

GREETINGS TO ALL

Hope your journey in 2023 is beginning with good health and a return to regular gatherings with family and friends. Although a short month, February looks to be hopping with events at Duff Largie, so mark your calendars. Look for other events further in the newsletter and in upcoming issues.

As always, email Barb Ross at barbross1961@gmail.com or call (519)878-9736 if there is something you would like to see included in our newsletter or if you would like to join the team! Please share our news with neighbours and friends.

WANT TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US?

Church contact information is as follows:

Interim Moderator-Rev. James Patterson
(226)378-5692

Pastoral Visitor & Pulpit Supply-Wilma Boyce
(226)504-3224

Clerk of Session – Paul McWilliam (519)878-7224

Check the church website for additional updates to worship services and events at
<https://pccweb.ca/duffchurch/>

We even have a Facebook page!



<https://www.facebook.com/people/Duff-Presbyterian-Church-Largie/100070608482586/>

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN FEBRUARY?

2- Church Purge & Clean @1:30

2-Happy Groundhog Day

3-Church Purge & Clean Part 2 @ 9:30

8-WMS Meeting @ 1:30

8-Largie Session Meeting 7 pm

10-Largie Playgroup @ 10

14-Happy Birthday Matt Minnema

14-Happy Valentine's Day

15-Crinan WI Dessert Euchre @ 1:30. Crinan Community Centre

17-Potluck & Games Night 6 pm

18 -Happy Birthday William Minnema and Wilma Boyce

20-Happy Family Day

21-Shrove Tuesday

24-Largie Playgroup @10

26-Afternoon in Scotland @1:30

28-Happy Birthday Evan, Kayla and Morgan



LET'S DISCOVER THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW TOGETHER

Do you ever wonder how the Scripture is chosen for a sermon? Many mainline Christian churches follow the lectionary. In the Presbyterian denomination we use the Revised Common Lectionary in the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship (Westminster John Knox Press, 2018) for guidance in choosing a text for preaching. It is a table of readings from Scripture which usually includes a reading from Psalms, a reading from the Old Testament, a reading from the New Testament and a Gospel reading. They are meant to be read at public worship each week and/or Holy day, and in keeping with festivals and seasons of the Christian Church. It provides for a three-year cycle of Sunday readings that takes us through the Scriptures in such a way as to help us see how the Scriptures are interwoven.

This is Year A in the three-year cycle and the Gospel of Matthew of the synoptic gospels is the one most used. Synoptic means 'seeing together' and the gospels referred to in this context are Matthew, Mark and Luke.

Matthew wrote for a community of believers struggling to understand their place within the traditional Jewish family of faith; 'hearing' was important, but it was 'understanding' what the Kingdom of God was like that was the key. The difference between 'knowing about' and 'believing in' changes one's response. Matthew's community was going through some very tough times; their traditional Jewish families regarded them as heretics and the Romans persecuted them. It was important for them to understand what it meant to follow Jesus so they wouldn't get discouraged in their faith; knowing the Kingdom of Heaven was already theirs in spite of the circumstances that seemed to say otherwise. The same holds true for us.

Matthew's Gospel has much to teach us about Jesus and the Kingdom of God and so I invite everyone to read the Gospel of Matthew from beginning to end as we journey through this year together.

Here is a suggestion on how we might begin. Before reading start with a 'prayer for understanding' as we do on Sunday morning when we read the Scriptures. It may be helpful to read at the same time each day so it becomes a habit. Pick a time that works for you, or if you do it as a family, mealtime may be best. Don't rush. Read as much or as little as you can keep your focus on. Perhaps questions will arise, and you will want to write them down for further discussion with family or friends or at church. In Jesus' day discussing Scripture was a way of developing understanding about God and the Kingdom of God.

May God bless our reading and understanding of the Word.

Pastor Wilma

TIME FOR A CHUCKLE

Q. What did the mama cow say to the baby cow?

A. It's pasture bedtime.

THE CHICKEN FARMER

A young man who was born and raised in the city moved to the country and bought a piece of land. He went to the local feed and livestock store and talked to the proprietor about how he was going to take up chicken farming. He then asked to buy 100 chicks.

"That's a lot of chicks," commented the proprietor. "I mean business," the new farmer replied.

A week later the man was back again. "I need another 100 chicks," he said. "Boy, you are serious about this chicken farming," the man told him.

"Yeah," the man replied. "If I can iron out a few problems."

"Problems?" asked the proprietor. "Yeah," replied the new farmer, "I think I planted that last batch too close together."

WMS RECIPES

French Bean Casserole-

Dorothy McCallum

3 (14oz) cans French style green beans drained or 1 bag frozen French style beans

1 can mushroom soup

1 can French fried onions or buttered bread crumbs

3/4 cup milk

Put beans in buttered casserole dish. Mix together soup and milk. Pour over beans. Put fried onions on.

Bake 350 degrees for 25 minutes.



Welcome aboard to Regeanne and Jay as our new custodians. They are usually in the building on Saturday mornings, so if you happen to be there when they are, say hello! On behalf of Duff Church Largie, welcome!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School teachers got their calendars out and have some events planned for the first half of the year. A Potluck and Games Night will be held February 17 beginning at 6 pm. Bring your favourite dish and board or card game. Other events in the works are:

Drive Thru Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, March 10. Tickets are \$15 and are advance purchase only. Cut off date for tickets is March 1. Pickup up time for the dinner is 5-6 pm. The meal will consist of spaghetti, salad, roll and dessert.

Dine In Lasagne Dinner on Saturday, March 11 with a Jeopardy game to follow. Tickets are \$20 and they are advance purchase only also with a cut off date of March 1. The meal will be lasagne, garlic bread or roll, Caesar salad and dessert.

