

Easter 2017

Dear Members and Friends of Chippawa Presbyterian Church,

On behalf of the elders and staff of our congregation, I want to wish you and your loved ones a blessed Easter season. May your Holy Week be filled with the hope and strength that comes from following a Saviour whom even death and sin could not defeat.

Easter Worship

Through Lent, our worship series has been titled 'Eight Tables'. Themed around meals in the Bible, we have had opportunity to consider God's desire to 'prepare a place for us'. All the joy and anticipation you experience in welcoming friends and family to your home for a meal, God also experiences in welcoming you to his table. Come to worship this Easter season, and find your place, and experience God's love for you.

Our service times are:

- **Palm Sunday** – Sunday, April 9, 10:00 a.m.
- **Maundy Thursday** – Thursday, April 13, 7:00 p.m.
- **Good Friday** – Friday, April 14, 10:00 a.m.
- **Easter Sunrise Service** – Sunday, April 16, 6:30 a.m. Kingsbridge Park (fish and bread on the shore, just like Jesus' resurrection appearance)
- **Easter Sunday** – Sunday, April 16, 10:00 a.m.

Spring Community Service

Spring is the season we once again give special attention and support to Project Share, Hannah House. New this year is our initiative to bless school children in Iqaluit with additional food support.

Easter Food Drive – Saturday, April 15

Be part of a team that collects filled Project Share bags from the community's front steps. Email the minister at minister@chippawapc.ca to be part of the team.

Project Share Grand Prix Go-Karting – Saturday, May 13

We are now seven!!!! time champions for 'Most Pledges Raised' AND now holders of the first place racing trophy. Support our team again this year. Plan to sponsor a driver and come cheer them on as we build on our reputation in the community for legendary generosity!

Hannah House

Every spring, from Mother's Day to Father's Day, Hannah House encourages you to fill a baby bottle with your spare change. Last year Chippawa Presbyterian contributed over \$1,200 to this ministry.

Iqaluit, Nunavut – Food Drive

Patty Krawec, part our church family, has made a connection with Mike Murphy, a school teacher in Iqaluit. Mike was featured on the CBC in 2015 for using Amazon's free shipping feature to get additional food support brought to his students. We are lending our weight to his efforts this year by taking the money from what we 'gave up' at Lent, and using it to support this work. Take note, these gifts won't go through the church. Details for how to give to this effort are in your order of service, or you can contact the church office. Lent isn't over yet, and at the writing of this letter \$340 has already been raised. Thank you!!

Ministry Update

There are some exciting developments in our ministries this year.

Trish Heidebrecht – Archibald

Trish is actively seeking a church of her own and will be graduating from Knox College on Wednesday, May 10. You are all welcome to attend the graduation ceremony at Convocation Hall at the University of Toronto. We will have opportunity to celebrate Trish's achievement and her work with us on Easter Sunday. Come and wish her well. Session is currently working on a staffing plan for when Trish completes her time with us and should have an announcement for the congregation in late April, early May.

Nicaragua

Our team of 11 individuals are volunteering their time and resources to help another congregation in Nicaragua build its sanctuary at the end of August. The two major fundraisers are the 'Money Wall' in the foyer of the church, and the Bowl-a-thon, scheduled to take place on Saturday, June 3. Bring a team. Sponsor a lane. Make a pledge. Let's enjoy what God can do! Our goal is to raise \$17,000 USD to purchase the materials for the building. The cost of land for the project has already been donated, and over \$5,000 has already been raised. There is excellent support and momentum for this significant work. Thank you!

Spring Card Party and Luncheon

On Wednesday, April 19 beginning at noon, the Women of the Church's will once again host this ever popular event. Come enjoy an excellent lunch and door prizes. Bring some friends to enjoy an afternoon of cards or bring along a board game you like. Tickets are \$13 and are available from members of the WOC.

Mortgage/Financial Update

We continue to make amazing progress on the mortgage. At the end of 2016, the amount remaining on our principle was down to \$384,720! This was a reduction of \$62,852 in 2016. It is another beautiful example of your encouraging and exciting generosity. Thank you!!!

We renewed our mortgage in 2016 with very favourable terms and payment options. Anything we add to our regular payments will greatly speed the retirement of our mortgage. This Easter, we invite you to direct a special offering toward the Mortgage to help make this happen.

You can do this in one of two ways:

- **Online** – chippawapc.ca (click the ONLINE GIVING link). Please type 'Mortgage' in the message field of the online form.
- **Special envelopes** – available in the pew, or the information desk, or if you have a hard copy of this letter, included with this letter.

Thank you so much for your love and generosity toward your church family and its work and witness. Let us continue to give and keep our congregation strong. It is good to be at the table together, God's family, loving and supporting one another as we follow Jesus in faith.

In this coming Easter season, may you be blessed with the experience of hope, peace, joy and love that come from a life of following our Risen Saviour, Jesus Christ.

With my continuing prayers,



Doug Schonberg
MINISTER