

# Pulse of Parkwood

PULSE OF PARKWOOD IS THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF PARKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**T**he Fellowship Team is setting up another Games Night this month! Find out about this and other upcoming events on page 5

**P**arkwood's Mission Team has some information for you about their fourth special appeal - read about it on pages 6-8

**“I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life .”**

**- Ezekiel 37:5**

**L**unch and Learn has a great topic and speaker this month that will be useful to all - check out the details on page 9

**P**arkwood's building project is getting near the end at last! Look at the latest photos of the interior and exterior work, on page 10

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**November 2016**



## Space and Spirit



From ancient times, God taught and people held certain spaces to be holy — set apart for God’s presence to fill. Moses encountered God in the burning bush — the one that burned but was not consumed — and God told Moses to take off his sandals, “for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” (Exodus 3: 5) Isaiah saw the Lord, “high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple” (Isaiah 6: 1): God’s majestic presence filled the temple, and in response the angels sang: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.” (Isaiah 6: 3) We are intended to understand that God is so great that He fills the place and space of His creation.

“After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.”  
- Acts 4:31

Yet it is also of great significance that God chooses to fill the creatures made in His likeness who inhabit His creation. The account of creation tells us that “God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.” (Genesis 2: 7) The Hebrew word for “breath” is the same word for “wind” and for “spirit”. God is Spirit, and God blew the breath of His Spirit into the first man, bringing Adam to life.

In the same manner, when God re-creates men and women, bringing us to life in a new, intimate and personal relationship with God, through Jesus, He blows the breath of His Spirit into us. God showed the prophet Ezekiel a valley full of dry bones, and asked, “Can these bones live?” God says in response, after telling Ezekiel to prophesy to the bones, “I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life.” (Ezekiel 37: 5)

Just as nature abhors a vacuum, and air pushes and rushes in to fill spaces from which air has been sucked out, so God’s Spirit seeks to fill those who are empty and without. Jesus told the first disciples, knowing that after His death and departure they would be empty and destitute and unequipped to be His witnesses to all the earth, to wait in Jerusalem until they were filled with the Holy Spirit. The Book of Acts tells us that the disciples on the day of Pentecost “were filled with the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 2: 4)

God inhabits space, but more particularly He fills the lives in His people. Rather than emphasizing God’s presence filling space, the apostle Paul reminds us that “the God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands.” (Acts 17: 34) Rather, he desires — in response to the prayers of His people — to fill the lives of those who follow and serve Jesus. This happens not only once at our conversion or once upon the constitution of the church, but again and again. The early church faced opposition and challenge, but we are told that “after they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.” (Acts 4: 31)

We rejoice in the construction and dedication of new space at Parkwood for God to fill. Yet more profoundly we are called to consecrate and dedicate our lives to God to fill each and all of us, and all of us together, with His Holy Spirit, that, we might through our presence and our lives in the world bless the world with the living presence of the living God, enabling all to discover and grow in and share the love of God found in Jesus Christ.

Your pastor, desiring God’s presence to fill me, and you, and the church, and the world,

James T. Hurd.

## A Short History of Gracefield Presbyterian Centre

In 1962, Roger Billings died at a young age. This changed the situation for the Billings family. They couldn't imagine the estate without him, and consequently did not wish to return. The buildings had been closed only a few months when Dr. John Johnston, then minister at St. Timothy's Presbyterian Church in Ottawa, approached the Billings family regarding the purchase of the property for a Presbyterian Church Camp. They agreed, and the land was purchased by the Ottawa-Montreal Synod. It was a heavy financial burden, except to the far-seeing committee who had prayed so much for this kind of a blessing. The church camp called Peace Camp, on the St. Lawrence River just beyond Cornwall, had many serious limitations regarding cramped quarters and small amount of land with no possibility of expansion. I was a counselor at Peace Camp the last year it was used, 1962. The property at Gracefield was, indeed, a great blessing for the camping program that should be given top billing in our church life. Only God knows the number of people who have been blessed by their Gracefield experience. Being a counselor at Gracefield in 1963 was a great experience in such a beautiful place. I remember it vividly. We were piped to our meals by two young Scottish men from Edinburgh. They were on a cross-Canada hitch-hiking tour and offered themselves for two weeks as counselors, for which we were very thankful.

