

FLOCK TALK

Asbury and West United Church

3180 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON M6A 2A9 Office: 416-783-6503

“The Friendly Church”

October 8, 2017

Edition 152

In Everything

Give Thanks

*for this is God's will
in Christ Jesus for you.*

1 Thessalonians 5:18



Our Mission Statement: We are a diverse community of Christians, called by God, who seek to make a positive difference in the lives of those who live in the Bathurst and Lawrence Community and beyond.



THE PASTOR'S PEN



FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

Sunday September 10, 2017 marked one year since Rev. Carol came to Asbury and West. Although it was Rev. Carol's anniversary, she clearly felt it was our anniversary. Her message was powerful and reminded us of the many things for which we should be thankful. Please enjoy excerpts from her sermon preached that day.

"Today is a day to sing praises, to raise our hands in thanksgiving to the God of all power and goodness who has brought us together this morning. The Psalmist says, 'My lips shall praise you thus will I bless you as I lift up my hands in your name.'

It is good to be together and remember the year that has passed. To recall our accomplishments together. Not to sound overly big headed, but, a full time minister—me, is a great step of faith for this congregation.

The decision to erect a lawn sign is another great step of faith. A sign that will let the Bathurst and Lawrence community know that the 205 year tradition of Asbury and West United Church is still going strong.

We step out in faith and asked John McDemott to hold a concert at our church. (Saturday November 28th).

We have put our heads together with members of South West Presbytery to vision how we are going to move forward. Another giant step of faith for this congregation.

Today is a day to remember the past and give thanks for those who have passed from this life to the next. Joyce Bullock, Myra Badley, Irene Tuck and others who have left their mark on this faith community.

Oh! the memories we have shared gathering around God's table for the act of remembrance and refreshment for the soul. Today, I am grateful for Wednesday and Tuesday Conversations. For the laughter and learning and sharing. For bus trips, lunches, and beautiful music.

For Paolo, Alvero and Cate who are kind, wonderful people to work with. The ministry groups who work tirelessly to keep our church running smoothly. And for God's Spirit in this place.

Today while we remember let's also look forward to the future. Where will Asbury and West be in five years. What are our goals for the year ahead?

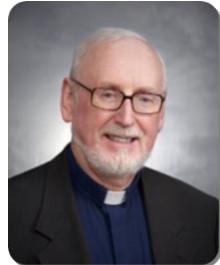
And may we always remember what the Psalmist said, "Thy loving kindness is better than life. Our lips shall praise you thus will I bless you as we lift up our hands in thy name." Happy Anniversary!!!! And Amen.“ And the people said, Amen.”



Rev. Carol McKinley



Praise
and give thanks to
the Lord



A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FUNDRAISING EVENT!

Thank you to all who participated in the **Rev. Douglas McKenzie Memorial Walk** which was held on September 17. It was a beautiful sunny day for a Sunday afternoon stroll. The route was shorter this year. It took us through the Lawrence Plaza, Prince Charles Dr. and Bathurst St. A “scavenger hunt” along the way added to the fun. A special thank you goes to Jocelyn and Sylvia who prepared and hosted a delicious lunch for the walkers.

The money raised will help support the Sunday School’s foster child, Noemy, and the church. Thank you so much.

Cheryl Holliday

Chair, Christian Education Ministry



Good food.



The walkers.



Rev. Doug's family.



More walkers.



FROM THE EDITORS' DESK



We wish you and your family and friends a Happy Thanksgiving and pass along this grace you may wish to use.

Jocelyn & Sylvia

Abundant Blessing

We thank you for the turkey,
The gravy and the dressing.
Dear Lord, this table overflows
With Thy abundant blessing.
Let us always be aware
That all gifts come from You,
And may we serve Your heavenly will
In everything we do. Amen.

