DUFF LARGIE NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2026

NOVEMBER GREETINGS

We have been blessed with a beautiful autumn: sunshine, warm temperatures, and a bountiful harvest. I have lost count of the number of days we have not had any rain. We are certainly able to easily check of the items on our autumn "to do" list.

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour tonight. To me, this marks the beginning of winter even though the temperature might not agree. With darkness coming earlier, I find it more difficult to try to get out to events after supper. I just want to "hunker down" and begin my evening hibernation!

Take time not only on November 11, but each day to give thanks for the freedoms we have and the peace that we enjoy. Thank you for the sacrifices that so many have made and continue to make so that we may enjoy life as we know it in Canada. Although sometimes we complain that times are tough or that life isn't going the way we would like, stop for a minute and think that maybe someone else is experiencing something tougher.

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 have something to contribute or celebrate. Please share our news with neighbours and friends.

WANT TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US?

Interim Moderator-Rev. Dr. Doug Robinson

(226)504-3224

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

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

Check the church website for additional updates at https://pccweb.ca/duffchurch/

We also have a Facebook page!https://www.facebook.com/people/Duff-Presbyterian-Church-Largie/100070608482586/

NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS

1-Daylight Saving Time ends

1-Worship @ 11 am

1-Ladies Group at Bobier Villa Tearoom @ 1:30

3-Happy Birthday Matt Woods

4-Happy Birthday Hailey McWilliam

6-Happy Birthday Steven Minnema

7-Crinan Drive Thru Beef Dinner. $25 A few tickets left. See Barb

8-Worship @ 11

10-Happy Birthday Jackson Woods

11-Remembrance Day

11-WMS Ladies Meeeting @ 1:30

13-Playgroup @ 10.

14-Happy Birthday Ryan McLeod

15-Scots Gaidhlig performance at the CCC at 1:15 and 3 pm. Cost is $5

15-Worship downstairs beginning with coffe hour @ 10:30

18-Crinan WI Euchre Party @ Crinan CC @ 1 pm

18-Happy Birthday Isabel Reid

22-Worship @ 11

27-Happy Birthday Gina Harris

28-Happy Bithday Carrie Woods

27-Playgroup @ 10

29-First Sunday of Advent, Candle of Hope. Worship @ 11

SESSION UPDATE - Submitted by Paul McWilliam



We are being blessed with beautiful fall weather as we approach November and harvest is progressing well. We pray that everyone has a safe and blessed harvest.

May we remember to take time on November 11, Remembrance Day, to thank God and reflect on the sacrifices of so many, that allows us the freedom we have today.

It is hard to believe that November is here and it won't be long until we see another year come to a close. A few things to keep in mind over the next couple of months.

- **December 6 is Duff Sunday School Christmas Service - joint service 11:00**
- **December 13 is Communion - service will be downstairs**
- **December 19 is a community Nativity being organized by Know St Andrews in Dutton. Please plan to attend and take part if you would like. For more information talk to Lynda Drummelsmith or Lin McCann.**
- **Christmas Eve service December 24 at 7pm at Largie**
- **Service times will be changing January 3 - Largie will be 9:30, Crinan will be at 11:00 for the next year.**

Paul McWilliam
Session Clerk



PRAISE SONGS



Here's this month's picks. Click and enjoy!

Step By Step You Lead Me

The Greatest Commandment

Sing and Shout - Matt Redman – Children's Praise Song

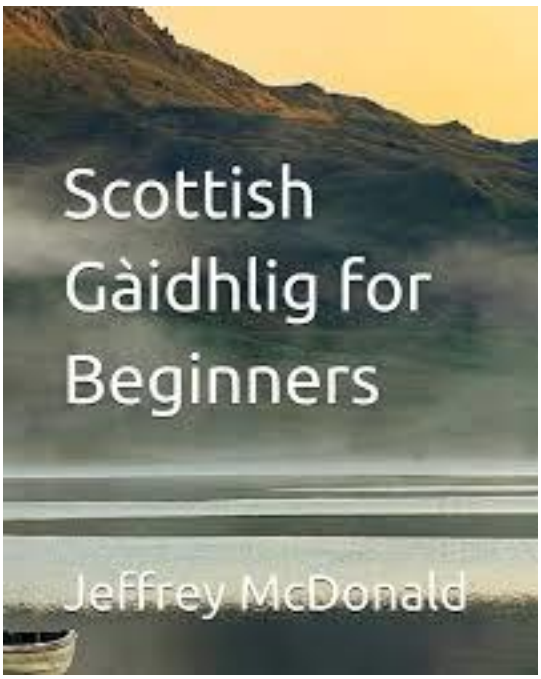
Love the Lord Your God - Children's Praise Song