On July 17, 1982, the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the purchase was celebrated on the lawns in front of Reid Hall, overlooking the beautiful lake, with those tall stately pines watching over the proceedings. "Gracefield," as we affectionately call her, has to be experienced to be enjoyed. The moonlight shimmering across the lake and peering through the pines defies description. The wiener roasts and marshmallows toasted to a golden delicacy over glowing embers gives one a certain warmth in the remembering. The children enjoy trying to find where "Jack" dwells – which rabbit hole can be his? The chipmunks scamper about, ready to enjoy some shared morsels of breakfast in the trailer and tent grounds.

White Pine Lodge is a marvelous addition, standing where Reid Hall once stood. It is a well-planned and useful facility. For those who do not know Gracefield, I only wish that my first memories of Gracefield could be yours. We went to Gracefield on the train that took us to the end of the spur line. It was marked by a little building like a station house on the edge of the camp property. We were then part of Dr. Johnston's flock at St. Timothy's and we all enjoyed a church family picnic at Gracefield when the Synod first took possession of the Billings property in 1962. Dr. Johnston should be properly thanked for his positive faith that the church COULD afford to buy the property, in the face of opposition from the more cautious, and perhaps non-camping members, of the church. They soon all got won over, and it was "Family Picnics" that did it! For the many people of Parkwood Church, I say, "Can you imagine being without Gracefield?" For those who have never been to this gracious place of precious memories, please consider giving yourself a lovely treat as soon as possible.

Notes:

Gracefield Presbyterian Centre —> now Gracefield Christian Camp and Retreat Centre

Reid Hall —> now White Pine Lodge

Pine Lodge —> no longer a horse stable

Bell Tower ice house —> became the nurse's hut, and now the tuck shop (I think)

By Marlene DuCharme, Program Committee, G.P.C., 1982

- submitted by Dianne Nickerson



## Operation Christmas Child—Deadline November 13, 2016



Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse. Samaritan's Purse is a Christian relief and development organization that takes its name from Jesus Christ's story in the Bible of the Good Samaritan. The Samaritan man stopped to care for a stranger who had been beaten, robbed, and left by the side of the road. The Samaritan man even paid for a room at an inn so the stranger would have a place to heal.

Like that Good Samaritan, Samaritan's Purse provides aid to hurting people – victims of war, disease, disaster, poverty, famine, and persecution. This ministry is done regardless of people's religious faith, race, gender, or socio-economic standing. Samaritan's Purse Canada has been doing essential relief and development work in Jesus' name all around the world since 1973.

Through the Operation Christmas Child program, shoe boxes are shipped to remote corners of the world in order to bring joy, hope, and the message of God's love to millions of boys and girls. Each year, thousands of volunteers across Canada help to collect and prepare hundreds of thousands of Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes, which are then shipped around the world and distributed by valued international partners. Following shoe box gift distribution, many children have the opportunity to participate in The Greatest Journey. Through this voluntary discipleship program, hundreds of thousands of children come to faith in Jesus Christ each year, and experience the eternal impact of Operation Christmas Child.

The Parkwood Mission Team would like to thank our church family for partnering once again with the 2016 Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Programme.

Our Collection Day date this year is Sunday, November 6 and the Dedication Sunday date is Sunday, November 13. Shoe boxes and literature are available for pickup in the Gathering Place on Sunday mornings.

- submitted by **Stewart Elder**  
**Mission Team Leader**

## Fellowship Team—Upcoming Events!

### November 19th - Games Night is Coming Back!

If you haven't been to one of Parkwood's Game Nights in the past, you've been missing out on tons of fun! This event is open to everyone in our local community and is a great place to meet new people, as well as to connect with your church family and build relationships within Parkwood. We'll be inviting everyone we can think of, so you're bound to find a friendly face at Games Night this November.



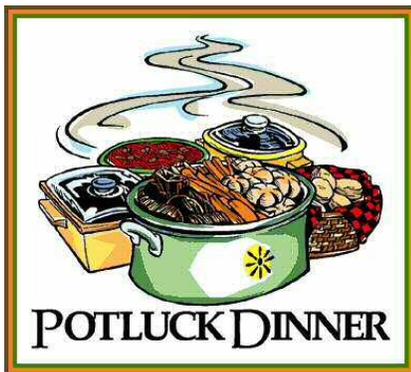
Think board games are just for kids? No way! There are so many different and interesting games that serve up mystery, crime-solving, wordplay, fantasy, math skills, role-playing, trivia, strategy, and more! Bring your favourite multiplayer table games to share with others and have a blast!

