

Events
2019–2020



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Be Kind Always
and Spread Love
Everywhere!

Minister:

Jan Richardson

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Board Chair:

Jim Tennant

2019 Fall Newsletter



We encourage
building use by
community Groups.

We host community
events, concerts and
activities as fun &
fund-raising
opportunities.

*A photo from 2019 Cast ~ Badlands Passion Play ~
Dylan Burden – Andrew; Jan Richardson – Simon Peter's mother-in-law; Karlene Cormack – maidservant for Simon Peter's household. Early in the play Simon Peter's mother-in-law faints and needs to be helped to get up and return to her home.*

Worship at 10:30 am—All are welcome! Handicap Accessible

Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm, Monday to Friday; closed Statutory Holidays

Social Media: Changing times means adapting to new ways of communicating. Stay connected at:

www.stettlerunitedchurch.org/

www.facebook.com/groups/stettlerunitedchurch/

www.facebook.com/StettlerUniteChurchSmallGroups

Want our weekly announcements? It's easy! Email: stettuc@telusplanet.net

A Place where worship and community happen!

Jan's Sabbathal

Shalom. Now that's a Sabbath word. And it's the first word Simon Peter's mother-in-law speaks when she leaves behind her sick bed. She offers the greeting in gratitude to Jesus. He's offered her healing and now she moves to offer Jesus and his followers hospitality. Shalom is peace is wholeness. It's a word that signifies much in the Jewish faith tradition. It fits with my often saying "we're blessed to be a blessing".

Being an experiential learner, it was in playing the role of Simon-Peter's mother-in-law (based on Luke 4:38-41) that I found the sense of Sabbath my soul desired. Originally, I didn't want a solo part, but after I was coached to just make it mine, I was glad to become a member of Simon Peter's household. After all, my faith needed a place of belonging while I was missing everyone who's Stettler United Church for me. (Similarly, in Act Two, I belonged – and got to know more closely -- those in the Temple Priesthood).

For a significant part of Act One I lay in bed. Rest, prayer, and wonderment were all good medicine for it being my own sabbatical time, let alone the woman I was portraying. It was from my bed and/or backstage that I listened as the storyline unfolded. Simon Peter – on behalf of all disciples – gave expression to how our faith gets tested. Where's God? Why does God seem so distant at times? Is our faith passed on or newly found? Who is this Jesus? Which witnesses can we trust? How is success measured if/when we respond to the call to be disciples? How many ways do we have to fish – especially for people – before we seem to get it right? And will it work the next time anyway?

The primacy of Peter as the disciple who becomes the rock was a particular point to ponder. Far from perfect; feeling less than confident; responsible for caring for his own household while also being a disciple; trusting in the goodness of strangers as he moved away from home... these were all things to which I could relate regarding my own ministry as well as those to whom it was entrusted during my absence; and will be in retirement.

Re-experiencing these fundamental questions of call, from a different angle, was inspirational. While it was my inaugural experience of acting – thus a huge learning curve -- it became a wonderful opportunity to live into the timeless truths that undergird our daily discipleship. The continuance of Jesus' mission matters deeply. Buoyed by the Spirit alive in us, surely you'll help me give shape to the church-as-a-people in this time and place as we recognize there s a time to pray and a time to act! Shalom, my friends, shalom.



Thank You

Special Thanks to the members of the Worship, Pastoral Care, and Ministry & Personnel Committees, and the UCW, who took on extra responsibilities to ensure coverage for Sunday worship; lodge, care home and hospital visits, during Jan's sabbatical time. Others offering pulpit supply, as well as coverage for weddings and funerals were: Barbara Lieurance; Carolyn Woodall; Mervyn Penfound; Sherrie Hughes and David Holmes.

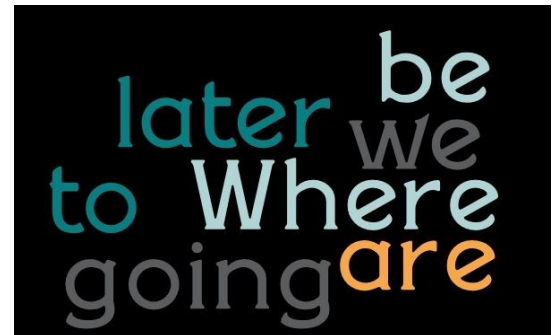
We are grateful for the many ways people offered prayerful and financial support for this special undertaking within our ministry relationship. Michele was glad of those who checked in too (including those who brought coffee and snacks!)



On November 13, 2019, Joel Den Hann, our Community of Faith Support + Strategy Consultant for Chinook Winds Region, will be here to discuss moving forward in faith; recognizing there's only a few years until Jan re-

tires; there are significant deficits in finances and volunteerism, and _____ (help fill in the blanks).

