



BURNS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February Newsletter

Up-Coming Worship Services

*All worship services begin at 11am on Sundays,
unless otherwise noted*

February 5

The Treasure Principle

"Heart follows Money"

February 12

The Treasure Principle

"Our Final Destination"

February 19

The Treasure Principle

"The Antidote"

Celebrating Communion

February 26 - Lent I

Meeting Jesus Again for the First time:
Our Jewish Messiah

March 4 - Lent II

Meeting Jesus Again: The Beatitudes

March 11 - Lent III

Meeting Jesus Again: His Message

March 18 - Lent IV

Meeting Jesus Again: His Mission
Celebrating Communion

March 25 - Lent V

Meeting Jesus Again: His Miracles

April 1 - Palm Sunday

Meeting Jesus Again: His Kingship

April 5 - Maundy Thursday (time TBA)

Meeting Jesus Again:
Christ in the Passover Meal

April 6 - Good Friday (time TBA)

Meeting Jesus Again: His Death
Celebrating Communion

April 8 - Easter

Meeting Jesus Again: His Resurrection

From the Pastor's Desk

A Two-legged Stool Won't Stand

Maybe you already knew this, but a two legged stool won't stand up!

Sometimes I have to learn the hard way, so I decided to try it. I gingerly sat down on my two legged stool and slowly lifted my feet off the floor. At first it wobbled as I shifted my weight from side to side. But then the inevitable pull of gravity won out. Bam! The bruise on my back is proof that some truths can't be avoided.

Faith communities like Burns aren't that different from my proverbial stool. We need three emphases to function well.

We need a focus on nurturing our communion with God; very often this happens in our weekly worship. We also need to respond to Christ's great commission by reaching out and sharing his message with others. And, we need community: a shared sense of connection with others at Burns.

If a congregation only has two of these three, then it is as functional as a two-legged stool.

I think we've talked a lot about reaching out, and we're pretty good at weekly worship. Now, as we're getting ready to occupy a barrier free facility, I can't help dreaming about how we can nurture community. I'm looking forward to men's breakfasts and pot-luck lunches. I want to celebrate the seasons of the church year with you at pancake dinners and Passover Seders, anniversary suppers, Christmas banquets and summer picnics.

However, I'm also reminded that all three legs of the stool are needed if its going to stand. As we embrace a deeper sense of community, may it be complimented by seeking ways to better our communion with God, even while we reach out to our friends and neighbours.

In this way, we become so much more than simply a community meeting in a new facility. Instead, we are transformed into a community that experiences and reflects Christ. Lord, may it be.

2011 Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 4th

Annual Reports will be ready for
Sunday, February 26th, 2012

Nota Bene...

February 9

Join us in Praying for the Jesus Debate on the UOIT campus. Consider giving up a meal (fasting) to pray that many will hear Jesus' good news.

February 22 - 5:30 to 7:30pm

Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper

Plan to join us for dinner and devotions as Lent begins.
Stay tuned for more info.

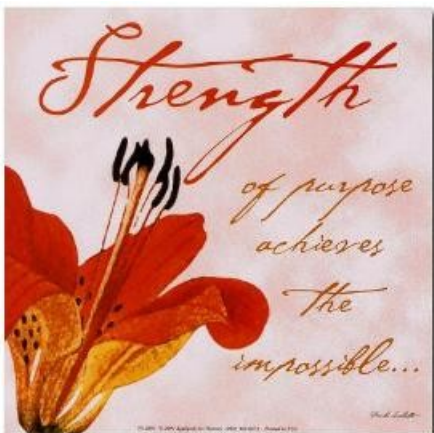
Wednesdays - February 29 to April 4

Lenten Lunches

Come for worship, stay for lunch
Join others in the Whitby Ministerial each Wednesday at All Saints Anglican Church (300 Dundas St. W., Whitby) at 11:30am. Jeremy speaks March 14th.

Saturday, March 17th - 8am

Men's Breakfast
Stay tuned for more info.



MISSION CAPSULES

YOUTH IN MISSION: Transforming lives

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Youth in Mission. YIM allows youth to accompany Presbyterian mission partners in Canada and internationally through short-term mission experiences. As these young people share in the mission of the church, they enhance their personal growth, learn skills and grow in their faith. In 2012, YIM is offering mission experiences in Taiwan, Israel/Palestine, the mission track at the Canada Youth conference, and the International AIDS Conference in Washington, DC. *Let us pray for our youth who are leading in mission!*



CANADA: Supporting university students

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* help chaplaincies across Canada to support and reach out to students. McMaster University's Ecumenical chaplaincy provides counseling, advocates for students in difficulty, and offers Christian worship. It also provides opportunities for students to get involved in social justice, anti-violence, poverty and prayer groups. McMaster's Ecumenical Chaplain, The Rev. Dr. Carol Wood, is a Presbyterian minister. She enjoys the diversity of the McMaster community and the opportunity to walk with students through the challenges of their university experience. *Let us pray for McMaster's ecumenical chaplaincy as it provides a Christian presence on campus.*

MALAWI: Worshipping together

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Mike and Debbie Burns as they serve the Blantyre Synod of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in Malawi. Debbie shares, "While we enjoy worshipping in St. James' main church, we look forward to Sunday worship at one of the three prayer houses and weekly Wednesday evening services at the different *mulagas* (cottages). These services provide an intimate time for prayer, praise, study and fellowship, something that is difficult to obtain in a sanctuary filled with 700 people!" *Let us pray for Mike, Debbie and the people of St. James as they share the good news of the gospel in Malawi.*



CANADA: Creating a safe space

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* help Flemingdon Gateway Mission reach out to children and families in Toronto's Flemingdon Park neighbourhood. Its after-school program provides a safe space where kids can work on homework, spend time with friends and participate in various fun and educational activities. The Rev. Paulette Brown, Executive Director of the mission, says, "Our successes are not written on grant applications or on evaluation reports. They are written on the hearts of our children." *Let us pray for Flemingdon Gateway Mission as it changes children's lives, for generations to come.*



February Birthdays

16 - Crystal Bellsmith

18 - Moyra Dobson

Please email Sharmen at
office@burnschurch.org to let her know your
birthday/anniversary and/or anyone else in your family.