COMING EVENTS



Contact Barb Ross @ 519-878-9736, or Susan McWilliam (519)3318-3020 or Alan Carroll (519)768-2759 for tickets.

This is the first of many fundraisers to build a picnic shelter. Our indoor capacity is only 65 and this will allow for bigger celebrations in the summer months protected from the sun and rain.



Scots Gaidhlig, You Say!

Sunday, November 15 @ Crinan Community Centre

Seven short historical skits set in the Crinan area in 1910. The Scot Gaidhlig themed skits take a light-hearted approach to the challenges around learning a new language. Come and support our three-person cast as they navigate some everyday activities.

2 sessions on November 15th: 1:15pm and 3 pm.

All Welcome.
$5 admission goes to Crinan Community Centre.

Tickets available at the door.

LADIES AID AND BURNING BUSH GROUP NEWS – Lynda Drummelsmith

Duff Largie Ladies Aid met on Wednesday, October 14 @ 1:30 p.m. in the church classroom with 6 ladies present. The lunch committee served apple cider prior to the meeting.

The meeting opened with President Lin reading the "Land Acknowledgement", and she shared a short thought about Thanksgiving. The minutes of the September meeting were read and approved. Correspondence from Samaritans Purse was shared.

Kathy gave the treasurer's reports for October 14, 2026. The ladies had a very successful Beef Drive Thru supper in September. Thanks to the many hands who helped, and to everyone who supported the supper by buying tickets!

Lin gave the Bobier Villa report

1.) Resident council have a silent auction Nov. 1-30

2.) Auxiliary paying for October Entertainment -Jeremy & Gerrard

3.) Auxiliary is asking each group to make a donation to help with entertainment and birthday gifts.

4.) Largie has tea room on November 1.

Old Business-

Good report from the supper. Meals were enjoyed and very bounteous.

Anniversary luncheon, following the Anniversary service went well.

Lin reported on the Challenge Food drive – over a ton of food etc. was collected!

New Business-

– Coffee hour for October 18, will be looked after by Kathy, Isabel, and Lin

– Barb will be in contact with Nancy West regarding quilt documenting, when Nancy's schedule slows down.

– Barb and Kathy will look after the Bobier Villa tea Room November 1. Lynda and Lin will donate cookies.

– Crinan Hall requested the use of our kitchen facilities for their Drive Thru supper Nov. 7. Moved by Jackie second by Kathy that they have permission to use kitchen. Carried.

– Counter top to be replaced October 15.

– Donation to Bobier Auxiliary will be discussed at our November meeting.

The meeting then switched to the W.M.S. portion of our meeting.

Business – Information for W.M.S. Mission Day at St. James Presbyterian Church was shared-it will be held October 22 we need to R.S.V.P as soon as possible. Cost is $15, will include lunch. Speaker will be Donna Lunn, founder of the Harvest Bowl Initiative. Registration and refreshments at 9:30 a.m. Kathy and Lynda said they would attend. Lynda will check with Marguerite.

Lin thanked today's committees -

Program – Barb & Jackie

Lunch – Isabel & Barb

Roll Call – was answered by 6 ladies – "Something you are Thankful for"

Meeting was then turned over to the Program committee.

Topic for their program was- "Thanksgiving"

Hymn #392 "Come Ye Thankful People Come", vs 1& 2 were sung.

Jackie read Scripture from – Psalm 100 – Poetic Song for Thanksgiving.

Barb had the devotional - "Don't let details distract you from Thanksgiving" She began with a video clip from "Charlie Brown's Thanksgiving" Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Clip (click on the link if you wish to watch)

Hymn #395 "We Plow the Fields" vs 1 was sung.