-Joanna Fuchs



**HAVE YOU GOT YOUR TICKET...
IT'S JUST 6 WEEKS AWAY !!
DON'T MISS THIS MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENT !**



**John
McDermott
in Concert**

**November 18, 2:00PM
at
Asbury and West United Church
3180 Bathurst Street
(2 blocks north of Lawrence Avenue on the West side)**

Tickets \$55

(For more information contact tickets@asburyandwest.org)

John is a well-known Scottish-Canadian tenor best known for his rendering of the songs "Danny Boy" and "Loch Lomond" and continues to tour extensively throughout the World. For his support for veterans' causes, John McDermott was made an honorary member of The War Amps. He has received the US Congressional Medal of Honor Society's Bob Hope Award.



"Sharing the Gifts We Have Been Given"

STEWARSHIP MINISTRY



Your Stewardship Ministry is working hard to bring a positive program to the coming season at Asbury and West. We signed a card for our member Margaret Start who has moved and is living with her daughter on their farm.

We would welcome any members who would like to join our ministry, particularly those who have artistic and planning skills, able to help with community contact, publicity, spiritual inspiration, account skills, and/or keyboard facility. Do you have ideas? We can use them.

We discussed our plans for special Sundays coming up, including World Wide Communion, Thanksgiving, and our Annual Giving Campaign beginning in October. Plans were made for efficient handling of small bills and of the vouchers given out to needy people who come into our office during the week. These are for such needs as groceries and transportation, in addition to our food bank items.

We reviewed our financial reports as provided by Clyde Harris, noting that we have a net loss of \$6,786 for the year to August 31, 2017. Your church has very large financial obligations. We must be alert for ways in which we can reduce our expenses and increase our revenues in order to fulfill our mission in this community and beyond.

Phoebe Cleverley, Chair



ARE YOU ON P.A.R.?

Have you thought about making your church donation by P.A.R. (Pre-Authorized Remittance)? Through PAR, automatic monthly withdrawals are made from your bank account. PAR is easy to set up and can be adjusted at any time should your circumstances change. If you are already on PAR, don't forget that you can increase your donation anytime. Simply speak to Cheryl Holliday, in confidence, about the process.

Thank you for your support!

LOONIE BIN = COPPER KETTLE



Please drop your change in the big Copper Kettle. Folding money gratefully accepted. Available every Sunday.

We have collected \$122.06 YTD.

Walk-up Sunday brought in \$173.70 YTD.

Thank you for your generous support!

We are also collecting Canadian Tire money to assist with future purchases.

Please consider this form of donation to your church.



*Psalm 107:1
"Oh, give thanks to the Lord, He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting."*



MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

Mrs. Myra Badley died in August, one of our Home Members.

We welcomed Nancy Sisson as a new member of this Ministry, and she will be attending our next meeting in November.

We continue to invite people to become members of our congregation, and we continue to be in touch with our Home Members.

This is our work.

Christ has no hands but our hands
To do His work to-day;
He has no feet but our feet
to lean men in the way;
He has no tongue but our tongues
To tell men how he died;
He has no help but our help
To bring them to his side.

Ianthe Spencer, Chair



MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL (M&P)

Summer 2017, proved to be very different. Our city experienced an unusual amount of rainfall, a subject of conversation among the young and the mature. The other side revealed God's glory, the beauty of the earth, the grass grew and the flowers bloomed.