Please plan on being present. This is important for developing ideas to keep Stettler United Church viable. Everyone is welcome to join us for supper at 6:00 pm (a bring your dish potluck), or at 7:00 for the meeting.



Whole Life
Stewardship

John Pearson chose to support the church beyond his lifetime. His bequest (legacy gift) was \$5,000 to our local congregation and \$2,500 to the Mission and Service Fund. Thank you very much, John. Bless you, Jeanne and family, as you grieve and treasure John's life. We all do.

Financials ~ as of September 30, 2019

Christian stewardship is ... everything we think, say and do after we say "I believe".
Christian Stewardship is how we invest God's 'stuff' for God's mission in God's world.

Financial Difference from: September 30, 2018—September 30, 2019

Revenue:

Decrease of \$15064.29 (2018—\$123771.28 ~ 2019—\$108706.99)

Expenses:

Decrease of \$16026.14** (2018—\$152759.38 ~ 2019—\$136733.24)

By September 30th 2018, we had paid \$8885.29 (Presbytery Assessment), \$2000.00 to Bar Harbour (yearly donation), & \$7655.48 (Mission & Service Disbursement)

To date (September 30th, 2019) we have paid \$4001.46 toward our assessment (we are now on a payment plan) and nothing toward Mission & Service or Bar Harbour. The Mission & Service assessment is 10% of our budgeted general funds. The 2019 amount is \$13000.00 for the year, it is usually paid in monthly installments and a lump sum that includes all the monies that has been received through the year specified for mission & service, (including PAR, weekly contributions, and coffee). The amount allotted for mission & service has to be sent by the end of January 2020.

The per day expense (see box below) includes only those things that occur monthly, (utilities, insurance etc.) as other expenses may be incurred only once a year.

*I Bet You Didn't Know
It costs \$442.41 per
day to operate the
church...*

Figure based on 2018
end of year totals.



Your PAR helps us set our
budget, because we know
this amount will be depos-
ited monthly.



*Did You Know
We pay \$28.00 per
hour for event
setups and
takedowns?*



Insurance Update ~ As most of you are aware we had significant hail damage to the church. The Church has been designated as a heritage site, and Sandy from the Heritage Society has been working with the contractor to make sure the guidelines for repairing the building will be followed. As with most insurance there is a deductible (I am not sure if this has to be paid before or after the work as been completed). Our deductible is \$5000.00, and when this comes due we may have to call on you for your help in paying it.

Fun Fundraising Ideas...

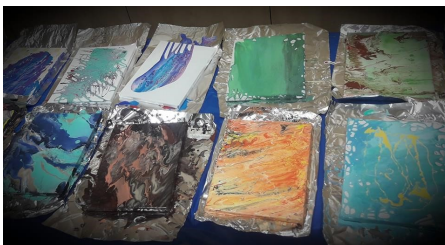
If you have any Fundraising (Fun & easy) ideas, please don't keep them to yourself. We are always looking for new and creative ideas we can use to raise funds for the church. Come talk to Michele and together we can plan your productive fundraiser!!



Year in Review

In addition to our regular services and small groups, we have had a number of events here since last October.

1. Two Paint Night Fundraisers ~ both evenings were well attended. The artists were happy with their creations and enjoyed snacks and beverages. People have been asking if there will be another one in the spring, this is something to be considered.



2. Spring Fair continues to be a successful event even with the changes that have been made to the format. The pies are still a hit, and I believe the fruit pies (NOM NOM) were sold out by 11:00. A number of the vendors said they would attend again in 2020.



Year in Review con'd

The 2019 Lenten series ~ Keeping Sabbath was held on Thursday evenings, shared with the Erskine United Church. Jan & Barbara Lieurance shared the messages each evening. This series was well attended, and will be held again in the spring. Stay tuned for topic, dates & times.

As always the annual Christmas Choir Festival was a full house. In addition to the various choirs and beautiful music, the worship committee arranged a very scrumptious (Nom Nom) lunch. This evening uplifts you, and you leave filled with the loving energy of the Christmas season.

The Church Mice prepare all year for their annual art show and sale held in the spring. There has been an increase in participants over the last year (very exciting) meaning more beautiful art on display. It is wonderful to see the "works in progress", and to watch the interactions of the group members.

There has been an increase in the number of outside rentals since last year, and this has prompted new rental guidelines, fees etc. One of the goals for Joel's visits (see page 3) is to come up with ideas for rentals to generate additional income. Please attend if you can, everyone's input is important, and all ideas are welcomed.

Upcoming Fundraisers

Saturday November 16th ~ 10:00 am—2:00 pm, stop in for the first (of what we hope will become annual) Artisan Christmas Market. There will be cookies and refreshments for you to enjoy as you wander around visiting the interesting and varied handcrafted items.

