



The winter is past; the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come.....
Song of Solomon 2:11-12

Church Alive!

Spring 2018

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A MESSAGE OF HOPE

— by Erin Templeton —

All my life I have struggled with the notion of a literal resurrection. As a child, I heard the story time and time again, Jesus died and three days later when the stone was rolled away he wasn't there, he had risen. Simple enough to remember, but in my mind impossible. I questioned the Easter story for years, wondered if that made me any less Christian, often joked (and still do) that I really should be Jewish. My scientific mind just wouldn't give in to the notion. I tip my hat to those who do believe in the literal resurrection for I know there are many!

With Easter around the corner yet again, I no longer fret about believing or not believing the Resurrection story. A few years ago I heard the Easter message told in another way, focussing on resurrection with a small 'r'. What does that mean? Looking for resurrection in our lives, sometimes in the smallest way. It's the butterfly coming out of the cocoon, the buds on the trees in the spring, the geese flying north, the crocuses breaking through the still snowy ground. It's renewed hope, belief that even in a world where it seems there is no end to the negative and devastating news; there is good, and good will prevail.

This year, I feel the Lenten journey to Easter is more poignant than ever for our congregation. To me, it feels like the last year and a half has been a Lenten journey out in the desert. There have been huge struggles, pain, loss, and grief as a whole and on a much more personal level for many members of our congregation. There has been much learning and teaching. There have been questions of who we are, who we want to be, where do we want to go, and most importantly (I think), what do we believe. All of this is hard, challenging, and sometimes life changing for those involved. We have forged

WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Sunday, March 11 - 10:30 a.m.
Worship service led by Rev. Paula Kline

Sunday, March 18 - 10:30 a.m.
Worship service led by Hepta Deslandes

Sunday, March 25
10:15 a.m. - Hymn Sing
10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Communion service
led by Rev. Ellie Hummel

Good Friday, March 30 - 10:00 a.m.
The Ecumenical Way of the Cross Service
begins at St. Barnabas Anglican Church
continues to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
then to St. Lambert United Church and
La Paroisse St-Lambert.



Sunday, April 1 - 10:30 a.m.
Easter Sunday Service
led by Rev. Jennifer Mountain

LENTEN LUNCHES

Served Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Soup, bread, cheese, tea, coffee and a light
dessert for an \$8.00 donation. All proceeds go
to benefit relief organizations or charities
as selected by the host church.

March 7th
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
496 Birch (corner Green)

March 14th
St. Francis of Assisi Church,
844 Notre Dame

March 21st
St. Lambert United Church
85 Desaulniers (entrance on Mercille)

Please be sure to check the Bulletin for future W&F updates.

on and we continue to do the work we were taught to do and live in Christ's way. I think it's safe to say we've done a great job, but to me it has sometimes felt more like going through the motions... But there are signs of resurrection! We have a new congregation worshipping in our sanctuary every Sunday and using the CE wing for Sunday school. We have a new relationship with Our Harbour (a not-for-profit that provides caring, cost-effective long-term housing for people living with mental illness) who rents and works out of the CE wing. We have new faces in our choir and a new chair of council! I like to think these are all

great signs of resurrection in our community!

And of course, the most prominent sign we are all thinking about right now is our new minister coming to join us Easter morning! I hope her enthusiasm and joy will be contagious for all of us here. After all, a minister does not a church make. But I like to think this Easter morning will be the start of a new and very exciting chapter in our church life!! A time of resurrection into new ways of living in God's love and taking that love outside our walls! Amen and amen.