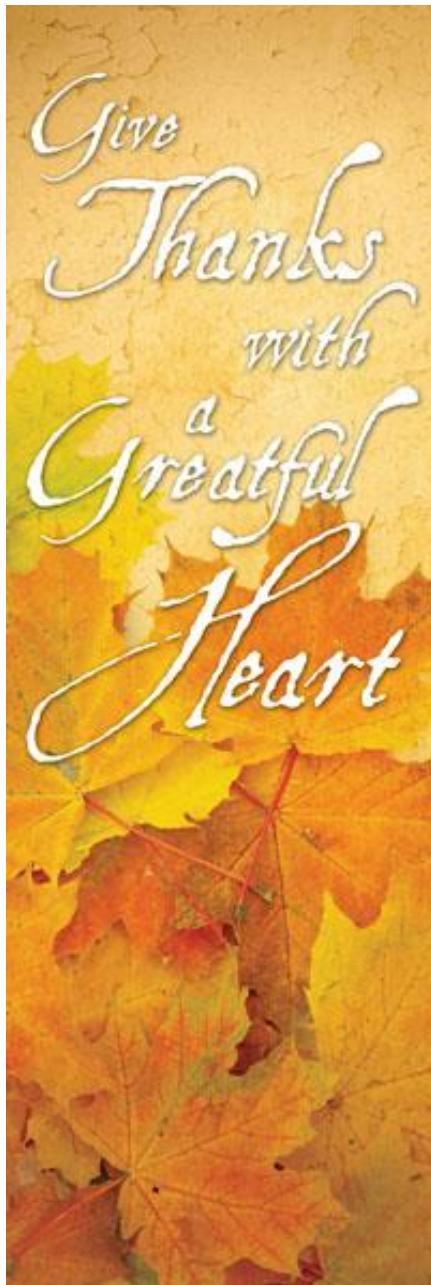
The city's multicultural weekend activities and events continued along with my time spent with my church family which grew in love and understanding through worship, praise and togetherness.

I thank God the giver of every good and perfect gift. I thank each and every one of you for everything that you do to support and uplift each other as we continue in faith as a family of God.

God is good all the time and there is power in the word, Thanks!

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you and your family too. I appreciate you.

Lola Pinnock, Chair



If being hurt by the church causes you to lose your faith in God, then your faith was in people, not God.

THANK YOU, GOD

Thank you, God, for everything, the big things and the small.
For every good gift comes from God, The giver of them all.
And all too often we accept, without any thanks or praise,
The gifts God sends as blessings, each day in many ways.
And so at this Thanksgiving time, we offer up a prayer
To thank you, God, for giving us a lot more than our share.

First, thank you for the little things that often come our way,
The things we take for granted but don't mention when we pray,
The unexpected courtesy, the thoughtful, kindly deed,
A hand reached out to help us in the time of sudden need.
Oh, make us more aware, dear God, of little daily graces
That come to us with sweet surprise from never dreamed-of places.

Then, thank you for the miracles we are much too blind to see,
And give us new awareness of our many gifts from Thee,
And help us to remember that the key of life and living
Is to make each prayer a prayer of thanks
And every day Thanksgiving.

by Helen Steiner Rice



FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

We'd like to know what you think of Flock Talk. Is there anything you'd like to see in your newsletter? Would you like to receive it by email? Please contact us at:

Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson
jocelynandharvey@gmail.com

Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen
rsm56@sympatico.ca

Jocelyn & Sylvia



The Young at Heart Seniors meet on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. All are welcome to attend.

Here is our schedule for the next couple of months.

- October 12 - Thanksgiving Pot Luck Lunch
- October 26 - Speaker – TBA
- November 9 - Movie / Remembrance
- November 23 - Games
- December 14 - Christmas Pot Lunch with music by George Heldt



FROM THE

EDITORS' DESK

We're sure that the Young at Heart Seniors will want to add a Saturday to the list, *Nov 18 John McDermott concert.

Melvyn and Shirley Beckles, Group Contacts

I BELIEVE

in the *sun* even when
it is *not shining*.

I BELIEVE

in *love* even when
I cannot feel it

I BELIEVE

in *God* even when
he is *silent*



PROPERTY MINISTRY

The members of the Property Ministry have been busy during the summer. The gardens were taken care of, some new plants were put down giving more beauty to the surroundings.

The leak in the underground garage has now been rectified by the Cranbrook Village Condominium Corporation. This was a bit of inconvenient to members who park underground as the lift had to be shut down during the work. We appreciate your patients and understanding.

Regular maintenance were also done to the various equipment of the building.

We continue to have a cordial relationship with our tenants, Immanuel Korean Church and Forest Hill Montessori Day Care School.

During the summer some work were done as requested by the school. Some of this was taken care by our own custodian Alvaro. We are pleased to have Alvaro as he takes great care of the building and help us to save in some arrears.