Saturday December 07th ~ 2:00—4:00, the always very successful Christmas bazaar & cookie walk. In addition to being the best place in Stettler to do all your Christmas baking, you will have time to enjoy some nummy sandwiches, deserts, and refreshments.

You ask...How can I help?? WELL, please share with your friends & family, on facebook, or by whatever means you can. We are still looking for vendors for the 16th, so if you know anyone who creates their own products to sell, please have them call the church office.

Endings...New Beginnings...

In November of 2018 we hosted the final Coronation Presbytery meeting, complete with special music performed by the Stettler Senior Singers. Visitors from near and far enjoyed catching up, and sharing of meals, and cake. Interestingly, it was Stettler United that hosted the first one.

The United Church of Canada's general council presented a number of changes in the form of remits to be voted on by every congregation. These changes were implemented and locations are separated into regions. Stettler United Church is now part of the Chinook Winds Region.



YAC



2018 Final Presbytery



Worship Committee's
Sanctuary Decorations
(2019 Thanksgiving)



Did you know... our organ
was repaired in 2019?



2019 Baptism Sunday



To all our Audio/Visual people for their help all year.

Ron Senft Gayle Tennant Bob Richardson
Cassidy Munholland Michele Selinger

Our church operates, and extends itself in mission, thanks to donations/freewill offerings. Charitable receipts are issued to identified donors. Please ensure the church office has your address by putting it on your cheques or envelopes of cash. You could also choose to support the church through an automatic monthly withdrawal from your bank account. Our church administrator can assist you in joining this program.

Fall/Winter 2019 Sunday Worship Services & Events

Sunday Services start at 10:30 unless otherwise noted

October 27 ~ Fall Supper 4:00—6:30

November 03 ~ Clocks fall back!

November 10 ~ Remembrance Sunday

November 16 ~ Artisan Christmas Market 10:00 am—2:00 pm

November 17 ~ Jan's away, worship committee leading

December 01 ~ 1st Sunday of Advent, Communion Service

December 04 ~ UCW Christmas potluck supper

December 07 ~ Christmas Bazaar & Cookie Walk 2:00—4:00 pm

December 08 ~ 2nd Sunday of Advent, White Gift Service

December 11 ~ Annual Christmas Choir Festival

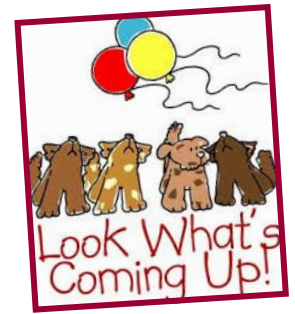
December 15 ~ 3rd Sunday of Advent

December 15 ~ Service of Light & Hope (note the time) 4:00 pm

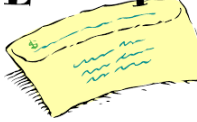
December 22 ~ 4th Sunday of Advent **Combined Worship service @ 10:00 am, hosted at St. George's Anglican Church (with Stettler United Church welcomed)

December 24 ~ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 pm

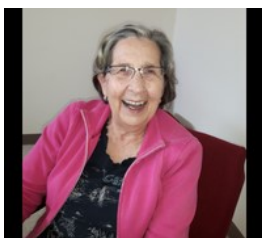
December 29 ~ Combined Worship service @ 10:30 am, hosted by Stettler United Church (St. George's Anglican welcomed)



Offering Envelopes



Envelope time ~ already ~ 2020 is sneaking up on us, and it is time to get the envelopes ready for you folks that still want them. We don't order from the company anymore as we have to order 100 and it is expensive, and we don't end up using most of them. If you want me to make envelopes for you for 2020, please let me know. It is ok to use your own envelopes, please make sure your name or number is on the front.



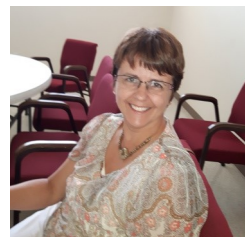
Joyce Wickstrom



Mary Lou Manson



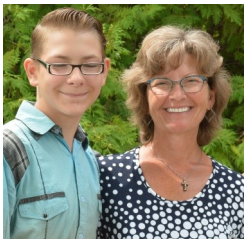
David & Barbara-Lynn Goodwin



Sue Stratulate



Mervyn Penfound



Sherri Hughes & guest



Barbara Lieurance

Sabbatical Audio Visual:

Thank you!

Ron Senft

Gayle Tennant

Cassidy Munholland

Michele Selinger



Charlotte, Yvonne, Linda, Sylvia & Connie

Ministry & Personnel

Our Sabbatical Team. If your picture (or group picture) is not on here, it is because I do not have one.