

# PARKWOOD PULSE

PARKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

There are a number of neat fundraising ideas that need volunteers to make those events happen. Choose one or two that suit you best - see page 7

Missed some events lately? Check out photos from the March games night, the Easter Sunrise Service, and No Other Name on pages 3 and 6

**"The Kingdom of God is within you!"**

**- Luke 17:20**

Find out what's under development at Parkwood in the Session meeting summary notes, from February and March, on pages 8 & 9

There is a fantastic opportunity to help with a unique decoration for the new stairwell. For details, see page 10

**MAY 2017**

## The Kingdom of God is...

Luke 17: 20 - Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, “The kingdom of God does not come visibly, nor will people say, ‘Here it is,’ or ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God is within you.” (NIV)

We live in time, and we measure the progress of things by time. Children want to know “when” dinner will be ready. Teens want to know what is the “next” great app. Adults, sometimes harassed and overwhelmed by circumstances, ask, “What next?”

Jesus was asked about the coming of God’s kingdom. When would He rule? When would change really begin? When would everything be set right? His answer was that looking for some great sign of the arrival of the kingdom of God would be disappointing. The kingdom of God does not come like a cloud on the horizon, or appear like the dawning of a great light in the sky.

God is a spirit, and the Hebrew word for “spirit” is the same as the Hebrew word for “wind”. No one “sees” the wind. Rather, when the wind is present and at work, evidence of its presence and power show up:

- Garbage and debris blow along the streets, and pile up against fences and walls.
- Smells — both good and bad — carry great distances
- Trees sway; flags fly briskly; clothes hung on clotheslines dry quickly.

Similarly, when God is at work, certain things show the evidence:

- Help that is needed appears just in time; a gift arrives that supplies encouragement to share with someone else, or confirmation that what was previously shared with hesitation was undoubtedly the right thing to do
- A friend is there just when we need a hand to help, an ear to listen, or a shoulder on which to lean.
- Looking back, wondering where we got the strength to get through, we recognize that God’s strength was perfected in our weakness. We realize that God’s protection kept us from harm or danger that we had not foreseen.

Looking forward, we are able to confess that the kingdom — the reign, the rule — of God is present within us. God’s invisible hand is at work, directing, shaping, providing, guiding and orchestrating the events of life. Our individual lives and our life together as the people of God are in the kingdom of God.

The Hebrew word for “wind” and “spirit” is also the same as the Hebrew word for “breath”. Unless it is very cold, we do not normally “see” our breath. Yet our breath sustains our life. If we cease breathing, we die. Our breath is within us, but its power and effect is seen outwardly as we live and move and serve others.

Jesus reminds us that the kingdom of God is “within” or “among” us. Let us remember what our breath and what the wind do for us and through us. Let us discern and affirm the evidence of God’s kingdom within and among us, and celebrate.

Your pastor, rejoicing the rule and reign of Christ,  
James T. Hurd

## Congratulations Amanda!

Amanda Veras recently won the **Taste the Art Ottawa** photo contest, a national competition held by Le Cordon Bleu's Ottawa campus, where the contestants were tasked with recreating the peak of the Peace Tower using food. Entries were judged on originality and effort.

Amanda made a Peace Tower cake that was made of six kilograms of fondant and six kilograms of pastillage. It measured 90 centimetres by 50 centimetres, took three days to create, and was vanilla-flavoured.

Parkwood would like to celebrate with Amanda and her family for this recognition of her amazing creation! Great job, Amanda!

- image submitted by Amanda Veras



## March Games Night

Many thanks to the Fellowship Team for hosting another great Games Night in March. People of all ages turned up to play a variety of table games and share some snacks and good conversation!



## Mission Team - Harvest House



Harvest House is the Parkwood Mission Team's second special appeal for 2017 and is scheduled for June 11th.

The Mission of Harvest House Ministries is to rehabilitate young men who are chemically dependent, to instill in them self-discipline, and to reintegrate them into society by an inner change.

Harvest House is a long-term residential drug treatment program located in the regional municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, which has been providing hope to addicts for over 30 years. The program was founded on December 1, 1979 by three Christian businessmen who had spent time visiting men in jail. They saw a need to provide a Christ-centered home for young men who were struggling with alcohol, drugs, and other social ills associated with that type of lifestyle.