The Upper Room continues to be used for short term which helps in our revenue.

We are looking at quotes for a church sign. So far we have not decided on any specific one but hoping this will be done in the next month or so.

*Yvonne Wright and Clayton Johnson,
Co-chairs*

CHURCH COUNCIL

When thinking about what should be included in this article representing Council at Thanksgiving time, I realized that, as Chair of Council, I am indeed thankful for the work of the members of Council.

As you may know, Council is comprised of the Chairperson from each Ministry. They work tirelessly to keep every single aspect of Asbury and West vibrate and running smoothly. Each Chairperson leads and inspired the group of people in the Ministry who see to the events of 'today' and the planning of all our future endeavors. Listed below is the name of the Chair and a brief description of the responsibilities of the Ministry. Anyone can join, everyone is welcome to serve.

Lastly, there is Rev. Carol. As you can imagine she is a great source of knowledge and experience to all members of the Ministries. She is supportive, able to pass along wise words of wisdom and she has a keen eye on just what we need to do to keep moving forward in a positive manner. I am most thankful that Rev. Carol is with us.

May you truly see all that you are thankful for this season of Thanksgiving.

Blessings,

Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson, Chair

COMMUNICATIONS (Chair: Vacant)

Keep the congregation informed through Sunday bulletin and announcements, bulletin boards, website, social media and Flock Talk and reach out to the community through Website, social media and advertising.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Chair: Cheryl Holliday)

Ensure that children and adults have Christian Education, evaluate and choose study materials for all ages and work with the minister to involve children & youth in worship services.

STEWARSHIP (formerly called Finance)

(Chair: Phoebe Cleverley)

Develop and administer the overall budget for the congregation and keep the congregation informed about financial matters. Administer the Benevolent Fund and make annual decisions for grants to community organizations.

HOSPITALITY (Chair: Lou Rhoden)

Initiate social and anniversary events and enlist the help of members of the congregation to organize refreshments after service.

HUMAN RESOURCES (Chair: Lola Pinnock)

Maintains confidential oversight of our staff including all salary, working conditions and concerns.

MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE

(Chair: Ianthe Spencer)

Encourage individuals to become members, maintain up-to-date church membership, coordinate revisions of church directory and name tags. Keep in contact with members and Home Members.

WORSHIP, SACRAMENTS AND MUSIC

(Chair: Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen)

Oversees all aspects of worship. Assists the Minister on planning worship services and coordinates the preparation and decoration of the sanctuary for services. Prepares for and assists with the elements of Baptism and Communion. Takes attendance at services, ushers and gathers the offering.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES (Chair: Cheryl Holliday)

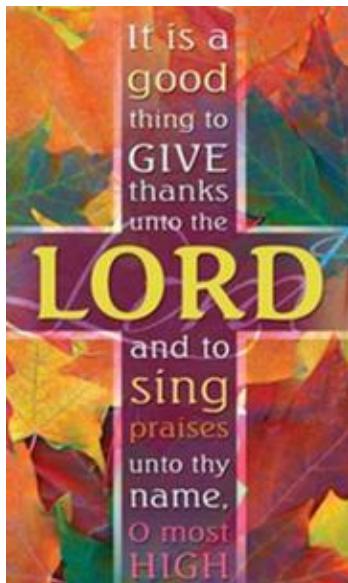
Oversees all matters related to the programs and special occasion for the United Church Women (UCW) and Joybreak and encourages all women to participate.





The Pumpkin Prayer

I am a Jack O' Lantern
 My lights will shine so bright
 For I'm a Christian pumpkin
 My symbols tell what's right.
 My nose is like the cross
 On which our Savior died
 To set us free from sin
 We need no longer hide.
 My mouth is like a fish
 The whole wide world to show
 That Christians live in this house
 And love their Savior so!
 The story starts at Christmas
 My eyes are like the star
 That shone on Baby Jesus
 And wise men saw from far.
 My color, it is orange
 Just like the big bright sun
 That rose on Easter Day
 Along with God's own Son.