Tickets for both events can be purchased from any Sunday School teacher or call or text Lin McCann at 519-859-2534 or Barb Ross at 519-878-9736.

We will serve a Palm Sunday Brunch after church on April 2. All are welcome to come and we hope you bring a friend, neighbor or family member. Stay tuned for additional events in March's newsletter.

LADIES AID AND WMS NEWS

The first coffee hour after church was held on January 8. A social time was enjoyed by all. Nothing beats a good Presbyterian potluck!

The Ladies group met on January 24 in the church classroom. In addition to our regular meeting, we also had our Annual Meeting. The program committee consisting of Lin McCann and Barb Ross chose New Years as their topic. A lovely lunch was served by Jackie Leitch and Marguerite Boyd which was enjoyed prior to the meeting. We agreed to meet the second Wednesday of each month at 1:30 for the remainder of the year and we encourage all ladies to join us. The program committee for our February 8 meeting is Kathy Minnema with Lin McCann and Lynda Drummelsmith on for snacks.

We decided to do a purge and clean of our building on Thursday, February 2 at 1:30 and Friday, February 3 at 9:30. We hope to declutter, organize and freshen up our building as we start a new year. I'm sure our cleaners will also thank us! There may be some trinkets and treasures available for people wanting to give them a new home. To quote a well known idiom, "One man's trash is another man's treasure"!

Here's a great description of two organizations within the Presbyterian Church in Canada: Presbyterians Sharing is one and the other is PWS&D.



Congregations and individuals give generously to both Presbyterians Sharing and PWS&D. The programs and projects of the two funds complement each other as they support God's mission.

Presbyterians Sharing supports the overall mission and ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Through Presbyterians Sharing, we share in a wide range of ministries in Canada and around the world. Together, we help

- **renew and grow congregations to facilitate the development of new ministries**
- **support international mission partners with staff and grants**
- **invest in leadership development**
- **work together to advocate for justice and human rights**
- **walk with Indigenous people on a journey towards reconciliation**
- **encourage, support and equip ministry candidates, clergy and lay leaders**

...and so much more!

As we encourage one another and teach about love, faith and hope, we are proclaiming the good news of the Gospel.

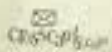
Presbyterian World Service & Development is the development and relief agency of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Gifts to PWS&D are over and above gifts to Presbyterians Sharing. Through PWS&D, we respond internationally to

- **ensure families have more and better food to eat**
- **provide aid to those fleeing conflict and disaster**
- **increase access to water, sanitation and health**
- **promote education and economic empowerment**
- **protect refugees and human rights**

PWS&D works with local partners overseas, through membership in ecumenical organizations like Canadian Foodgrains Bank and ACT Alliance, and with the support of the Canadian government for a sustainable, compassionate and just world.

Source: <https://presbyterian.ca/>

*Always pray to have
Eyes that see the best in people,
a Heart that forgives the worst
a Mind that forgets the worst
and a Soul that Never
loses faith in God.*

 CrispPhoto.com

SESSION UPDATE

**The next Session meeting is
February 8 at 7 pm.**



PRAY FOR....

- ✓ **Those dealing with medical issues, surgeries, illness, treatment**
- ✓ **Families and individuals dealing with loss and separation**
- ✓ **People having financial challenges**
- ✓ **Individuals, families, communities and countries affected by natural disaster, war and poverty**
- ✓ **People dealing with mental health challenges and the services that support them**

FROM THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

Thanks to the snow elves who appear to clear our parking lot of snow and our sidewalks and entrances. We appreciate your efforts.

Quotes are finally coming in for lighting upgrades to the dining area. Stand by for updates.



Time to Test Your Brain

Submitted by Lin McCann



Taken from The Station at the River

by Norman McWilliam

1. The first church building at Largie was completed in what year?

A) 1835 B) 1845 C) 1855.

2. How many turrets did Largie church have previously?

3. What is the seating capacity of Largie Church?

4. At the dedication of present Largie Church how many people attended?

The answers are found on the next pages.

ANOTHER CHUCKLE....

Joe, who owned a mid-sized farm in rural south western Ontario, was paid a visit by The Ministry of Labour. A complaint was made that he was not paying proper wages to his workers and an agent was sent out to interview him.

“I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them,” demanded the agent.

“Well,” replied old Joe, “There’s my hired hand who’s been with me for 3 years. I pay him \$600 a week plus free room and board. The cook has been here for 18 months, and I pay her \$500 a week plus free room and board. Then there’s the half-wit who works about 18 hours every day and does about 90 percent of all the work around here. He makes about \$10 per week, pays his own room and board, and I take him out on the town every Saturday night.”

“That’s the guy I want to talk to, the half-wit,” says the agent.

“That would be me,” replied old Joe.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 FOR MARCH ISSUE

LARGIE PLAYGROUP



Our gang met twice in January with 5 children and their caregiver each time. On January 24, we had a play time in the snow, making trails, snow angels and trying to shovel some of the white stuff! We had hoped to build a snowman, but the snow was not packing snow that day! After we had rosy cheeks, we went inside for a story and craft about mittens. Then of course, we brought out the toys! We will meet again on February 10 and 24. Looking forward to seeing you then. We welcome all pre-school children to our

morning of singing, stories, crafts and play time beginning at 10. Come and bring a friend!



Grandma with Charlie & Olivia



Making Tracks!



Master Crafter Lin with Ducky & Colton

Answers to Time to Test Your Brain

- 1) 1855
- 2) Four turrets 3) About 550 people
- 4) Morning service about 1000 people, evening service another large audience

