

# FIRST PRESS

## FALL NEWSLETTER

### 2019



#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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[www.fpresbyterian.ca](http://www.fpresbyterian.ca)

Rev. Susan Mattinson

625-1471

Office Hours:

Tue, Wed and Fri

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

### MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Greetings, Friends:

*“Do not worry about anything, but in everything  
by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving  
let your requests be made known to God.”*

*--Philippians 4:6*

Fall always reminds me of harvest and thanksgiving and I think it's especially appropriate to pause for a time of thanksgiving in this newsletter because some really great things have been happening. Thank you to everyone who has been praying for our church, for our leadership, and for myself, because it's undeniable that God has been at work in the life of our church!

In this newsletter, you will read an update about our church roof. What looked like an insurmountable fundraising goal not so long ago is coming close to being completed! And as we pondered and prayed about the sustainability of our church and our desire to connect with our wider community here in Thunder Bay, God gifted us with the opportunity to take over hosting the Sunday night Jam Sessions. In the blink of an eye, we've been able to welcome a whole community of musicians, dancers, and music-lovers into our building!

I like Philippians 4:6, because it draws a connection between anxiety, prayer, and thanksgiving. There are still many things that make us anxious: Will our church be financially stable

enough in the long term? Will we have the volunteers to host the events we'd like to host? What will our church look like, or the Presbyterian Church in Canada look like, or Christianity in Canada look like even 10 or 20 years from now? These are questions worth asking. But our anxiety should not stop us from giving thanks. Our anxiety should not stop us from praying. In fact, we can *combat* our anxieties by doing both of those things—as individuals and as a church.

Let us be people of prayer and thanksgiving every single day as we place our trust in God and God's sovereignty.

Grace and Peace,



## **WORSHIP NEWS**

Sun Oct 13/19 – Thanksgiving Worship (no jam session)

Sun Nov 10/19 - Remembrance Day Service

Sat Nov 30/19- Christmas Church decoration

Sun Dec 1/19- First Sunday in Advent (Communion)

Sun Dec 24/19 -Christmas Eve

Family Service 7 pm

Communion Service 11 pm

Sun Dec 29/19- New Year's Eve – All ages Worship

Pinewood Court Service 2 pm

## **CARDS AFTERNOON**

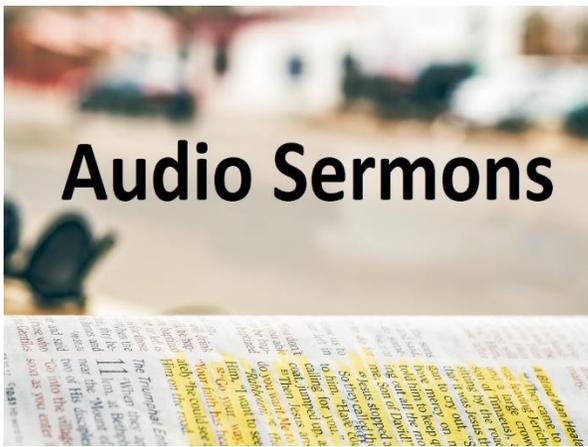
If you are looking for an afternoon out, join us from 1-3 pm on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month.

We play a variety of card games, usually including a euchre table.

If necessary, we will try to arrange transportation. Contact Sandra 577-9372

## **CRAFTS AND CONVERSATION**

CRAFTS AND CONVERSATION meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday at 1:00 in the John Currie room. This is a wonderful time to gather to work on your craft project and meet some new friends. We do have some knitting supplies (needles, wool, patterns) on hand. If you are not a crafty person, join us for the conversation and a cup of tea!



## **AUDIO RECORDING**

Audio recordings of our Sunday sermons are available online! Head to <http://bit.ly/2xfSeJ9> or follow the link via the church website ([presbyterian.ca](http://presbyterian.ca)) or the church Facebook page ([facebook.com/firstchurchtbay](https://facebook.com/firstchurchtbay)). The sermons are recorded with a high-quality microphone and edited to create an audio book quality finished product.

## **TEA AND BAZAAR**

Due to previous time commitments of many of the volunteers required to run the Fall Tea, we will be postponing this event to the new year. It has been suggested to look at a Valentine's Day or a Mother's Day theme. Please stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks.

## **JAM SESSIONS**

As of today (Sept.23), we have had 3 very successful Jam Session evenings at the church. This is intended to be a fund-raising undertaking which we hope will involve most of the congregation. So far these events have raised over \$300 each night!

There are several ways you can help:

- send baking or purchased items
- work in the kitchen, at the door, run the elevator,
- set up after Church, take down on Sunday evening

A sign up sheet is available in the entrance of the church should you wish to sign up to help. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call Jeannine at 629-7014.

I encourage you to come out on a Sunday evening from 7-10 pm. For a cost of \$4.

The music is quite eclectic and varied. It is very nice to see the guests to our church dance and just generally enjoy the evening. We encourage our congregation to come out and see what a great event this is, especially knowing it will help us financially. Fine people from the community, singing, instruments, dancing, light refreshments. All good!

Do check Jam Session out as soon as possible.