DID YOU KNOW

Asbury and West helps approximately 10 - 17 people in our community each and every month with food vouchers (grocery gift cards) purchased through our offerings given to the Benevolent Fund when Communion is served (just four times a year).

With this demand we need your assistance as the Benevolent Fund is often low on funds. If you would like to help, please use the Benevolent envelopes that will now be available every Sunday on the narthex table. Give as you can.

As well, please note that the food cart is always available for your food donations. Kindly be guided by the following information:

Food Donation Items Most Needed

Canned fish and meats, canned beans, canned tomatoes, canned soups (low sodium preferable), canned vegetables, rice and quinoa, cooking oil, peanut butter, pasta and pasta sauce, flour, small boxes cereal (low sugar preferable), juice boxes, instant potatoes, nut-free snacks for kids' lunches, pudding cups, fruit cups, crackers.

Important Note

No open packages. Smaller quantities are easier to handle and spoil less quickly than large quantities. Items will NOT be given out with expired dates or if more than 3 months past its 'best before date'.

THANK YOU for giving generously to the members of our community who need a helping hand up.

Thank you!

THE REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Start with an empty box. Each day in Advent add an unperishable food item to the box, then on Christmas Eve bring the filled box to Asbury and West to be blessed.



Let's assist those in need in our community and contribute generously to our food cart. Thank you!

CELEBRATING ONE YEAR!

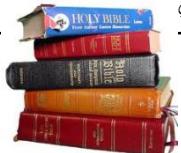
The service included a meaningful scripture reading.....

Psalm 63[a] vs. 1-8: You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. Because your love is better than life, my lips will praise you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. I will be fully satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you. On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night. Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings. I cling to you; your right hand upholds me.



The service was followed by meaningful fellowship in the Upper Room. Rev Carol (and husband Rick) cut the celebratory cake.





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Sunday School

Sunday School for the 2017-2018 season began on September 10. Currently we are busy putting the finishing touches on our banner “We Are The Church” and plan to have it ready in late October for dedication. We encourage anyone who has not made a square to please speak to one of the teachers.

Lessons will start soon. This fall we will follow the adventures (and some misadventures) of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Rachel and Esau.

Thank you to all those who helped with the Kids For Christ Summer Edition program. We were happy to welcome some new teachers this year. We truly appreciate everyone’s support.

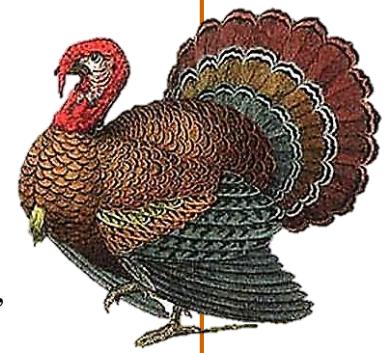
Just a reminder to parents - we dedicate offering every Sunday and use it to buy supplies and other materials. Envelopes are available so please ask. Thank you for your support.

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Cheryl Holliday, Sunday School Coordinator

Happy Thanksgiving!

May your stuffing be tasty,
 May your turkey plump,
 May your potatoes and gravy,
 Have nary a lump.
 May your yams be delicious,
 And your pies take the prize,
 And may your Thanksgiving dinner,
 Stay off your thighs!



Our Thanksgiving Display was a bit different this year. We decided at our September meeting that this would be the year to refocus our support. We thank you for your donations of food for our food cart.

Our chocolate sales are ongoing. Unfortunately we ran out of chocolate covered almonds – a popular choice – but we still have the chocolate mint meltaways. Each box costs \$2. Please see any Joybreak member if you wish to buy a box or two.

For our October 23 meeting we have invited a woman from Social Services to speak to us about how this segment of the Ontario government helps those in need - street people, refugees, immigrants and those seeking financial help. All women are welcome to attend.

