

# The Grapevine

The congregational newsletter of Fifty United Church, Winona, ON

June 2017

**Minister's thoughts: I wonder what the first leaders of the church felt on the Day of Pentecost when everything they had planned for their gathering suddenly dissolved into chaos? (Yes, that is the title.)**

Planning the liturgy for this Sunday's Pentecost worship was a bit of a nightmare. Or an episode of the Keystone Kops. Or an instance of divine creation – of God's Spirit-breath brooding and moving over the face of chaos, unseen while graciously bringing all things to good order. Or maybe all three of the above.

It began with an idea to incorporate something new and unfamiliar – an opening image that came from somewhere outside the usual sources of our worship – from the Thursday morning Fifty Quilt Club, in fact. Then there was the commitment to make the liturgy all-generational, meaningful for all ages. And to include communion. And do it all under the banner of a Pentecost-Spirit theme.

Sound chaotic enough?

What a swirling sea of ideas and commitments. Not unlike normal life for a lot of us a lot of the time. Not unlike church and any committee or Council or small-group meeting whenever we try to think about or do something new.

But then ... add to this the chaos of modern communication – or maybe non- or mis-communication. In the absence of a worship committee to sit down face-to-face

and work all the pieces into something coherent and meaningful, Karen and Cadence and Brynna and I (Karen for the music, Cadence for communion preparation, Brynna for whether the Sunday school would or would not be in worship, and me for whatever I do) assumed that our normal casual email keep-in-touch approach would work as well as it usually does.

Wrong.

With so many new ideas, approaches and wrinkles to be considered, our normal communication channels proved highly inadequate as suggestions were made, plans were altered, minds were changed, I especially got very tangled up in my own head, and decisions were made and unmade and re-made again in ways that our usual way of staying in touch just wasn't equipped to handle.

We did end up with a liturgy. We got there with minimal upset because of our respect for, and trust in one another in spite of the confusion.

And I guess, come Sunday morning, we'll find out whether to see this past week as a nightmare, an episode of Keystone Kops, or an instance of wonderfully gracious divine creation gathering all our chaos into good order beyond our immediate knowing or understanding. Or maybe all three of the above. Because God does work in mysterious ways.

Just like normal life for a lot of us a lot of the time. And like church and our committees, council and small groups any time we try to think about or do something new. As long as we are held together by basic trust in, and respect for one another, and a shared openness to God's Spirit-breath working in, through, above and beyond us all.

### **WORSHIP AT FIFTY:**

Easing into summer,  
when the living is easy ...  
and worship that's just as easy on the soul

Please Note: Through June we begin worship at 10:30 am; from July 2 to Sept 3 we begin worship at 10:00 am, and there are children's activities available every Sunday.

June 4 – All-ages Pentecost communion

June 11 – Church Union Sunday

June 18 – Worship and Sunday school graduation

June 25 – Brief all-ages worship and an old-fashioned sesquicentennial strawberry social (on the front lawn, weather permitting)

July 2 – Canada Day worship  
(yes, the first week of 10 am start)

July 9 – Sept 3 – Summer worship  
(ahhh ... yes, an oasis for the soul)

### **STRAWBERRY SOCIAL**

Isn't a strawberry social a little old-fashioned?

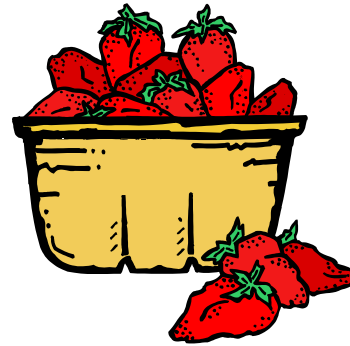
Exactly!!

But it's one of those berry blasts from the past that never grows old. And this year we are enjoying one as a church on Sunday, June 25 after a brief (yes, brief) worship service.

It's partly just for fun ... but also one little way of celebrating the small-community side of Canada's 150 years as a nation.

So come dressed that day in something representative of any decade of Canada's (and Winona's) past 150 years.