## **RAISE THE ROOF CAMAIGNE**

We have raised \$65,452.96 so far, of our \$80,000 goal. The funds raised to date include a \$10,000 grant from Presbytery as well as \$342.43 donated when the More Than Mission group folded and closed their bank account, money from 2 Paint Nites, a spring bulb fundraiser, the Go for Gold campaign and a portion of the spring yard sale proceeds. A big thank you goes out to the Karen community, which recently donated \$1000 to the fund.

Our congregational family has also generously donated to the cause with some very generous one-time donations, weekly donations in envelopes and through PAR (pre-authorized remittance). If you wish to sign up for PAR for the Roof Fund or for your weekly giving, please speak to Sandra Allan. We would also like to acknowledge a generous memorial gift from the family of Betty Irwin. If you would like to discuss memorial giving please speak to any member of Session or the Board.

Our total expenses so far are \$58,410.10 and we have now completed approximately 85% of the work. Outstanding work includes the office roof and the elevator/entrance roof which will be completed when the necessary funds become available.

We appreciate all donations to date, and ask that you continue to give generously so that this important project can be completed.

## **MISSION STUDY**

MISSION STUDY will start on Tuesday, October 15 at 1:30. Stories in Mission books will be available to those attending. Join us for discussions on what mission work is taking place in Canada and around the world. Everyone is welcome!

## **PRESBYTERIAN CONNECTION**

Is a quarterly newspaper published by the national office of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Keep in touch with events happening in the church and around the world. The newspaper is free of charge. To subscribe, please contact the national office at 1-800-619-7301 or go to [presbyterian.ca/connection](http://presbyterian.ca/connection).

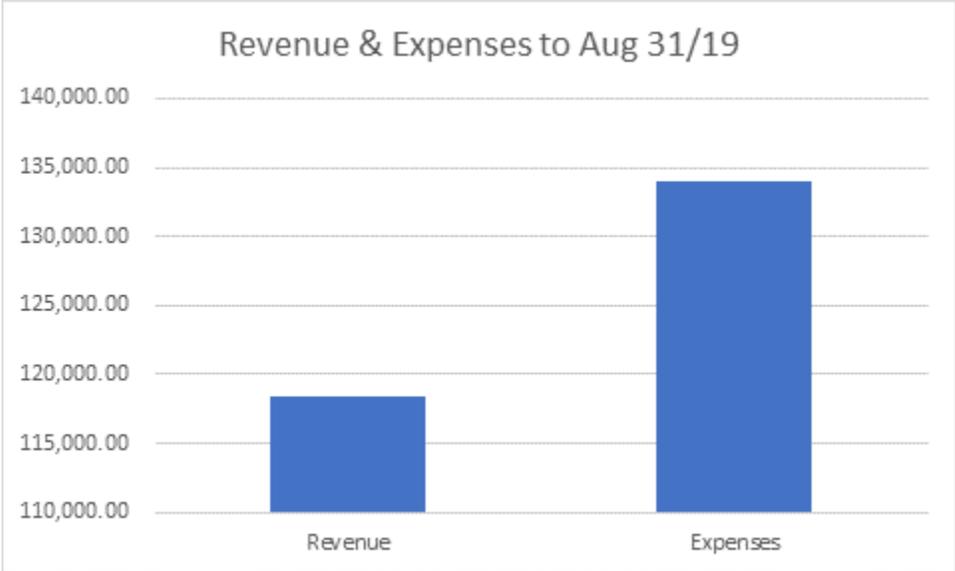
## **FOOD BANK**

Items are collected on the last Sunday of each month. Donations of canned goods, juice, pasta, cereal and baby food are always needed to stock shelves at the food bank. Thank you to everyone who contributes to this mission activity in support of our own community.

## **MOVING?**

Have you or a family member moved recently? Please let the church know the new address and phone number so our address list can be kept up to date.

**From the Treasurer**



# CUBS/SCOUTS/VENTURERS

## 15th Fort William Scout Group



The fun and adventure starts today.

**REGISTRATION OPEN**  
**Scouts Canada Programs for boys, girls and young adults.**

Beaver Scouts (ages 5-7)	Cub Scouts (ages 8-10)
Scouts (ages 11-14)	Venturer Scouts (ages 14-17)
Rover Scouts (ages 18-26)	Volunteers (all ages welcome!)

join@scouts.ca  
Scouts.ca



It starts with Scouts.

**You are invited to take part in**

**TWO FREE MEETINGS OF BEAVERS CUBS SCOUTS OR VENTURER'S**



It starts with Scouts.

**Two Free Meeting Certificate**

You are invited to try Scouts at one of our meetings. Parents are encouraged to attend.

To find a group close to you, go to [www.myscouts.ca](http://www.myscouts.ca) & Enter your Postal Code

Or

Email [khilton@tbaytel.net](mailto:khilton@tbaytel.net) for more information

Find out more at [www.scouts.ca](http://www.scouts.ca) or Register on Line at [www.myscouts.ca](http://www.myscouts.ca)

We meet at 1st Presbyterian Church

**Beavers—Thursday Night 6:30pm to 7:30pm**

**Cubs—Monday Night 6pm to 7:30pm**

**Scouts & Venturers—Monday Night 6:30pm to 8:30pm**

Thank You  
Kelly Hilton