Jackie closed the meeting with Prayer.

A delicious lunch of fall treats, and social time was enjoyed by all.

Next meeting November 11, 2026 –

Program – Lynda Drummelsmith, Isabel Reid

Lunch – Kathy Minnema, Dianne Lilley

Don't Let Details Distract You From Thankfulness

November 22, 2017 by Tracie Miles

“Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NLT)

In the early 1970s, based on the popular comic strip Peanuts, the first “Charlie Brown Thanksgiving” aired on prime-time television.

How many of you watched this as a child or watched it with your children? Who would have though a cartoon could hold such a meaningful lesson? Linus’ prayer at the dinner table shows how to be thankful at Thanksgiving, and Peppermint Patty’s behavior shows how NOT to be.

Peppermint Patty, upon sitting down at the Thanksgiving table, made the honorable suggestion to say grace before they began eating. But her reason for praying was because, "It’s Thanksgiving, you know."

Peppermint Patty initiated the call to prayer out of perceived obligation, but it was her actions which proved she only had head-knowledge of true thankfulness, not heart-knowledge. As soon as Linus said Amen, she looked around the table and details began to distract her from thankfulness for the gifts they’d been given.

When her expectations of what Thanksgiving should look like didn’t match up with her reality, Patty got upset and irritated. She began to verbally express her dissatisfaction and became annoyed with one of the guests (Snoopy).

She was agitated the food didn’t meet her traditional requirements. She complained and yelled, having quickly forgotten all about Linus’ prayer and the importance of being truly thankful. She became focused on annoyances instead of prayer and true gratitude.

Can you relate?

Unfortunately, this scene is all too familiar in households across the country at Thanksgiving. We have this idea of how we want the holiday to look, but our reality may not match up to our expectations. Difficult circumstances and details can distract us from indebtedness to God.

Today’s key verse, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, says “Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.”

Here we read when we are to be thankful — in all circumstances. And we read why we are to be thankful — because this is God’s will for all believers as He

knows a grateful heart is a happy heart. We can be thankful no matter what we're facing, because God is worthy of our thanksgiving.

In this verse, the Apostle Paul is giving instructions on how to gain heart-knowledge, not just head-knowledge, of true gratitude. We're to be thankful in the midst of all circumstances, not merely those that are easy and pleasant.

This is far easier said than done. God asks us to trust His ways even when we don't understand them. We're to be thankful for the gifts He has given us, not focused on what we don't yet have.

Rarely do families get through Thanksgiving dinner with perfectly cooked food … children with pristine manners … babies who don't cry or refrain from picking inopportune times for dirty diapers … siblings who don't argue … spouses who don't quarrel … drinks that go un-spilled … or family members in total agreement about which football game to watch.

Some years, families are fractured or even distant memories.

The enemy wants to use all these side details to distract us from what we really should be focusing on: the Giver of the gifts, not the gifts themselves.

During the holidays or any day of the year, we can easily morph into a Peppermint Patty if we aren't careful. We don't want to be someone who gives thanks with their mouth and not their heart.

Life's not always easy, and holidays aren't always perfect or peaceful. But we can always have a heart full of thankfulness if we remember Who gives us reasons to be thankful, not just what we're thankful for.

Dear Lord, help me when I start letting details of the holidays, annoying frustrations or unmet expectations distract me from all the reasons I have from You to be abundantly and eternally grateful. Help me have a heart full of thankfulness every day, but especially on the specific day set aside to be grateful for You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

TRUTH FOR TODAY:

James 1:17, "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." (NIV)



1. Advent comes from the Latin word, "adventus," which means what?

a) Adventure
b) Coming
c) Waiting

2. Who announced to Mary that she was chosen to be Christ's mother?

a) Gabriel
b) Michael
c) Raphael

3. What do the candles on the Advent wreath symbolize?

a) Christ, the light of the world
b) The passage of time
c) Warming the chill of winter

4. When Mary visited Elizabeth, who was the child who "leapt for joy" in Elizabeth's womb?

a) Zechariah
b) Herod
c) John the Baptist

5. "Emmanuel" means what?

a) Savior
b) God with us
c) God and man

6. Why is the third candle of the advent wreath rose colored?

a) Rose is the traditional color of the number three
b) It is a color of flowers
c) It's a symbol of joy, reflective of the day's antiphon

7. Advent begins what?

a) The shopping season
b) A new liturgical year
c) The countdown to NFL playoffs

8. Who said, "My soul magnifies the Lord"?

a) Blessed Virgin Mary
b) St. Joseph
c) St. Wenceslaus

Answers are later in the Newsletter

OUTDOOR COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Saturday, December 19th @ 6 pm

This event is being organized by Knox St. Andrews (KSA) and all community members are invited to participate.



