

PARKWOOD PULSE

PARKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Stay tuned to your Parkwood Pulse and email newsletters for updates on in-person events.

Your Parkwood Pulse is online with digital editions. Submissions can be sent in to parkwoodpulse@yahoo.ca

"Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

- **Luke 21:36**

Join us for worship on Sundays at 10:00AM, or, if not able to come in person, join us online!

MARCH 2026

A meditation for Lent

James Boswell in *The Life of Samuel Johnstone* famously wrote, “Depend upon it, sir, when a man knows he is to be hanged in a fortnight, it concentrates his mind wonderfully.”

Where did Jesus focus His thoughts as the time of His crucifixion drew near?

Luke was a careful historian as well as being a physician. Notice the following autobiographical details that Jesus reveals in His last days and hours, which Luke records in his gospel. May God use them to help to focus our thoughts and prayers as we remember Jesus’ journey to the cross for us and our redemption.

Jesus said:

“I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.” (Luke 22:15)

Jesus leaned into the communion of the saints. He was very focused on fellowship with the disciples, who by adoption were and are His brothers. Do we prize and value fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ, and with Christ Jesus Himself? Our relationships in the church, the body of Christ, are to be a priority. How do we make them so in practice?

“I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.” (Luke 22:32)

Jesus’ compassion for Simon Peter, whom Jesus knew as one who boldly confessed Jesus to be the Messiah, but who would also deny even knowing Him — and that on three occasions — is remarkable. Jesus discloses that He is praying for Simon. He knows Peter will fall, but prays He will not ultimately fail. He counsels Peter in advance that when — eventually — he turns back to Jesus, his charge will be to strengthen others. Do we pray for each other, and especially for those who fall? Do we seek to strengthen our siblings in Christ?

“Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.” (Luke 22:42)

Jesus really does not want to face the cruel cup of crucifixion. He knows full well that unspeakable pain and suffering await. Yet He places His Father’s will and plan for the redemption of lost sinners above His own desire, and says, “not my will, but yours be done”. The future for each of us may be challenging, and all of us will be called to face death. In dependence on the Holy Spirit, Who strengthened Jesus in the hour of His weakness, let us each seek to embrace God’s will for our lives, and live to the end of our earthly days to fulfill His purposes in and through us.

“Do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children.” (Luke 23:28)

Jesus applies what He taught previously in His Sermon on the Mount: “Blessed are they that mourn.” Those who weep for their own sin and the sins of their children are one with Jesus, who wept over those in Jerusalem and elsewhere who were unwilling to return and receive the mercy of God. Let us take time to mourn for our sins, and lovingly to pray over those closest to us who sin and for whom Jesus prays.

A meditation for Lent

“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” (Luke 23:34)

Jesus breathes a spirit of forgiveness — especially toward those closest and most immediately nailing Jesus to the cross and hoisting Him up to hang and suffocate to death. He recognizes “ignorance and unbelief” which as Paul tells us is at the foundation of so much sin. May God give us discernment in these days to recognize our own sins and shortcomings, and the blessing and assurance that with Him and through Jesus forgiveness is to be found.

May each day find us nearer our Lord in spirit, even as each day brings us one day closer to the end of our days here, and nearer to our risen Lord in eternity.

Your pastor, seeking to be in step with the Spirit,
James T. Hurd.

Men's Breakfast - March 7th



Meet for Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast meeting will be on Saturday, March 7th at 8:00AM. The speaker will be Sunjay Henry, Ministry Animator for the presbyteries of Ottawa and Seaway-Glengarry, and husband of Vicky Henry, Parkwood's CE Support Worker.

There will be no Men's Breakfast in April but plans are in the works to have a joint men's and women's breakfast together on May 2nd.



Join us in March for great fellowship and food!
Freewill offerings gratefully accepted.

- submitted by Gord Walford

Lunch and Learn - March 9th

Speaker: Kris Haarbosch, Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Ottawa

Topic: Join the City of Ottawa’s Office of Emergency Management for a helpful presentation on emergency preparedness. We’ll talk about how the City supports residents during emergencies, what you and your neighbours can do to prepare, and easy steps you can take at home to feel more confident and ready.



Lunch at 12:00 noon, followed by the guest speaker. Freewill offering for lunch. For more information contact the Parkwood church office 613-225-6648. Everyone welcome!

