

# Lukan Glass

Summer 2014

St. Luke's Monthly Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue 2

## Minister's Message

The rhythms of day and night, new moon and full moon, sunset and sunrise, and the seasons of the year are signs to us of expected and welcome change. When those rhythms are interrupted, we feel unsettled. I enjoy spending evenings and nights observing the night skies when the skies are clear and there are no other commitments. There is a rhythm to the movement of the planets through the years and a rhythm to the apparent motion of the stars through the night as the Earth turns. These rhythms bring regularity to us amidst the changing night skies. When the constellation Orion sets in the Spring you know it will reappear in the early morning skies of the Fall.

Rabbi Sandy Sasso, amongst all her other work, has written several children's books that are interpretations of stories from Genesis. *Adam and Eve's First Night* speaks of our fear as rhythms seem to break, as we feel that what God has provided is diminishing. Their hope emerges as they see the signs God leaves them in the night sky of the light that will never disappear from their lives even as darkness seems to overwhelm them.

Our family is going through our own transitions this summer. Ian is graduating from grade 8 and will be heading off to high school at the beginning of August. Mia is preparing for her grade 12 year with dreams of what she'll do afterwards. She'll also be away from us for most of the summer as she serves as a counsellor at one of our church camps on Georgian Bay, Camp Kintail. Jean and I prepare for our holidays together and relish the opportunities for Sabbath rest as we see the coming year ahead. There is much change ahead, and much opportunity. We pray that you will sense the rhythms and the assurances of Christ's presence and care in your lives this summer.

– Peace, Matthew

## Vacation Bible School Update



**Humphrey the Camel has Arrived!** Our camel is here and is very excited to be starting his adventure with the children attending St. Luke's "Wilderness Escapes" Vacation Bible School. Volunteers from St. Luke's and Knox Presbyterian churches have been busy planning this exciting week of camp which takes place on July 28 – August 1, from 8:30 am to noon daily. The cost is just \$5 per child or \$10 per family.

We welcome children aged 6 -12 to join us on the journey of Moses and the Israelites as they escape Egypt and watch how God guides and provides for his people. The children will see, hear, touch and even taste what it might have been like to live in the Bible-times wilderness. They will learn how Moses trusted God and discover how they can put their trust in God in their lives, through songs, stories, crafts, games, and sampling food that the Israelites may have eaten on their journey. Registration can be made on-line at [pancatwodillo@rogers.com](mailto:pancatwodillo@rogers.com) or leave a message at the church office.

We still have spots to be filled on our volunteer sheet and are looking for help with set decoration. Are you handy with a hammer or paint brush? Could you lend us items such as cushions, vases, rugs, and candle holders? Could you make us up bags of ice and deliver them on the morning of camp? Do you have sign making skills or help with costumes for the volunteers? Do you know any children you could invite? We ask that you prayerfully consider what you could do to help bring God's word to the children in our community.

Contact **Sue Black or Jennifer Pyefinch-Reid** if you have any questions.

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## Calendar

June 22 Choir Practice 9:30 am  
 Sunday Service 11:00 am  
 Strawberry Social 12:00 pm  
 June 26 Bible Study 1:00 pm  
 June 29 Choir Practice 9:30 am  
 Sunday Service 11:00 am  
 June 30 Rev. Sams' holidays begin  
 July 6 Combined Service 11:00 am  
 July 13 Combined Service 11:00 am  
 July 20 Combined Service 11:00 am  
 July 27 Combined Service 11:00 am  
 July 28 Rev. Sams returns  
 July 28-Aug 1 VBS 8:30 am – noon  
 Aug 3 Sunday Service 11:00 am  
 Aug 10 Sunday Service 11:00 am  
 Aug 17 Sunday Service 11:00 am  
 Aug 24 Sunday Service 11:00 am  
 Aug 31 Sunday Service 11:00 am

## Helpful Websites

Canada Youth 2014 Convention  
[www.canadayouth.ca](http://www.canadayouth.ca)

CAIRN Family of Camps  
[www.ilovecamp.org](http://www.ilovecamp.org)

Presbyterian Church of Canada  
[www.presbyterian.ca](http://www.presbyterian.ca)

## Personal Devotional Resources

Daily devotionals emailed to you  
 from [www.presbycan.ca](http://www.presbycan.ca)

Daily prayer and reflections on your  
 computer, iPhone or android phone  
 from [www.pray-as-you-go.org](http://www.pray-as-you-go.org)

## Canada Youth 2014

Our high school youth group is taking a break this summer. The good news is that three of our youth, two from St. Luke's and one from Knox, will be attending Canada Youth in early July. We are thankful to the Presbytery of Pickering, several members of St. Luke's, and the Coffee Break committee for their generous support of our youth. Please pray for the youth travelling from across Canada, for the leaders and visitors that together their faith may be nurtured and glory given to God to whom through Christ we have been adopted as children.