Think card games are just for seniors? Not so! Team games make cards great fun at any age, and there are so many different decks of cards to choose from—theme-based, game-specific, branded, or international! And variants in gameplay liven up the classics to make them accessible to kids, teens, and adults alike!

Bring the family and spend some quality time together. Come alone and make some new connections. All are welcome!

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday evening, November 19th, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Bring your favourite snacks to share and the Fellowship Team will provide juice, decaf coffee, and delicious home baking.

And coming up in December...



**The Congregational Christmas Pot Luck Supper  
will be held on Saturday, December 10th!  
Save the date!**

More details to come in the next edition  
of the Parkwood Pulse.

- submitted by Carolyn Herbert  
Fellowship Team

## Presbyterian College Capital Campaign for 2015-2016

The Presbyterian College Capital Campaign has been selected to be the Parkwood Mission Team's fourth appeal for 2016.

The Presbyterian College in Montreal depends on donations to help cover program costs, student bursaries, scholarships, prizes, modernization of the building, and other needs. It also relies on dedicated volunteers who devote their time and expertise in a variety of ways - for example, as members of the Board of Governors. It also appreciates gifts in kind our supporters provide, namely book donations and other materials.

### **Faith in a Changing World**

After 150 years of fulfilling its mission of preparing pastoral and public leaders for church and society, the College is dreaming big. Society has changed; the church has changed. The challenges for pastoral leaders in church and society have also changed. So the College has a choice to make – continue to do more of the same, or take bold steps — a leap of faith — to reignite its mission.

In order to meet the needs of a struggling church and a wounded world, the College has chosen the second alternative. Building upon the strength of its traditions, the College has developed a plan that will result in transformational and effective leaders for the church and for the world.

These leaders will have the gifts and skills to lead church renewal and to grow new faith communities, and to engage their communities for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

### **Charting a New Course**

The Presbyterian College seeks to prepare leaders to revitalize spiritual communities, build new churches, and make a positive difference in our world through inter-faith cooperation. With a renewed strategic plan, the College takes on a vision of providing spiritual guidance to the world: one person, one leader, and one congregation at a time. The College will accomplish this by revitalizing its Masters of Divinity program, and by initiating a Leadership Centre with new programs.

With the unanimous support of its Board of Governors, the Presbyterian College has invested \$500,000 of its own holdings to support this new vision. An additional \$150,000 has been personally pledged by current and past Board members as a further demonstration of commitment. In total, the College seeks \$1.75 million, pledged over the next five years, to support key program initiatives.

The three priorities include:

- Leadership Centre \$700,000
- Enhanced Masters of Divinity (M. Div.) Program \$800,000
- Revitalized Facilities \$250,000

### **Leadership Centre**

Nothing impacts the health of a congregation more than the capabilities of its leader. Inspiring congregational leadership cannot be learned in the seminary when students are not yet in a position of leadership and much of the material discussed is only 'theory.' As graduates move into their first congregations, many of the key questions of leadership begin to emerge. The Leadership Centre will provide a variety of programs

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to support both graduates and practicing ministers in becoming effective church leaders.

The Leadership Centre will encourage and renew present leadership in the church, build and support the gifts of emerging leaders, and engage young people in leadership to create and sustain communities of faith both in and outside of the church. The Leadership Centre has three central components:

**α Mentoring Missional Leaders** The Presbyterian College is making a five year commitment to support new graduates as they face the many challenges of undertaking a pastoral charge. Designed to sustain their enthusiasm and fresh ideas, the program brings M. Div. graduates together with experienced ministers through two major activities: a yearly onsite gathering, and monthly videoconferencing groups. The onsite meeting will be a time of retreat, reflection, community building, and learning. The videoconferences offer ongoing support, prayer, reflection on ministry, and soul care.

**α Pastors to Pastors Initiative** The Pastors to Pastors initiative was established in memory of Rev. Dr. Ian Victor, who served the church faithfully for many years, including his last ministry as Acting Director of Pastoral Studies at Presbyterian College. As one who mentored many other pastors over his lifetime, Dr. Victor had a deep and abiding commitment to help others serve well. The Pastors to Pastors Initiative is designed to assist ministers in mid-career who would benefit from a time of reflection, instruction, and encouragement. Its primary purpose is to help ministers rediscover their love for God and their love of ministry so that, personally renewed, they can bring the same sense of renewal to their congregations.