Located in a rural setting, Harvest House is in the greenbelt of Ottawa South, at 3435 Ramsayville Road. The success of the residents of Harvest House is in part due to its rural location and distance from their former lifestyles in the city. Harvest House serves young men between the ages of 16 and 30, many of whom have been unsuccessful with other treatment programs. Harvest House does not turn away those who have histories of relapse, criminal activity, or imprisonment. Harvest House adheres to an abstinence philosophy, including no smoking. To date, over 2,200 men have come through the doors of Harvest House and, for many, this has been a life changing experience. When people care enough to help, you are given the strength to overcome any obstacle. Harvest House is a place where people care.

The founders of Harvest House saw the need for a different approach to rehabilitating alcohol and drug addicts. Over the past 25 years, the program has grown and become one of the few long-term residential rehab centers in Canada. Harvest House is one of only two rehab centres in Canada that is registered with Therapeutic Communities of America.

At Harvest House, getting sober is not enough. Harvest House provides a therapeutic community where all aspects of the person are rehabilitated, not just the alcohol and drug use. Harvest House employs a holistic, five-element approach, which incorporates the mental, physical, social, and spiritual needs of a person, along with a skills-development program. The 24-month program provides residents with professional and peer support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Opportunities to develop skills are found for every resident.

This model of rehab vastly improves the chances for success for our residents. Many of the people who come to Harvest House have not found success in other rehab programs. Many have histories of relapse and resisting rehab. Unlike some rehab programs, Harvest House accepts men who may be difficult to work with because of past failures or limited motivation. Often these individuals have histories of criminal activity, imprisonment, unemployment, and dysfunctional family upbringing. Harvest House deals with difficult cases.

## Mission Team - Harvest House (continued)

Once residents have been stabilized and the addiction is under control, they need to be employable in order to continue their success and to build the self-esteem needed for reintegration to society. The skills development program at Harvest House is integral to the road to recovery, offering opportunities for individuals to further their education, develop work ethics, and become responsible for their own economic well-being.

Each resident is assessed to determine his interests, aptitudes, and skill level. Every effort is made in order to accommodate individual goals and/or areas of interest. Education and hands-on-training are offered to the residents while they are still within their community of support. Skills and training are available in a variety of areas, including: sales and marketing, computer technology, creative arts, food management, property management, office administration, and production and manufacturing. All skills developed through the program are in compliance with the standards set by the Conference Board of Canada in cooperation with employers.

An after-care program was developed in 1985 to fill the need for housing and further support as residents graduate from the program. Five homes are currently in operation, with up to five graduates in each home. This program adds to the success of Harvest House, expanding the community of support and providing positive role models for residents of the program.

To make a donation to Harvest House, please specify the amount under "Other" on your offering envelope.



- submitted by Andrew McRae,  
Mission Team

### *From the Editor: June Pulse Deadline*

The next edition of the Parkwood Pulse will be for the month of June. Send in your submissions by Sunday, May 21st to [parkwoodpulse@yahoo.ca](mailto:parkwoodpulse@yahoo.ca)

### **Pulse In Your Email Inbox?**

Would you like to receive the Pulse newsletter by email?  
Send your expression of interest to [parkwoodpulse@yahoo.ca](mailto:parkwoodpulse@yahoo.ca)

**Easter 2017 - Sunrise Service & ParkwoodYouth @ No Other Name**



Clouds blanketed the sky for the early morning service, but temperatures were quite balmy, even at 6:00am.

Musicians and gatherers both appreciated the warmer weather this year.



Despite the clouds, daybreak was still evident and there was no rain. A welcoming pancake breakfast back at the church followed the sunrise service.

- submitted by Carrie Morris

**No Other Name at The Met - Good Friday 2017**



## Fundraising!

### Yard Sale - Saturday June 3rd, 2017

38 Saddlebrook Street, Nepean  
8:30am to 2:00pm

Come join Alta MacFie at her house in the Centrepointhe neighbourhood to take part in the annual Centrepointhe Garage Sale, with proceeds to be donated to the Parkwood Loan Repayment Fund.



Bring some things to sell (set your own prices), a lunch, a card table if you have one, a sunhat, and sunscreen. As it is outdoors, this event is weather-dependent, but historically the weather has been very pleasant in early June. Coffee and company will be provided - expect to have a good time!

Anyone with only 1 or 2 items to contribute who is not available to come out themselves on June 3rd, please contact Alta MacFie in advance and those items can be added to the sale - but please no boxes, bags, or piles of items left at the church. At the end of the day, each seller will be responsible for carrying away any unsold items. Parking instructions will be provided on arrival.

For questions and to indicate an interest in participating, please contact Alta MacFie: 613-723-7865 or [macfies@rogers.com](mailto:macfies@rogers.com).

