev. Tom Brownlee is a retired Presbyterian minister who was a prison chaplain for many years. He writes: *In early August 2016, my wife and I attended a wedding in Edmonton. Our connection was with the bride. I had met her about 10 or so years ago. Our meeting place was the Women's Unit in the Calgary Remand Centre. I received a request to visit Christina (not her real name). Thus began a journey that continues to today. I watched her grow and mature as she took her first steps in the Christian faith. It was my great joy to baptize her in the Remand Centre. Later, I journeyed with her through a pregnancy, her release from the Edmonton Institution for Women, and the beginning of her relationship with her now husband.*

Christina has struggled over the years with various issues, including childhood trauma, addiction, and poverty. However, she is a determined woman and she wanted a new life. Going to prison gave her the chance for one. Christina is an inspiration to others, especially her younger sister. She has received permission to go back into the Edmonton Institution for Women to work with the inmates there – a rare privilege. She is also at university, pursuing a degree in Sociology. Now with a wonderful family, Christina has a bright future to look forward to. With God's grace, she continues to live one day at a time. (Originally published in Bar None, September 2016, a Mennonite Central Committee Alberta publication.)

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3rd Sunday of September, October, and June

2nd Sunday of November through May

LEADERSHIP AT DAYSPRING CHURCH

SESSION

Moderator: Heinrich Grosskopf

Session Clerk: Darlene Eerkes

Deputy Clerk: Iris Routledge

Roll Clerk: Jim Jeatt

Other Elders

Bill Davis

Jane de Caen

John Carr

Ingrid Dukhedin-Lalla

Peter Eerkes

Carina Grosskopf

Gina Kottke

Walters Munde

Nick Nation

Stanley Ngwa

Laura Patterson-Fortin

Todd Shipman

Darleen Springstein

Kimberly Swallow

Heather Tansem

MINISTER

The Rev. Dr. Heinrich Grosskopf

CHURCH STAFF

Church School Coordinator: Lynn Vaughan

Youth Coordinator: Shane Johnson

Worship Arts Coordinator

Gordon McCrostie, B.Mus., M.T.S.

Pianist: Binaifer (Binu) Kapadia, B.Mus.

Alternate Pianist

Darolyn McCrostie, B.Mus., P.D.A.D. (Education)

Administrative Assistant: Linda

Custodians: Lindsey & Jim Matthew