

Wespress for June 2008

This edition of Wespress contains information on the following subjects:

1. Coming Events
2. Westminster Mission Statement
3. Acknowledgements
4. Cheese Sandwich making
5. Notes of Concern
6. CGIT News
7. Sunday School News
8. Sunday Coffee Hour
9. Financial Statement
10. Personal Note from Sharon
11. In Memoriam – Late Jack Tarzwell

Coming Events

Thursday 5 June	Evening	Church open to receive material for Garage Sale
Friday 6 June	8:30 a.m.	Breakfast at Miss Carlingwood prior to setting up Garage Sale material
Friday	All day	Church open to receive material for Garage Sale
Saturday 7 June	8:00 a.m.	Garage Sale until noon
Sunday 8 June	10:30 a.m.	Communion
Sunday 15 June	After Service	Special Congregational Meeting (see notice below)
Sunday	2:00 p.m.	Free Concert by students of Shawne Elizabeth

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The Session of Westminster is calling a Special Congregational Meeting to be held in the sanctuary after Worship on June 15th to consider a resolution requested from Presbytery to facilitate the sale of the Erskine Church Building which they will be offering for sale through realtor DTZ Barnicke this summer. The resolution will authorise Westminster's duly elected trustees to transfer title to the land and building formerly known as Erskine Church, Ottawa, to such purchaser and at such price and under such terms and on such date as may be approved by the Presbytery of Ottawa.

2. Westminster Mission Statement:

As part of the Westminster Development Strategy, the Session held a workshop in May to discern God's will for our congregation today and express it in the form of a Mission Statement. With the guidance of the Synod Regional Staff Member Christine Ball, we considered: what we believe in, where we minister, who are the people we are called to serve and what unique gifts Westminster brings to ministry. At the end of the workshop our draft stated:

As our Mission:

"We invite everyone to come to celebrate and reflect God's love,

And encourage one another to grow in relationship with God

And service to others."

A summary of the workshop proceedings is available for anyone interested. This is only a draft. We invite the congregation to make comments and suggestions on the statement. This fall, the organizations of the church will be invited to consider how the Westminster Mission Statement relates to their future directions. Please ask your Elder, the Minister or the Clerk of Session if you wish more information.

Laura Kilgour
Clerk of Session

3. THANKS At this time in the Church year, we should acknowledge some of the many people in Westminster who quietly do the jobs that keep the church not just going, but going well. There are probably many others who should be mentioned here, and I can only apologize for not including them all.

**On Behalf of Westminster Congregation,
We thank:**

- Rev. William Ball, Christine, and their family for all the extra time and caring effort they put into Westminster.
- Alan Thomas and the choir for all their practice and dedication which lead to very special contributions to our worship services.
- The Ignite ensemble for the enthusiasm and talent they bring to our worship.
- John Griffiths, with Bruce Quinney and Debbie McMillan, for dressing the church so beautifully every Sunday and making sure everything is in its proper place.
- Gord Neilson for making up the name tags, and for keeping them up to date. They have certainly helped make us all better acquainted, and more the family we want to be.
- Carol Ann Joiner, and the other leaders, for another very successful year of CGIT; and for a great dinner and a moving graduation service on May 15.
- Marg Jones for the special effort involved in so graciously organizing funeral receptions, usually with little notice.
- Glenn Carroll for his continually outstanding work in obtaining tenants for space in Westminster. He has become adept at juggling all the demands from outside groups as well as Church activities – no easy task!
- The Pastoral Care Team for their quiet and caring attention to the ailing or housebound in the congregation.
- The teachers and leaders of the children and youth who continue, despite fluctuating numbers, to convey the Christian message to them all.
- Catherine Mackay for organizing the flowers every Sunday, which add to the beauty of the sanctuary .
- All the people who provide refreshments on Sunday to give us an excuse to linger and to chat; and Mary Ann and John Tyler, who co-ordinate this.
- Chico Wallis for continuing to produce Wespress as an important vehicle to inform us all about Westminster activities.

- Jim Moran for maintaining our website as a great way to communicate to the world outside.
- Chico and Sally Wallis for co-ordinating the teams who attempt to keep all the kitchens tidy and clean.
- Bill Miller who, with Patrick, keeps the Church building in good repair and functioning properly.
- All the greeters and readers, organized by Betty Jean Bone; and those who take up collection, organized by Heather McCurdie. These tasks are often “unsung” but they are essential in the worship services.

Shirley Stubbs,
Secretary, Operations/Planning

4. Cheese Sandwich making We have had a busy winter making sandwiches on the third Tuesday of each month. These sandwiches are taken to McLeod/Stewarton Church for the street people . Most people bring 2 loaves of white bread and a 500 g package of thick cheese slices, while the committee provides the margarine, baggies and extra bread. Many thanks to those who give financial donations to buy the extra supplies. Yes we do make Cheese Sandwiches through the summer as hunger takes **NO** holidays. We also collect men’s clothing, mitts, scarves, etc. which some of our ladies have knitted. Now we are collecting men’s summer clothing such as lighter shirts and shorts.