- submitted by Alta MacFie

Note: The previously advertised garage sale at the church, which was to be held on May 13th, has been cancelled. If you had items you had planned to contribute, you are warmly invited to bring them to this sale instead! Thanks very much!



The movie premiere is still tentatively planning to go ahead in June, so plan to come out and help fundraise!

Think you can wash a car? Then we need you! Car washes can be fun events for all ages and a great way to spend family time together!



Bakers wanted! On their own or as a companion to another event, bake sales are a delicious way to give back to your church and share your talent for tasty creations!

To help with any of these fundraising events, please contact: Marcia Harten, Alta MacFie, or Michael Morris

## February Session Meeting Summary

- The moderator reported that the sexuality issue before the PCC will come to General Assembly in the form of two papers with a series of options. The papers have not yet been generally circulated.
- The Policy & Planning Team is to review the current methodology of assigning keys to individuals and groups to determine if changes are necessary to improve accessibility and convenience, while maintaining an appropriate degree of security. This review should include feedback from teams and groups, including an assessment by F&M of the degree to which the current allocation process for keys is achieving its desired objectives.
- On the basis of email correspondence from Charlie Senack of TWIN News, it was agreed to approve in principal the holding of an event in June to publicize the release of their long-planned film concerning part of the history of Nepean. Some of the filming and interviewing was done at Parkwood. Final approval to hold the event is subject to space availability and proper insurance.
- Some changes for elders and teams are the following: Dale Tuck is joining P&P; Kris Marion is to be the representative from Session on Fellowship; and Dale Tuck is to be the representative from Session on Pastoral Care.
- The existing ledger to record attendance at Communion is nearly full, as it was designed to cover the period from 2006 to 2017. A motion to use the Church Windows computer program to record attendance at communion was tabled pending further review by Marcia Harten.
- In response to a recommendation by the congregation that Session explore options to do the work of the position of Treasurer, it was agreed to set up a small group of elder(s) and non-elder(s). The work by the group should include a review of the existing terms of reference for the position and consideration of having more than one person carry out the duties. Dale Tuck volunteered to lead the group. Other people, especially those with an accounting background, should be invited to join the group. Suggested names included Kathy Newton and Brenda Featherstone.
- It was agreed that one of the topics for the June congregational meeting should be to talk about how to organize and encourage participation in small groups.
- It was agreed to place the Guest Book on the Memorial Table just on Sunday morning for signing convenience. The question of the longer-term use of a guest book was referred to the Outreach Team.

- submitted by **Dennis Featherstone,**  
Clerk of Session





## March Session Meeting Summary

- The existing communion roll book is adequate until the end of 2017. Recording options are being evaluated with the current evaluation being test runs of the Church Windows software.
- The Arabic-speaking mission, which has occasionally held a prayer meeting at Parkwood, is hoping to have insurance coverage in place for April 1.
- A questionnaire concerning the allocation of keys has gone out to all teams.
- Kathy Newton and Brenda Featherstone have agreed to join the ad-hoc team to seek a successor to our treasurer.
- Parkwood has been accepted as one of the congregations to attend the Stewards by Design to be held in November. The team to attend needs to be selected.
- A recommendation from Presbytery “that sessions and congregations of the Presbytery of Ottawa be encouraged to conduct a worship service recognizing the report and recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation commission, and celebrate Aboriginal culture, potentially incorporating the service material on the PCC website” was approved in principle and referred to the Worship Co-ordination Team for implementation.
- A recommendation from Presbytery “that congregations be made aware of the activities of our Presbytery Animator Cheryl Gaver, and the materials she has prepared, and be encourage to consider how to use these resources” was approved in principle and referred to David Lee for implementation in consultation with Philip MacFie.
- The Christian Education Team is planning a parenting course to take place April 22 to May 13. The plan is to have babysitting throughout and to end the course with a BBQ.
- A Logos musical, A Tale of 3 Trees, will be presented on April 29 and 30.
- The next Pastoral Care communion is May 2.
- The Youth Leadership Fund is a separate benevolent fund which may provide needed financial assistance to a young person so they can participate in a program and/or activity which is designed to develop leadership skills.



- submitted by **Dennis Featherstone,**  
**Clerk of Session**

## Mural

A year ago, I sent out a request for ideas for furnishing and decorating the new construction at Parkwood, keeping in mind the mission statement of our church. One of the responses included a link to an article in Christian Week magazine, April 17, 2016 in which Jeff Clarke talks about the importance of communicating the gospel message through symbolism and various art forms in our sacred spaces. He says, "Do what we see, hear, and read as we enter a church building cause us to focus our collective attention on God and the story of Christ? Instilling within us a sense of wonder and contemplation?"