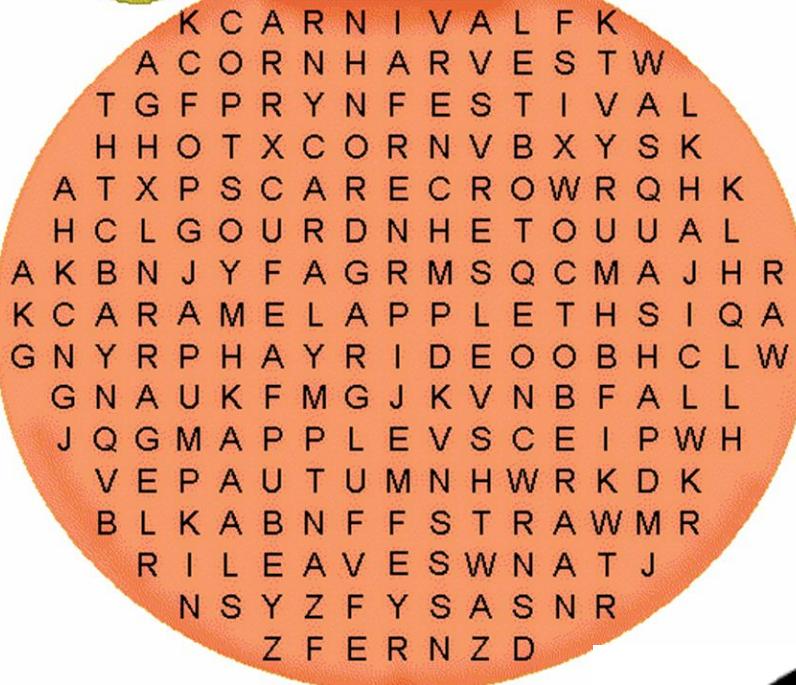
Mark your calendar! The ***Annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner*** will be held on Saturday, December 2. Look for more details in upcoming church bulletins.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Cheryl Holliday, Chair

GAMES PLUS MORE

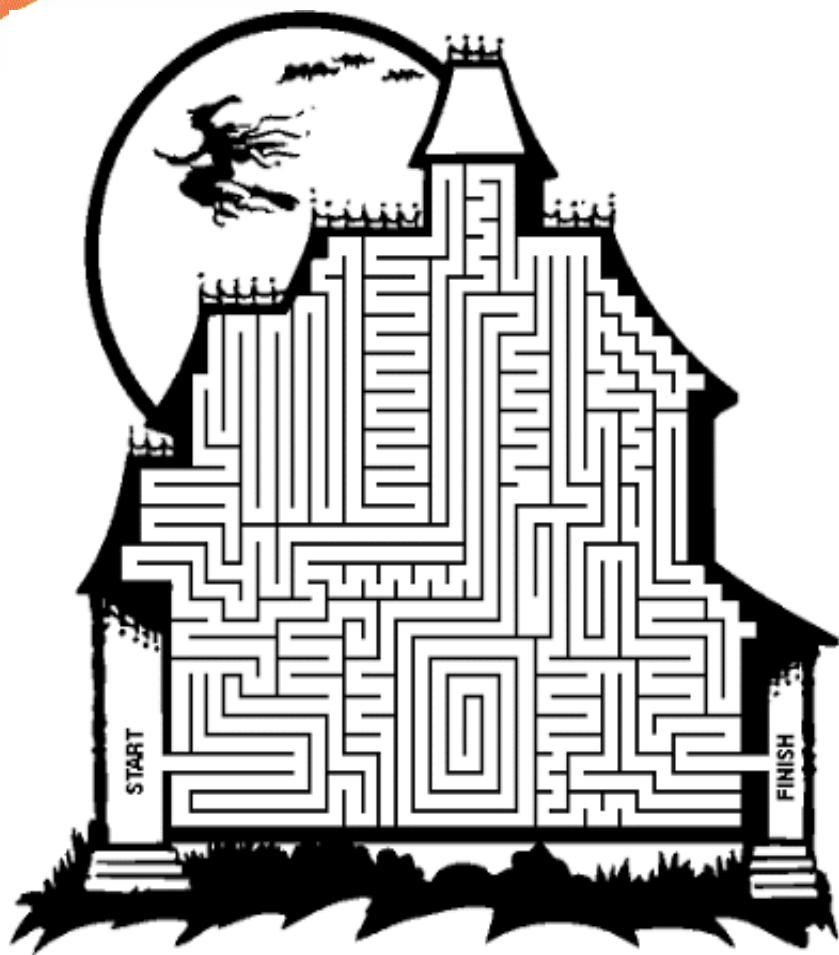
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R	O	R	E	L