A Prayer for Spring



*There is real wisdom, Lord, in the adage
'it is always Springtime in the heart that loves God.'
Springtime is a season of optimism and hope,
and the Christian lives a faith centred on hope.
Winter, with its cold and dark days has gone,
just as Good Friday will pass to Easter and beyond.*

*We live a resurrection life
reflected in the new life springing up around us.
Thank you, Lord, for the hope that you bring,
the renewal that you bring,
both to this world and to our hearts and lives.*

Amen

Anonymous submitted by Tom Wylie

CHURCH NEWS & UPDATES



Words, Wishes and Thoughts from Christian Development and Kidsteam

On February 4th, CD hosted the Blanket Exercise, sharing the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada, lead by Rev Lisa Byer de-Wever, Tom and Tammy Dearhouse, of Kahnawake, and Su Tardif of Kairos. We had a full house of 25 participants, who shared in the exercise and then the “talking circle” which followed. It was a very emotional afternoon, where we learned, shared our thoughts and often shared our tears. We have had a few requests to host another, later in the year, or possibly one which is geared towards youth, ages 14 and up. Ideas which we are considering.

February 11 found us serving up a delicious ham lunch, our Valentine fundraiser, to support our foster child Kristian. Although numbers were fewer than in past, food and fellowship was in abundance, so all in all, a success! A big thank you to Julia Alonzo for being our chef, and to all youth and adults, for their support from set-up to clean up, salads to desserts. These events are not possible without your encouragement!

Please save this date on your social calendar....FRIDAY, March 16, from 6:30 – 9:00 pm! We are holding a family and friends, fun and games night, open to everyone from 9 days to 99 years plus! Join us for a variety of games...checkers, cribbage, backgammon, connect 4, battleship, Harry Potter Clue, for example! If you have a favourite game, bring it along to share! We have planned some interactive games, as well as cartoons for the littlest ones. There is no entrance fee, but we will be selling snacks of veggies, breads, squares, popcorn etc, and beverages, all priced at \$1.00 each. Any funds raised will be put towards the purchase of new books for our church library.

Our next major event will be Recognition Sunday and our closing bar-b-que, on June 10, which we are in the process of planning.

Please plan to join us for these events. CD is working diligently to help rebuild our Sunday School and other CD organized events, but really count on your support. It has been a tough year, but we will continue to push forward, and with the help of our Creator, we will succeed.

Elizabeth Britton, chair



The St. Lambert Men

will be serving a hot
Easter Morning Breakfast
Sunday the 1st of April
starting at 8:30 a.m.

*with the hope of being joined
by Jennifer Mountain
on this her first day at
SLUC*

Please Join Us!



Antiques, Arts & Crafts Sale

Friday, May 11 & **Saturday, May 12**
(10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.) (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

It's that time of year again, when we look forward to the spring and the Antiques Arts & Crafts sale. As usual, we are looking for donations of quality antiques and collectables for our Church Antique table. Your generosity has enabled the success of past years. To make donations, please contact Helen Cass at (450-671-8672) or Dale Wallace at (450-671-3896). Pick-up is available at your convenience. Thanks in advance.

Country Kitchen

CALLING ALL BAKERS! We need cakes, pies, cookies, muffins, jams, jellies and frozen meals etc. Baked or frozen goods can be dropped off at the church on Thursday, May 11 anytime during the day.

Anyone wishing to volunteer for the sale, please call Sharon Wallace for more details at 450-550-8065

Please join us for a delicious

BBQ Supper

being held on the Friday Night 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Come One & All !

Spring Garden Tea & Sale

Saturday, April 14
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Bring your friends and enjoy a relaxing cup of tea, delicious sandwiches and sweets.

Shop for some home-baking at The Bake Shop, that something special at The Boutique and some summer reading at The Book Nook.

Tickets for afternoon tea are \$10.

Children 10 and under \$5.



A Message from Our Stewardship Team

The stewardship team would like to remind everyone that it is not too late to complete a pledge form for 2018. The information on the pledge form helps us forecast congregational givings to the church for the year.

At the Annual General Meeting on the 25th of February we approved a budget with a general fund giving goal of \$110,000 dollars. We will be updating the congregation on a quarterly basis on how we are doing against this goal. Look for our 1st update at the beginning of April.

We would again like to thank everyone for their continuing financial support of the church.

The Stewardship Team

The Church Alive! Newsletter is published quarterly and is distributed primarily by e-mail. If you are wanting to receive the Newsletter please make sure the Church has your e-mail address. Submissions or suggestions for future issues are most welcome! Please contact us at slucnewsletter@videotron.ca