As part of its Pastors to Pastors Initiative, the Presbyterian College is collaborating with Ashland Theological Seminary (Ohio) to establish the Pastors of Excellence program in Canada. Built on the premise that thriving congregations require healthy, strong leaders, for close to a decade the program has focused on the importance of clergy renewal. Based on small clergy peer groups and mentored by experienced pastors, ministers take part in each of four transformational learning retreats held at the College for long weekends over a 13-month period. An overwhelming majority of participants have shown significant growth in areas such as spiritual vitality, leadership effectiveness, stress processing, and personal awareness around strengths and areas of growth.

**α Developing Young Adult Leaders** The future of spiritual communities depends upon supporting the development of young leaders, some of whom will pursue a calling to ministry, but many others who will serve the world in unknown, yet powerful and much needed ways. The Presbyterian College has a new program for young adults in the early stages of development. Through an exploration of values, skills, and vocational interests, 18-25 year olds will explore questions of faith and build leadership skills.

### **Enhanced Masters of Divinity (M.Div.) Program**

A new kind of church requires new thinking and skills, with deeper and long-lasting opportunities to expand educational growth beyond the academic program. The Enhanced M. Div. program offers students three areas of academic focus: Congregational Renewal, New Church Development, and an inter-faith studies program called "Face-to-Face, Faith-to-Faith."

Summer placements put students to work in congregations. Mentoring programs support students throughout their studies and beyond, helping new ministers to develop networks that will sustain them throughout their career. International students will bring a diversity of voices and experiences to promote

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new inter-faith dialogue in the academic program and in their communities. The enhanced program allows for the following initiatives:

- α **New Church Development** No one knows what the future church of Canada will look like, but we do know that new church models will be required in an age of mission. The church of the 21st century will, in many cases, look quite different from our traditional churches. A specialty in New Church Development combines a strong theological education with practical apprenticeships, which will put students to work in a variety of emerging church models.
- α **Congregational Renewal** Max De Pree, a well-known Christian writer, once stated that “we cannot become what we need to be by remaining what we are.” In an effort to address the changing needs of their members, many congregations are actively engaged in a challenging, yet hopeful, rebuilding process. Students choosing a specialty in Congregational Renewal will work for two summer terms, alongside a minister with a congregation engaged in renewal.
- α **Faith-to-Faith Studies** Young Christian leaders from communities around the world will participate in a three year program in inter-faith studies offered by the Presbyterian College and McGill University’s Faculty of Religious Studies. McGill has partnered with the Tony Blair Foundation, whose mission is “to provide the practical support required to counter religious prejudice, conflict and extremism in order to promote open-minded and stable societies.”

### Revitalized Facilities

In the midst of the diversity and energy of McGill’s University campus, the Presbyterian College offers its students an intimate and self-contained living and learning environment, where students and faculty have a special place to develop their leadership gifts.

Most of its new programs include a residential component, and to make that experience as inviting as possible, the College is undertaking the renovation of spaces central to our student experiences and community gatherings. Residence rooms, kitchen facilities, and the outdoor atrium will be renewed.

### Making A Donation

To make a donation to the Presbyterian College Capital Campaign, please specify the amount under “Other” on your Offering Envelope.

- submitted by **Andrew McRae,**  
Mission Team

### Note from the Editor: December/January Pulse Deadline

The next edition of the Parkwood Pulse will be for the months of December and January. Deadline for **all submissions** is November 20th.

[parkwoodpulse@yahoo.ca](mailto:parkwoodpulse@yahoo.ca)

*The Pulse is always in colour online!*

## Parkwood Photo Directory

Parkwood's last Photo Directory was published in 2012. It's time for an update! This November and December, everyone in the congregation is invited to have their picture taken/updated for the Church Photo Directory. Kris Marion has offered to take pictures after the Sunday Worship Service between 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM from November 6, 2016 to December 25, 2016 except for November 13, 2016. Pictures will be taken in the Gathering Place outside the Sanctuary. Family groupings are encouraged. Please bring your smile and say cheese! Thank you.