**Words**

Acorn	Harvest
Apple	Hay Ride
Autumn	Leaves
Caramel Apple	October
Carnival	Pumpkin
Corn	Scarecrow
Fall	Squash
Festival	Straw
Gourd	



Where candy corn comes from



They gave their tomorrows,
so we could have our today!



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

by John McCrae
May 1915



Calendar of Events



October

- Mon Oct 9 - Thanksgiving Day
- Thurs Oct 12 - Senior's - Thanksgiving Pot Luck Lunch
- Thurs Oct 26 - Senior's Guest Speaker
- Tues Oct 31 - Halloween...Mwahahahaha!!!!!!



"We can either prescribe glasses,
or cut bigger eye holes."

November

- Wed Nov 1 - All Saints' Day
- Sun Nov 5 - Turn your clocks BACK1 hour
- Thurs Nov 9 - Senior's Movie & Remembrance
- Sat Nov 18** - **John McDermott Fundraising Concert, 2pm**
- Sat Nov 11 - Remembrance Day
- Thurs Nov 23 - Senior's – Games meeting

December

- Sat Dec 2 - Christmas Pot Luck Dinner
- Sun Dec 3 - First Sunday in Advent – start your food box (see page 10)
- Thurs Dec 14 - Senior's Pot Lunch, music by George Heldt
- Sat Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Communion, 7:30pm
- Sun Dec 25 - Christmas Day Service, 10:30am

January

- Mon Jan 1 - Happy New Year!

Every Wednesday at 11am is “Conversations” (Bible Study).

Rev. Carol leads Yoga Classes in the Upper Room of the church.
Be sure to wear comfortable clothing.

Beginner Yoga

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm

Bring a yoga mat, rug, towel or something to put on the floor.

Chair Yoga

Wednesday mornings at 12:30 pm

MINISTRY GROUPS and COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair: Vacancy

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Chair: Cheryl Holliday
Council Rep: Kim Davidson

HOSPITALITY

Chair: Lou Rhoden

MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE

Chair: Ianthe Spencer

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL (M&P)

Chair: Lola Pinnock

PROPERTY

Co-Chairs: Yvonne Wright & Clayton Johnson

STEWARDSHIP

Chair: Phoebe Cleverley

WORSHIP, SACRAMENT AND MUSIC

Chair: Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Chair: Cheryl Holliday

MEMORIAL Committee

Cheryl Holliday, David Tuck

PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVE

Vacancy

CONGREGATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Vacancy

Council Chair:
Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson



Asbury and West United Church

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Blog: <http://asburyandwest.blogspot.ca/p/announcements.html>

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Flock Talk Editors

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NEXT DEADLINE - Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017

Next Edition – CHRISTMAS, Sunday, Dec 24, 2017

Material accepted ANYTIME (the earlier the better). Please place all materials in the “Flock Talk” folder on the counter in the workroom.

Articles are subject to editing for length and clarity.

Have you taken a few minutes in the past week to pray for members of our congregation who are in poor health, or who are unable to get out? Take a minute to phone one or two, or call to make some personal visits, or send out a couple of cards just to let them know we care about them. Please let the church office know if we have forgotten any one.



HOME MEMBERS

Cecil Anderson
Fredrica Cameron
Louise Cobon

Mildred Franklin
Hollie Hepburn
Evelyn Lyons

Marina Mackin
Helen Smith
Margaret Stark

Fred Sunahara



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