"Canada Youth is a gathering of youth, young adults and youth leaders from across the country and with guests from around the world that happens every two years. Since 2000, CY has been a gathering place for Presbyterian youth to worship, play, create, learn, dance, act, make new friends, study scripture, share joy, laugh, discover, play crazy games, reflect, pray, sing and share. CY is a time and a place to celebrate youth, and youth ministry in The Presbyterian Church in Canada." [www.canadayouth.ca](http://www.canadayouth.ca)

## Milk Bags for Haiti



St. Luke's has recently begun collecting milk bags for Haiti. The outer milk bag only is used for creating a sleeping mat or tote bag (the 3 inner bags containing milk are not used).

The bags we collect are delivered to a member of a group working through Ajax Baptist Church, who cut and weave the bags into mats. The procedure is to cut off the top and bottom of the bags and then cut the bag into 1" wide loops, joining them together into long yarn and then weaving or crocheting the yarn into mats. Depending on the size, it takes about 21 hours to weave one mat, which uses 335 bags. As of June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 we have collected 365 bags. The advantage of using this type of mat over cardboard or leafy

vegetation is that plastic mats do not absorb moisture, are easy to clean and are not conducive to insect infestation. AND it saves disposing of plastic in the landfill sites. This is a win/win situation.

Mats are created and sent to a central depot where they are shipped to third world countries including Haiti (in the case of Ajax Baptist Church). The mats serve a twofold purpose – first as packing material for medical supplies and then as mats they are delivered to people in need of a safe sleeping mat.

Thank you to everyone at St. Luke's for your continued participation in this project. – Mission Committee

## The Big Yellow Bus Will Be There!!!



Each year Simcoe Hall Settlement House in Oshawa has a number of Sun Fun Day Camp outings during July and August. They transport inner city kids to various parks and other exciting places.

St. Luke's decided to sponsor the bus costs for 3 trips – 2 to Darlington Provincial Park and 1 to Cobourg Beach. Our goal total was to raise \$528.84 to cover the bus rental for these 3 trips. Due to the generosity of the congregation we collected \$715.00!!! This allowed us to also sponsor a trip for the kids to the Toronto Metro Zoo.

Once again the St. Luke's congregation has risen to the challenge and surpassed our goal. On behalf of all the kids at Simcoe Hall, we thank you for your generosity. – Mission Committee

## Summer Music

For the summer months our Music Director, Jackie, is taking an extended leave in order to visit family in Australia. She is organizing soloists for several Sundays in July and August in addition to regular supply. We extend our



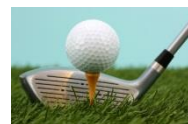
appreciation to her and our prayers for a blessed holiday.

The present summer schedule for those soloists & musicians participating during our services is as follows....

June 29 Nobue Belrose  
July 6 Shelby Starky/Nobue Belrose  
July 13 Bruce Briard  
July 20 Lorraine Sage  
July 27 Ted Franklin/Nobue Belrose  
Aug 3/10 Dawn Flett/Nicholas Ocon  
Aug 17 Lorraine Sage  
Aug 24 Volunteer(s) still needed  
Aug 31 Lorraine Sage/Shelby Starky

## Did you know?

The Presbytery of Pickering is holding their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament on Thursday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in support of the Presbytery Syrian Refugee Project. Individuals, businesses or churches can get involved by sponsoring a hole or putting together a foursome. Please look for future announcements in the church bulletin or call the church office for information, registration or donation forms.



## Summer Schedules

Rev. Matthew Sams will be away for the following dates...  
June 30 – July 28 (Holidays)

### Guest Preachers

July 6 Mr. Gord Brown  
July 13 Rev. Dr. Ian Clark  
July 20 Rev. Dr. Ian Clark & Rev. Dr. Catherine Chalin  
July 27 Rev. Dr. Ian Clark & Rev. Dr. Catherine Chalin

### Combined Services

For the month of July we will welcome St. James Presbyterian Church as we have combined Sunday services at St. Luke's at 11:00 am.

### Secretary Hours

For the months of July & August Sylvia will be in the office on Wednesdays from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. She will be away on holiday the last week of July and the last week of August.

### Contact Information

Rev. Sams: 289-387-1454 or [mgsams@gmail.com](mailto:mgsams@gmail.com)

Secretary Office Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 3 pm

Email: [stlukespresbyterian@bellnet.ca](mailto:stlukespresbyterian@bellnet.ca)

Facebook: St. Luke's Presbyterian Church Oshawa

Website: [pccweb.ca/stlukes-oshawa](http://pccweb.ca/stlukes-oshawa)

### Publishing Information

Lukan Glass is a monthly newsletter published from August – June.