Carolyn Giekes, the Head Administrator at Centre 504, came out to speak to our group. She praised Westminster for all that they are doing for them and contributing so generously. She also gave us a lot of very important information as to how Centre 507 operates. After closing worship we go to Tim Hortons for coffee. All are welcome any time.

We appreciate donations of 3 and 4 ply wool any color, the wool is knitted into scarves, toques, mitts for center 507 and the street people. we have people who love to knit but would like some wool. call Audrey Miller @ 613-596-1782 .

5. Notes of Concern If you know someone in the congregation who is ill or deceased and you wish a card or note sent on behalf of the congregation, please call Chris McGoun at 613-828-5811 and she will be happy to take care of it for you.

6. CGIT NEWS Another successful year has come to an end for the Westminster CGIT group. We had an awesome year-end Family Banquet on May 15th with lots of yummy food brought in by the families and leaders. We also said congratulations to 4 of our girls as they graduated from CGIT. This means that they are moving on to the next stage in their lives and are welcome back anytime.

One of our graduates, Laura Jarecsni is going to Camp Council this summer and she will be able to help us with her new leadership skills starting in September. Quite a few of our other girls are going to Kalalla this summer where they will be joined by Mocha, Chicklet and Squirt who will be working at Kalalla as a counsellor this year.

We want to wish one and all a very happy and healthy summer and we look forward to seeing everyone back on Thursday, Sept. 11th, 2008 at 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Lower Hall.

7. Sunday School News As you are reading this, we will be into our next-to-last class in Sunday School for the year. We have been blessed to increase our enrollment by 10 children who either moved into the neighbourhood or were welcomed into the Westminster family with the amalgamation with Erskine. Welcome everyone!

We are taking part in the Oasis coffee house on June 14th where the children will be helping out by selling lemonade with all proceeds going to camperships for Gracefield Camp for members of the Westminster family. If I haven't touched base with any parents about this event please contact me for all the info. I can be reached by email at sharonmcn@rogers.com or by phone at 613-843-9488. I will be contacting all parents before June 8th to finalize plans for the lemonade stand.

We will be having our year-end service on Father's Day, June 15th. During the summer months, there will be Nursery care available if required but there will be no classes again until Sept. 7th, 2008. We already have another teacher lined up to start teaching with us in the fall but many more would be very welcome. Please contact Rev. Ball or Sharon for further info.

Have a happy and healthy summer one and all!
Sharon Tinkess

8. Sunday Coffee Hour The next time you are enjoying the fellowship of Coffee Hour, say to yourself "What a loss it would be to NOT have a Coffee Hour to enjoy conversation with our church family along with a coffee, tea or cold drink." So, please convince yourself to sign up to host Coffee Hour once or twice a year. If you feel you can't do it by yourself, do it in partnership with another individual or family. Keep it simple! A table of elaborate goodies is not essential. The fellowship and conversation enjoyed by everyone is the most important element of our Sunday Coffee Hour.

Coffee Hour coordinator,
Mary Ann Tyler

9. Financial Statement

The most recent Financial Statement can be found on the Church's website.

10. Personal Note from Sharon I just wanted to thank everyone for their ongoing support and encouragement as I continue to lose weight on my diet. It means a great deal to me to know that I have an entire Church family praying for my good health. On that note I do have a weight loss update...as of May 26th I have lost **100 lbs.** in just under 9 months!!! I will continue to keep everyone updated as I lose more weight!!

God Bless,
Sharon Tinkess

IN MEMORY OF JACK TARZWELL

The Loyal Order of the Nail

In July, nineteen hundred and seventy-two
To a seashore on the ocean blue,
the N.R.C. Rocketeers did come
To launch four rockets into the sun.

East Quoddy, Nova Scotia was the site selected.
On a point of land well protected.
While preparing for the task in hand,
This is how the "NAIL" began:

On an early summer day
While most of you were still in the hay,
George and Loyal were on the site
Working hard in the morning light.

A one-holer was the A.M. task,
When Loyal Publicover was heard to ask,
"George! Pass me up that 4-inch stick."
As George bent down, his pants did split

From stem to stern; he was a sight.
Pity poor George and his awful plight.
"What shall I do? We've yet to toil!"
No hesitation on the part of Loyal—

From his carpenter's apron he pulled out a nail,
Handed it to George who secured his tail
and . . .
With that noble gesture the "Order" was born.

And so to all of you, I say
You may have need of your nail one day.
So carry it with you, where'er you roam:
And with these words, I end this poem.

by George 1997