- submitted by Marcia Harten

Lent Evening Services

Evening services during Lent are planned for the five Sundays in March, beginning March 1st at 7:00PM. The theme this year is “Spiritual gifts: mine, yours, and ours”, and is intended to be an extension of our focus for preaching from January through Easter.

The plan for the Lent evening services is to focus on Romans 12:6-8, and specifically:

Sunday, March 1st - 7:00PM How to prophesy



Sunday, March 8th - 7:00PM How to serve

Sunday, March 15th - 7:00PM How to teach

Sunday, March 22nd - 7:00PM How to encourage



Sunday, March 29th - 7:00PM How to give

Thursday, April 2nd - 7:30PM How to lead (Maundy Thursday)

Friday, April 3rd - 11:00AM How to show mercy (Good Friday)

From the Editor: **April Pulse**

The next edition of the Parkwood Pulse will be for the month of April. Send in your submissions by Sunday, March 22nd to

parkwoodpulse@yahoo.ca

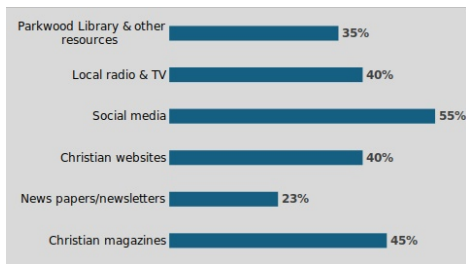


Christian Literature & Information Sources Survey Results

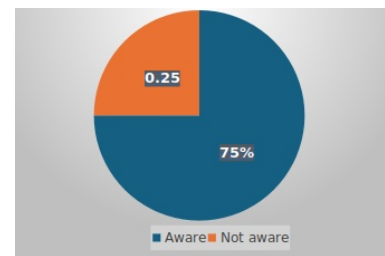
The increase in misinformation and disinformation is a growing concern generally and Christian literature and information are no exceptions. In an effort to assist the congregation in identifying reliable and high quality Christian information, the Mission Team conducted a survey among the Parkwood congregation in October 2025 to find out the types of Christian information they presently use, as well as the sources from which they get information. Approximately 40 persons completed the survey.

Thanks to all the persons who took the time to complete the survey. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Here is a summary of the **main findings**:

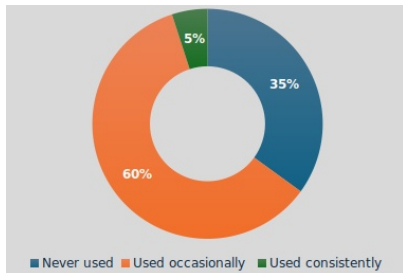
Sources from which respondents get Christian literature:



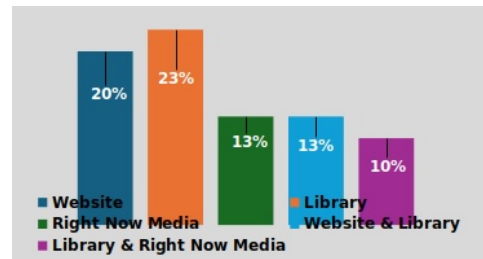
Respondents' knowledge of Christian material available at Parkwood:



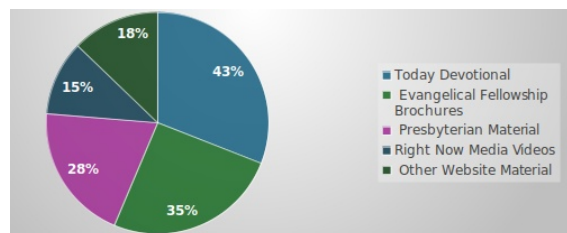
Percentage of respondents who have used the Christian materials available at Parkwood:



Parkwood resources that are used by respondents:



Christian material currently available at Parkwood and the percentage of respondents that use them:



Conclusions:

The survey indicates that the resources currently available at Parkwood are not being fully utilized. We encourage individuals who have not yet explored or accessed these materials to take the opportunity to review the diverse selection available, whether through the library, website, or associated links.

As followers of Christ, it is important for us to exercise discernment in selecting reliable information sources and materials to support our ongoing spiritual growth.

- submitted by **Viris Williams,**
Mission Team

Budget 2026 - Spending by Purpose

The budget presented in the Annual Report is traditionally set out by team spending. Another way to view our proposed spending for 2026 is to group the spending by purpose. The following table groups our spending into six categories by purpose.