- submitted by Don Pestaluky

## November Lunch and Learn



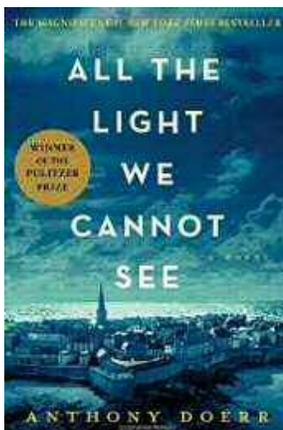
The next Lunch and Learn will be on Monday, November 21, 2016. This month's topic is "Will-Planning and Appointing a Power of Attorney for Property and Personal Care." This topic has been requested by church members and is especially important for all of us.

The speaker will be lawyer Anne-Marie Magneron, from Dust-Evans Grandmaitre Law Firm. The Dust-Evans Grandmaitre Law Firm from Orleans has been serving Ottawa since the early seventies.

Come join us! Lunch will be served at noon, followed by a speaker at 1:00 PM.

- submitted by Dora Brown

## Parkwood Book Group—November 14th



November 14th, 2016 - All the Light We Cannot See

From the highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning Anthony Doerr, the beautiful, stunningly ambitious instant New York Times bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

**Join the Parkwood Book Group on Monday evening,  
November 14th, from 7:30PM to 9:00PM to discuss  
this fascinating read!**

**Facility Planning Team—Renovation Update**



**Check out what's new! Photos from September and October renovation work...**

**Almost finished - exterior work just about done around the front of the church**



**Interior work - new windows, carpet and trim, and the newly revealed full brick wall**

**Keep up to date on all the building project news on the website:  
[parkwoodchurch.ca/building2serve](http://parkwoodchurch.ca/building2serve)**





## THE LORD'S SUPPER

Bartholomew	Consecrated	Feast	Peter
Blessing	Covenant	Fellowship	Philip
Breaking	Cup	John	Remembrance
Christ	Disciples	Matthew	Sacrament
Church	Eat	Meal	Sharing
Commandment	Eucharist	Paschal	Thomas
Communion	Faith	Peace	Wine

# Parkwood Church Activities November 2016 -- revised Nov 18

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 7:00pm Mission Team 7:30pm Finance & Maintenance Team	<b>2</b> 10:00am Koffee Klatch 4:00pm Praise Guitar Group 5:00pm LOGOS 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study	<b>3</b> 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>4</b> 7:00pm Youth Activity Night	<b>5</b> Clocks Change Back
<b>6</b> Remembrance Sunday 10:00am Church School 10:00am Worship 11:30am Parkwood Concert Band Practice 11:30am Church Photos 12:00pm Young Adults Fellowship 7:00pm Marriage Course Date Night	<b>7</b> 6:30pm ESL Conversation	<b>8</b> 1:00pm Pastoral Care Team 7:00pm CANHAVE Board Meeting 7:30pm Policy & Planning Meeting 7:30pm Outreach Team Meeting	<b>9</b> 10:00am Koffee Klatch 4:00pm Praise Guitar Group 5:00pm LOGOS 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study	<b>10</b> 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>11</b> Remembrance Day	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 10:00am Church School 10:00am Worship & Operation Christmas Child Dedication 11:30am Parkwood Concert Band Practice 12:00pm Young Adults Fellowship 3:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Marriage Course Date Night	<b>14</b> 6:30pm ESL Conversation 7:30pm Parkwood Book Group	<b>15</b> December Calendar Deadline at 9 am 7:00pm Presbytery at St. Giles Church, Ottawa	<b>16</b> 10:00am Koffee Klatch 4:00pm Praise Guitar Group 5:00pm LOGOS 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study	<b>17</b> 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:00pm Young Adults Dinner 7:00pm Games Night
<b>20</b> December/January Pulse Deadline 9:15am Parkwood Concert Band Practice 10:00am Worship & Mission Appeal 10:00am Church School 11:30am Church Photos 12:00pm Young Adults Fellowship 7:00pm Marriage Course Date Night	<b>21</b> 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 6:30pm ESL Conversation	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 10:00am Koffee Klatch 4:00pm Praise Guitar Group 5:00pm LOGOS 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study	<b>24</b> 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5:00pm Laser Tag Youth Event
<b>27</b> Advent I 10:00am Worship 10:00am Church School 11:30am Church Photos 12:00pm Young Adults Fellowship 3:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Marriage Course Date Night	<b>28</b> 6:30pm ESL Conversation 7:30pm Session	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10:00am Koffee Klatch 4:00pm Praise Guitar Group 5:00pm LOGOS 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study			