The newly-formed Furnishings group decided that we would invite Mahshid Eshtiagh, an accomplished artist here at Parkwood, to design a mural for the new entrance wall. We asked for an artistic expression of who Jesus is and His invitation to all to come to Him. We are absolutely delighted with Mahshid's design. Her design fulfills our requirements in a very modern, sophisticated style that is appealing to both adults and children. We think it will be a conversation piece and a springboard for expressing our faith to newcomers who enter our doors. It will also make Parkwood unique.



The next step is to raise some funds to pay for the mural. The project will cost approximately \$3000.00. If you feel as excited about this project as we are, we invite you to contribute to it through your offering envelope.

- submitted by Alta MacFie

## Looking Ahead ...



June 25 - Annual Congregational Picnic at General Burns Park

July 2 - Strawberry Social

July 5 to August 30 - Wednesday mid-week fellowship

September 10 - Fall Corn Boil



Thanks to the Fellowship Team and Christian Education Team for preparing the above dates and events. Stay tuned to the Parkwood Pulse for more information on these events closer to the dates!



## Loan Repayment Fund

The Building Expansion Fund is now closed and the session has established a Loan Repayment Fund to receive donations for loan repayment. To meet the repayment requirements, money will be withdrawn from this fund. Any donations to the Loan Repayment Fund will be used only for loan repayment purposes.



A review of the construction loans was set out in the February Annual Report. There will be a need for the congregation to make a decision on how quickly we try to repay the loans. Session encourages the congregation to continue to remember the needs of loan repayment when they make their decision on donations to the work at Parkwood and beyond. On your offering envelope, add the words "Loan" or "Loan Repayment".

- submitted by Dennis Featherstone  
Clerk of Session

## Youth Leadership Fund

Many activities are opportunities for youth to develop their Christian leadership skills. It may be guitar classes, a youth conference, swimming lessons, babysitting classes, or church-run programs. These are just a few examples of activities available in which leadership skills are encouraged and developed.

Parents and youth can carefully consider the gifts of the youth and the needs of those in their community prior to choosing leadership skill opportunities. By participating in events which foster leadership, youth grow in their skills and confidence as leaders, becoming valuable leaders in their community.

These programs often require a fee or payment. This fee can be a financial burden to some, prohibiting them the opportunity to participate. To assist youth, ages eight to eighteen, who may have financial limitations, Session has approved the establishment of the Parkwood Presbyterian Church Youth Leadership Fund.

To access financial assistance, funds can be requested by a confidential recommendation of two elders. The elders then communicate the request, in writing, to the convenor, Marcia Harten. The funds are intended to assist a variety of youth in a variety of programs and activities.



The Youth Leadership Fund has been opened with a donation of \$600. Donations to the fund can be made through the offering envelope, designating "Youth Leadership Fund" under "Other".

- submitted by Marcia Harten

# Parkwood Church Activities May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 6:30pm ESL Conversation	<b>2</b> 2:00pm Pastoral Care Communion 7:00pm Mission Team 7:30pm Finance & Maintenance Team	<b>3</b> 10:00am Koffee Klatch 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study	<b>4</b> 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10:00am Renewal Fellowship at Parkwood 6:00pm Parenting Course
<b>7</b> 10:00am Worship 10:00am Church School 11:45am Beginner Guitar Praise Group 7:00pm Presbytery at Barrhaven	<b>8</b> 6:30pm ESL Conversation	<b>9</b> 1:00pm Pastoral Care Team	<b>10</b> 10:00am Koffee Klatch 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 3:00pm Parenting Course & BBQ
<b>14</b> 10:00am Worship 10:00am Church School 11:45am Beginner Guitar Praise Group	<b>15</b> 6:30pm ESL Conversation	<b>16</b> June Calendar Deadline 9 am 7:00pm Presbytery at Parkwood Church	<b>17</b> 10:00am Koffee Klatch 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study	<b>18</b> 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Spring Youth Retreat @ Gracefield to May 22
<b>21</b> June Pulse Deadline 10:00am Worship 10:00am Church School	<b>22</b> Victoria Day - Church office closed	<b>23</b> 7:30pm Policy & Planning Meeting	<b>24</b> 10:00am Koffee Klatch 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study	<b>25</b> 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 8:00am Men's & Women's Breakfast @ Local Heroes
<b>28</b> 10:00am Worship 10:00am Church School	<b>29</b> 6:30pm ESL Conversation 7:30pm Session	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 10:00am Koffee Klatch 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study			