Parkwood Budget for 2026: Spending by Purpose

	Budget 2026	% of Total		Budget 2026	% of Total
STAFF					
Salaries and Benefits	167,792		Group Support		
Total STAFF	167,792	69.8%	Youth Group	1,250	
			Young Adults	500	
FACILITY			Pastoral Care Expenses	300	
Utilities and Insurance			Total Group Support	2,050	
Insurance	9,456				
Electricity	7,000		Communication Technology		
Natural Gas	3,000		Telephone	2,000	
Water and Sewer	3,000		Internet	1,600	
Total Utilities and Insurance	22,456		Computer Supplies	1,010	
			Livestream Maintenance	200	
Interior Maintenance			Web Hosting	225	
Repairs, Replacement	8,000		Total Communication Technology	5,035	
Total Interior Maintenance	8,000				
			TOTAL PROGRAMS	11,110	4.6%
Exterior Maintenance			ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE		
Snow Clearing	5,000		Office Supplies	5,500	
Groundskeeping	5,000		Bank Charges	1,000	
Total Exterior Maintenance	10,000		Offering Envelopes	600	
Total FACILITY	40,456	16.8%	Software Renewals	1,940	
			Miscellaneous	360	
MISSIONS & OUTREACH			Total Admin & Finance	9,400	
Missions	3,900		TOTAL ADMIN. & FINANCE	9,400	3.9%
Fellowship Memberships	200		Presbytery Dues	7,503	3.1%
Total MISSIONS & OUTREACH	4,100	1.7%	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	240,361	100%
PROGRAMS			SUMMARY		
Christian Education			Staff	167,792	69.8%
Children	600		Facility	40,456	16.8%
Library & RightNow Media	700		Mission & Outreach	4,100	1.7%
Summer Programming	50		Programs	11,110	4.6%
Total Christian Education	1350		Administration & Finance	9,400	3.9%
			Presbytery Dues	7,503	3.1%
Music			TOTAL	240,361	100%
Copyright, Other	975				
Piano/organ Maintenance	900				
Organist/Pianist Supply	800				
Total Music	2675				

- submitted by Dennis Featherstone,
Finance Committee

Easter 2026

Easter Sunrise Service



Date: Sunday, April 5, 2026

Time: 6:15 a.m.

Sunrise at 6:36 a.m.

Place: The Arboretum –
part of Agriculture Canada's
Central Experimental Farm

Directions: See the website
at:

<https://parkwoodchurch.ca/arboretum.html>

Easter Breakfast



- Parkwood Presbyterian Church
- April 5, **following the Sunrise service** - coffee at 7 a.m.
 - breakfast at 7:15 a.m.
- Gluten free available
- **Sign up** giving the numbers that will attend
- **Sign up sheet** available on the Gathering Place kiosk or contact the office at office@parkwoodchurch.ca or by telephone at 613-225-6648 ext. 114

- submitted by John Fair

Parkwood Church Activities March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00am Worship & Church School 1:00pm Sunday Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00pm Lenten Service	2	3 1:00pm Pastoral Care Team (Zoom) 7:00pm Mission Team (Zoom)	4 7:00pm ESL Conversation	5 7:30pm Music Rehearsal	6	7 Clocks Go Ahead (at end of day) 8:00am Men's Breakfast
8 10:00am Worship & Church School 1:00pm Sunday Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00pm Lenten Service	9 12:00pm Lunch & Learn: Topic: Emergency Preparedness	10 7:00pm Facility Management Team (Zoom)	11 7:00pm ESL Conversation	12 7:30pm Music Rehearsal	13 7:00pm Youth Group	14
15 10:00am Worship & Church School 1:00pm Sunday Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00pm Lenten Service	16	17 April Calendar Deadline	18 7:00pm ESL Conversation	19 7:30pm Music Rehearsal	20	21 10:00am Renewal Fellowship Prayer Meeting (Zoom)
22 April Pulse Deadline 10:00am Worship & Church School 1:00pm Sunday Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00pm Lenten Service	23 7:00pm Session	24 7:00pm Presbytery @ St. Paul's Ottawa	25 7:00pm ESL Conversation 7:30pm Barrhaven Bible Study (Zoom)	26 7:30pm Music Rehearsal	27 7:00pm Youth Group	28
29 Palm Sunday 10:00am Worship & Church School 12:30pm Young Adults Lunch & Discussion 1:00pm Sunday Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00pm Lenten Service	30	31				