

PRINCESS STREET UNITED CHURCH

EMAIL BLAST Lent/Easter 2019



Flood Update

Our Basement Kindergarten Room was damaged by a flood last Aug. 15. Since then:

- The entire room was emptied out of all fixtures.
- The area was dried out with industrial dehumidifiers
- The subfloor was removed
- The original linoleum tiles which were below the subfloor, were determined to contain asbestos, and so remediation was undertaken to safely remove them.
- The entire room was painted.
- A new concrete floor was poured in the entire basement area.

Within a few weeks after pouring, many stress cracks appeared in the new floor. This was an unacceptable development.

- In cooperation with our Insurer, a new industrial epoxy floor will be installed over the cracked concrete floor.

The Challenge While most of the expense of the restoration of the basement has been underwritten by insurance, our congregation is responsible for

- **A payment of nearly \$4800** to cover what was considered to be 'pre-existing' conditions caused by the chronic dampness in the basement (which has now been rectified with the repairs made to the foundation in 2018)
- **A Payment of \$5000** to cover our insurance policy deductible.
- **A Payment of \$5133.95** to cover HST (which we will refunded after June 30)



*“Lord, teach us to pray,
It’s been a long and cold
December kind of day.
With our hearts and hands all
busy in our private little wars,
We stand and watch each other
now from separate shores.
We lose the way.” (Jos. Wise)*

You are invited to join Rev. Susan every Thursday morning anytime from 7:30 to 8:30, for a time of quiet prayer and reflection on the issues we face today: as individuals, as a community, and as citizens of the world. Coffee will be available, and sometimes even a sweet treat! Time spent in prayer is time well-spent. Please join us.

Lenten Personal Study

This year during Lent, the forty days, six weeks, prior to Easter, you are invited to participate in a personal study by working through a free publication titled *‘God at the Center: Habits for Spiritual Growth’*. Written by Luis Palau and published by Our Daily Bread Ministries, this six chapter booklet offers a concise overview to help build spiritual habits and are now available. Reading and reflecting on the questions and suggestions in the study as you are able, will deepen your faith and grow your spiritual life. Join your community of faith as together, we put God at the Center and journey to the cross with one another.

Thursday Morning Book Study

Join us at 10am - 11:30am and for as many Thursdays as needed, the group will discuss the book *‘What God Has Promised You’* written by Rev. Dr. Stephen McAllister. This is an opportunity for you to learn more about God’s presence and promises in your life through conversation, reading and reflection as you discuss each chapter with the author and each other. The book is available from Rev. Susan at a cost of \$20.



*“All things come of thee, O Lord,
and of Thine own have we given thee”*

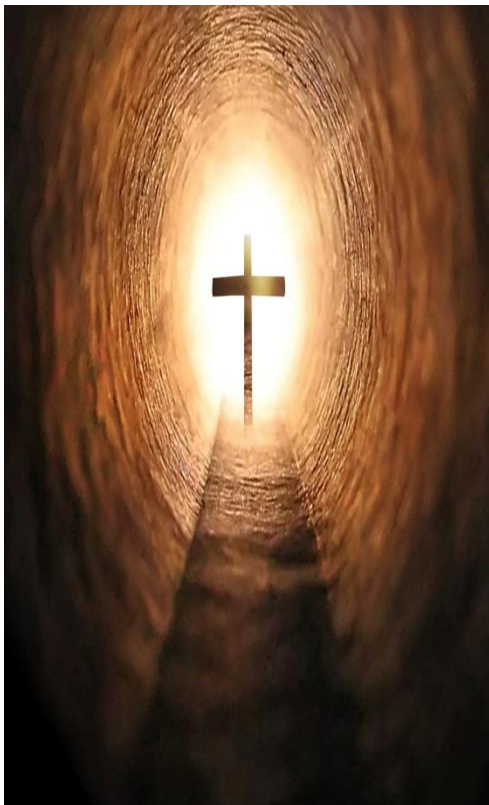


EASTER 'FLOWERS'

This Easter, we will be receiving financial donations in lieu of lilies in memory or in honour of your loved-ones; those names will be printed in the bulletin. Debbie Saulnier 634-8410 will collect your donations and information until April 17th.

SUNDAY BULLETINS

You are encouraged to sponsor the production of a Sunday Bulletin the dedication of a bulletin in celebration of a special event, in honour of someone, or in memory of a loved one. Suggested donation is \$25. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or call the office for assistance!