Weather permitting, the strawberry social part of the morning will be on the church's front lawn.



### **Spirit Lifter Update: Ready to Rise By David Furry**

Spirit Lifter has a schedule, and it is September.

After an even-longer-than-expected process to get the building permit from Hamilton City Hall, including some additions to the design to meet extensive fire and safety requirements, we have arranged a September 1 start date for construction at the church, with completion expected a few weeks after that.

This new date will avoid conflict with VBS from July 3-7, and peach peeling and pie filling cooking August 21-24 – two very important events at our church through the summer.

Happily, New Horizons for Seniors has extended our \$25,000 grant to September 21, so we can still use that grant as well as the \$5,000 Church Modernization Grant from the United Church of Canada to help cover the cost.

Unhappily, due to design additions required by the City of Hamilton, the cost for the lift has increased from the original estimate of \$85,000 (HST included) to \$120,000 (HST included).

Church Council at the beginning of the project authorized use the Fifty Future Fund – the purpose of which is to pay for projects and initiatives to help grow the church, to cover the balance of the cost, and the increased cost will pretty well exhaust the Fund (currently sitting at about \$86,000) unless other sources of funding are found. Currently a few thousand dollars have been donated to the Spirit Lifter Fund to augment the grants we have received, but that still leaves a balance roughly equal to the full value of the Fifty Future Fund.

Council would like to maintain some of the Fifty Future Fund for future church-growing projects, however, so they are gathering a Spirit-Lifter Fundraising Committee to explore other sources of funding, with the goal of raising at least \$10,000 (although \$30,000, about the amount of the increased cost, would be wonderful, wouldn't it?!!) by the end of 2017 when we will close the Spirit Lifter Fund.

We are aware that in the past when special appeals have been made in the congregation, we are more than ready to support the special project but the response unfortunately has often been at the expense of regular offerings to the General Fund.

Because we cannot afford (we really cannot afford!) any further downtrends in regular offering, the fund-raising committee will focus especially on potential supporters of the lift beyond our regular givers.

But ... at the same time, if this project is one you have been wanting and waiting to support in addition to your regular offering, special donations to the Spirit Lifter Fund are deeply appreciated and most gratefully received! The lift installation will include a special plaque commemorating individual gifts of support at the \$500-999, \$1000-2999, \$3000-4999 and \$5000-and-above levels, plus all institutional gifts of support.

Going up, anyone?

## **HERO CENTRAL Summer Day Camp**

"It's that time of year again! The wonderful young adults of the Hamilton Presbytery are coming to Fifty United for our annual Summer Day Camp (previously known as VBS)!"

Join us at "Hero Central" where you can "discover your strength in God"! Dates are July 3rd - 7th from 8:30 am to 11:45 am for children aged 5 (in 2017) to 11. Plus there are volunteer opportunities for young people aged 12-15. Registration is free, but a good will donation to help cover costs is greatly appreciated. Join us for games, crafts, music, fun and more!

Registration forms can be found on the Church's website, in the Narthex, or ask Brynna Toogood-Segrave!"



## ***Louai, Israa, Sham, and Zain have safely arrived in Canada!!***

On May 12th the Assad family left Lebanon at 4:00 in the morning to fly to Frankfurt Germany and then on to Canada arriving at Pearson Airport late afternoon the same day.

Even after 12 hours travel with two small children, they were full of smiles for the people meeting them at the airport, and they expressed many "thank yous" on arriving at their new home in Grimsby where a meal and comfortable beds awaited them.

Over the last 3 weeks the family has been busy with numerous appointments with Service Canada, Service Ontario, their new Family Doctor, and Nelles school where 4-yr-old Sham will be attending Junior Kindergarten in

September. There have been numerous forms and documents to fill out and direct to various government departments. The parents have had their English language skills assessed and Louai (the Dad) has started daily English instruction.

