



# South Nissouri Presbyterian Church Newsletter

## Upcoming Events

### April 2013

See Calendar on Back

### Seed Blessing Service:

*A Celebration of Agriculture! On Sunday April 21st the Thorndale Area Churches will gather to celebrate the planting season together with worship and fellowship. The service will be held at Thorndale United at 2:00pm and there will be a time of fellowship following. Our church has been asked to provide four dozen edible goodies and two helpers for the kitchen. Would you like to help out? It will be a fun afternoon of gathering as a community together.*

### May 2013

*Arbour Day  
– May. 4<sup>th</sup>*

**“He is risen; He is not here”**



## Minister's Message

### Happy Easter!

In Christ we are a new creation! The old life has gone and a new one has begun! (2 Cor.5:17)

I love these Easter themes of new life and transformation. They speak of our identity as God's children to continually grow and be changed by God's grace. They help me remember that I can let things go and start over. They give me hope and make me excited for what is to come. I love how God's natural creation celebrates new life with us at Easter as the plants begin to bloom again.

It has been a long blustery winter and the sight of those green stems emerging out of the ground help us know that the warm weather is just around the corner. This Easter season challenges us to think of where we might begin to bloom and grow again in the celebration of Christ's triumph over death. In him we have forgiveness, security and the promise of new life for all that is dead in our lives. May the good news of the resurrection inspire you this year to grow closer to God and to take on something new to live into these promises of new life and creation.

*Rev. Heather Paton*

## Presbytery Event

On February 23<sup>rd</sup> over 90 people from churches in the London Presbytery gathered to 'Begin The Conversation' about how we can continue to do faithful ministry in the context of our changing church. It was a great day of sharing experiences led by Rev. Dr. Dale Woods of Presbyterian College in Montreal. We talked about how difficult it is to change, especially as a church. He suggested we think about change as creating something new rather than problem solving.

He challenged us to think about how we might have fun in our churches living out the gospel and not just maintaining the church. It was a day of laying the groundwork for further visioning and putting ideas into action. The conversation is going to continue on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Westmount Presbyterian Church. It would be wonderful to have a whole group from our church there to learn and to vision creatively together. Speak to Scott McKay to get his opinion on the day.

## Recent Events



**Dinner Theatre  
2013  
Clean-up Time**

**On March 3rd, 2013  
Jim Hill was honoured  
and thanked for his  
contributions as an Elder.  
Jim retired from active  
duty Nov. 2012**



## Youth In Mission

Mulungu Alinafe! (God Is With Us in Chichewa)  
On May 2nd, I will be leaving to go to Malawi, Africa for three weeks. What I am looking forward to most when I am in Africa is interacting with the locals as I travel through the southern part of Malawi. Being able to experience the culture and way of life in Malawi will be a life changing experience.

I would like to thank everyone who helped me put together and make my chili fundraiser dinner such a success. I would also like to thank everyone who came and supported the dinner. In total through donations and the chili fundraiser, I was able to raise \$1720. Thank you very much to everyone who contributed and God Bless.

Sincerely,  
*Jamie MacKinnon*