Upcoming Services for Holy Week & Easter

- April 14 10 am Palm/Passion Sunday
Communion, Benevolent Fund
- April 17 6 pm. SRM Holy Week Service
- April 18 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service
at Crossroads United
- April 19 10:30 am Good Friday Service
at St. Andrew's Presbyterian.
Light Lunch to follow
- April 21 6:30 am SonRise Ecumenical
Service at Lake Ontario Park
Pavilion.
10 am Easter Service at
Princess Street United

INDOOR YARD SALE

Saturday April 13

9-2 pm

Princess Street
United Church
484 Albert St.

- Bring your own yard sale items
Rent a 6 foot table for \$25!

For further information, please call 613-546-7151 or 613-544-3259



Mother's Day Tea

Mark May 11 from 2-4 on your calendar for a traditional tea in honour of mothers everywhere! Treat yourself, your friends and family to a wonderful afternoon of scones, sandwiches, sweets and bottomless cups of tea (coffee too!) right here at Princess Street United Church.

The session hopes you can assist with the donation of tea cups and saucers and teapots, to be used as door prize packages. If you have a few teacups and saucers or a spare teapot, we would love to use them as mementos of what promises to be a fun time! Also, we would appreciate donations of small size scones, fancy sandwiches and squares.

Tickets will be available soon, from the Church office, or from any Session member. Would you take a book of tickets to sell? Please speak to Debbie Saulnier.



“Kingston Area United Church Gathering”

March 27, 2019, 7-9pm at Sydenham Street United Church

Attention Kingston & Area United Churches: In this post-presbytery period, as we all live into new ways of being The United Church, how are we going to communicate? Stay connected? Support and pray for one another? Embrace the opportunities and face the uncertainties of this time of transition? Let's get together so we can talk and tackle these challenges. Are we interested in forming a Cluster in the Kingston area and if so, what it might do? Sharon Hull, the new staff responsible for Clusters across our Region of East Central Ontario will be with us to consult with and support us.

Ministers - working & retired; former Presbytery Reps; Interested Lay Leaders and Congregants - we are all invited! Hope to see you there!! For more information contact Bruce Hutchinson (hutchinb@queensu.ca) Marylil Megginson (marylil@kos.net) or Elizabeth Macdonald (emacd@kos.net)

The draft agenda is:

- Call to order - Marylil Megginson
- Worship led by - Rev Judith Evenden
- Short report from each Faith Community represented - All
- Report on Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council - Rev Elizabeth Macdonald
- Introduction of Sharon Hull, East Central Ontario Regional Council staff
- Report from Four Winds Presbytery Development Corporation on recent grant program
- Table group discussions to discern interest in and potential roles for a Kingston and area cluster - Bruce Hutchinson
- Feedback from table discussions
- Do we meet again? If so, time and place and who calls the meeting?



PSUC Income & Expenses at Feb. 28

		2017	2018	2019
Revenue	Offering	5256.10	5171.10	6065.00
	PAR	2364.00	2164.00	2164.00
	Rentals	11,081.20	15,597.00	17,997.30
	Other	2,307.90	2,575.30	6,061.57
	TOTAL	20,058.65	25,507.40	32,287.87
Expenses	Wages	21,374.98	24,368.51	24,578.68
	General	1,889.13	1,000.92	2,306.50
	Session	29.09	12.51	30.47
	Manse	3,008.99	4,649.60	2,035.67
	Church	7,769.18	15,124.21	12,345.65
TOTAL	34,071.37	45,155.74	41,451.20	
DEFICIT		- 14,012.72	- 19,648.35	-9,163.33

The Bottom Line

- As of February 28, 2019 our expenses far exceeded our revenue.
- Weekly offerings are less than in 2018
- Two services were cancelled in January due to inclement weather. Some people contributed for the two Sundays but most did not.
- PAR offerings have not increased
- While rental income is holding steady, we cannot depend on that to cover our expenses.
- The manse is currently vacant which means no revenue from it. In fact, it means that we are paying a maintenance level of utilities and heat
- Church expenses are very high this season. The severe winter weather resulted in higher than normal utilities and snow plowing bills.

Walking the Line

Several large expenses are still pending including March snow plowing and utilities, yearly insurance, Regional Assessment (formerly called Presbytery dues), payment for the flood expenses including the deductible and pre-existing condition costs, and building maintenance and upkeep. In addition, in 2018 we borrowed almost \$20,000 from our modest savings to cover the cost of the repairs to the back hall foundation.

Your financial contribution is critical to the present and future ministry of Princess Street United Church. We are currently drawing on our reserves at a far too rapid rate and at some point the well will run dry. Please prayerfully consider increasing the amount of your weekly offering or you PAR to help meet expenses.