Israa is understandably reluctant to separate from the children, so is taking some English instruction on-line. She is also attending the Ontario Early Years Centre in Grimsby with Sham and Zain so they are meeting other parents and children in the area. They have taken tours of the grocery stores in Grimsby, and been to the Samir Market in Stoney Creek that sells Halal meats. Also they have been introduced to a Muslim family from Beamsville who is reaching out to the family and has been driving Louai to Friday Prayer at the St Catharine's mosque every week.

All in all, it has been a very busy time for the Assad family!! They are extremely positive, delightful people who are eager to learn about Canada and life here. Obviously they are facing a tremendous number of adjustments, but so far they are embracing these, and they constantly express gratitude for all that has been - and is being - done for them. The sponsoring committee, volunteers, and the family are all learning and moving ahead together now. The year ahead will undoubtedly involve challenging times and rewarding times. Please keep everyone involved in your prayers!!



### **50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY WINONA PEACH FESTIVAL - August 25, 26, 27.**

Once again it is time to start thinking of our major fundraiser for the year. The peach jam and jelly are made, and the pastry is mixed, rolled and in the freezer. Soon we will be hulling strawberries for the Men's Club sundaes. After that, it is rest-up time for our busiest week in late August.

### **INTERESTING NOTES:**

Something special to mark the 50th anniversary - our signature 9 inch pies will be embossed with a "50" on top - the "o" being in the shape of a peach. The United Church Observer is running an article on Fifty's peach pies. Look for it in the summer edition of The Observer (July/August).

### ***THE WEEK OF THE FESTIVAL:***

- **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday August 21, 22, 23 and 24th:-** Peach peeling from 8:00 a.m. until noon on the four mornings. Bring a peeling knife and 2 bowls. An apron is a good idea. We ask everyone to wear a hat or hair net. Disposable hats are supplied at the church.
- **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons,** the pie filling will be prepared and cooked at the Church using the peaches peeled each morning.
- **Wednesday** - Wes and his crew load, deliver and set up the booth in the park.
- **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday p.m.** - We load the cooked peaches and pastry and take them to Fiesta Mall Fortinos where we fill, bake, cool and box the pies.
- **Friday morning** - supplies are taken to the park - jam, drinks, cookbooks, tables etc.
- **Saturday morning** - Crew at the park at 7:30 to unload pies and stock the booth.
- **Man the booths** from Friday at 4:00 p.m. until Sunday at 6:00 p.m.
- **Monday** - dismantle the booth and return it to VanDuzer's barn. Clean peach containers and return to storage.

**FINANCES:** Nancy Au commits her weekend to looking after our finances, as well as assisting in the booths. Thank you Nancy!

**DRINKS:** The Au Family also seek out good buys and purchase our drinks at sale prices to help augment our profit on that front.

**SCHEDULING:**

We will be starting our scheduling soon – for the pie booth, the drinks table and the shifts at Fortinos. We try to have our lists completed early, before folks are away with holiday plans. Contact Kathy Cushnie at 905 643-3730 if you are interested in helping in one of the booths, or at Fortinos. We are always in need of new recruits.

**FACE PAINTING:**

Our face painting activity is under the direction of Linda McEneny. It is a fun venture...making little children happy. Contact Linda to offer a few hours of your time.

Enjoy the summer, and plan to be part of our busy week at the end of August. Our proceeds help our Finance Committee make ends meet, with donations also being made to The United Church Mission and Service Fund, Wesley Urban Ministries, Inasmuch House, Interval House, Mission Services, the Angola Scholarship Fund, and this past year to the Syrian Refugee Fund.

**Just in Time for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Confederation: A Canadiana quiz!**

**1. Canada is a bilingual country, but what is the only officially bilingual province?**

- a) Quebec
- b) New Brunswick
- c) Ontario
- d) Nova Scotia

**2. How many oceans border Canada?**

- a) 1
- b) 2
- c) 3
- d) 4

**3. What is the oldest walled city that still exists**

**north of Mexico?**

- a) Montreal
- b) Halifax
- c) Quebec City
- d) Vancouver

**4. Where does the word Canada come from?**

- a) Jacques Cartier
- b) Samuel de Champlain
- c) Jean Nicolle

**5. Whose face is on the Canadian hundred-dollar bill?**

- a) Wilfred Laurier
- b) John A. MacDonald
- c) William Lyon Mackenzie King
- d) Robert Borden

**6. What is the population of Canada?**

- a) 30 million
- b) 23 million
- c) 32 million
- d) 37 million

**7. What are the two most multicultural cities in Canada?**

- a) Toronto and Montreal
- b) Victoria and Toronto
- c) Vancouver and Toronto
- d) Vancouver and Montreal

**8. What is Canada's national sport?**

- a) Hockey
- b) Lacrosse
- c) Curling
- d) None of the above
- e) Both a and b

**9. When did *O, Canada* officially become the national anthem?**

- a) 1880
- b) 1920
- c) 1950
- d) 1980

**10. How many points did Wayne Gretzky score in his career?**

- a) 1,876
- b) 2,295
- c) 2,857
- d) 3,204

**11. What is the world's tallest free-standing structure?**

- a) CN Tower
- b) Burj Dubai
- c) Empire State Building

d) Ostankino Tower

**12. What major sporting event was held in Canada in 2010?**

- a) Summer Olympics
- b) Winter Olympics
- c) World Cup
- d) Commonwealth Games

*Page 1 of 2 -- Want to know how well you scored?  
Find out the answers on page 2.*

**Answers:**

**1. Answer: B**

The only official bilingual province in Canada is New Brunswick, and Quebec is the only all-French province. Since Canada is a bilingual nation, however, each province provides its people with French schools, French courts, and French federal government services.

**2. Answer: C**

Three different oceans border Canada: the Atlantic, Pacific and the Arctic oceans.

**3. Answer: C**

Quebec City is the only city that has maintained its fortification walls, which were first built in 1695. This has earned the Historic District of Old Quebec a spot on United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's World Heritage List.

**4. Answer: A**

Kanata was a word used by the St. Lawrence Iroquois people in Quebec in the 16th century. It means village or settlement. When French explorer, Jacques Cartier explored this territory, he misused the word to describe the area and within ten years' time the Europeans were using it to describe the entire region.

**5. Answer: D**

Robert Borden is on the Canadian hundred-dollar bill.

Five – Wilfrid Laurier

Ten – John A. Macdonald

Twenty – Queen Elizabeth II

Fifty – William Lyon Mackenzie King

**6. Answer: C**

According to the 2006 census, Canada's population is 31, 612, 897 (about 32 million). This is an increase of 5.4 per cent since the 2001 census.

**7. Answer: C**

Statistically, Vancouver and Toronto are the most

multicultural cities in Canada. According to the 2006 census, 51 per cent of Vancouver's population and 46.9 per cent of Toronto's population were visible minorities. Statistics Canada has predicted that people of non-European origins will become the majority in both of these cities by 2012.

**8. Answer: E**

Canada has two national sports. Hockey is Canada's national winter sport and lacrosse is Canada's national summer sport. The "National Sport Act" was created in 1994 and states, "An act to declare hockey and lacrosse as the national sports of Canada."

**9. Answer: D**

*O, Canada* didn't officially become Canada's national anthem until 1980 - 100 years after it was written.

**10. Answer: C**

Wayne Gretzky holds the record for most career points in the NHL. He scored 2,857 points in 20 years.

**11. Answer: B**

The CN Tower was the world's largest free-standing structure until 2007 when the Burj Dubai was built. The CN Tower towers 553 metres over downtown Toronto and held the record for 30 years. Burj Dubai in the United Arab Emirates is 818 metres tall.

**12. Answer: B**

The 2010 Winter Olympics were held in Vancouver and Whistler. Canada has hosted the Olympics three times in the past: the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal, the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary and the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

(credit to Canadian Living magazine)

Editor's Note: Thanks to everyone who contributes to this newsletter. New ideas and articles are always welcomed. Contact Maribeth at 905-309-0188 or [marmark@sympatico.ca](mailto:marmark@sympatico.ca).