Come and experience Journey to Bethlehem as we share the Good News of Jesus' birth with our wider community. Our journey begins at the McIntyre Lot, where we will meet Mary and Joseph as they make their way to Bethlehem for the census. Along the journey, angels will appear to the shepherds to announce the wonderful news of Jesus' Birth. We will continue to Centennial Park Gazebo where we will meet the Baby Jesus in the manger. Then we return to KSA where we will celebrate the Good News of Jesus birth with Hot Chocolate and Cookies.

Christmas Carols will be sung throughout the pageant, filling our journey with the wonder of the Christmas season.

We are looking for people to participate.

Contact Lynda Drummelsmith (519) 673-8512 or Lin McCann 519) 859-2534.

For the Fallen (1914) by Laurence Binyon

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night.

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

For the Fallen by Laurence Binyon

By September of 1914, mere weeks after the start of the First World War, the British army had already suffered thousands of casualties at the hands of the German Empire. During the Battle of Mons (August 1914), 1,600 British sacrificed their lives. Later that same month at the Battle of Cateau, there were another 7,812 British casualties. Then in September, during the bloody First Battle of the Marne, a total of 81,000 defending French and British soldiers died while facing the invaders.

Emotionally moved by the deaths of so many young men, Binyon wrote "For the Fallen" while overlooking the Atlantic Ocean from Britain's Cornwall cliffs. His poem was published in *The Times* and it quickly gained notoriety, bringing together a nation that was mourning its losses. In 2001, A plaque was created to commemorate the place where Binyon wrote the poem.

At the time of the war, Binyon was too old to join the army. He did, however, volunteer as an orderly with the Red Cross on the Western Front in 1916. He wrote about his experiences in his book *For Dauntless France* (available online).

During Remembrance Day ceremonies, the Canadian Armed Forces recite the poem as an Act of Remembrance for the fallen, often taking place after the gun salutes. During the First World War, nearly 620,000 Canadians enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Forces, of which 61,000 died and another 172,000 were wounded.

Binyon passed away in 1943.

Source: https://valourcanada.ca/military-history-library/for-the-fallen-poem/



If you have prayer requests, would like a pastoral visit or would like to get in touch with Pastor Wilma, here's her contact info.

Pastor Wilma Boyce

Telephone: 226-504-3224

Email: wilma_boyce@hotmail.com

Presbyterians **Sharing**

Presbyterians Sharing funds the mission and ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, bringing people together from across Canada to live out God's mission.



Out of $100 given to Presbyterians Sharing:

$63
equips ministries in Canada by providing grants for congregations, camps, theological colleges and other ministries; producing educational resources; hosting webinars and events; stewarding congregational investments; and supporting governance and justice work

$16
accompanies mission partners in Canada and internationally

$13
supports ministries with Indigenous people

$8
ensures good stewardship of the gifts with strong financial and administrative support

Your gifts:



- support the faith journey of young people
- bring people together to prayerfully seek God's direction through General Assembly
- support presbyteries as they launch new and renew established faith communities
- equip leaders to serve the church in Canada and around the world through theological and lay education
- fund projects and ministries supporting truth, reconciliation, healing and reparation with Indigenous people
- accompany international partners through grants and mission staff as they share the good news of Christ
- address causes and consequences of poverty, racism, oppression, conflict and violence

… and so much more!

THANK YOU! Your gifts are making a difference.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada

50 Wynford Dr. Toronto, ON M3C 1J7
1-800-619-7301
presbyterian.ca/sharing

2609130701

At our first week together in October, we had our largest attendance ever….12 children and their caregivers. Word travels fast about what we do and how much fun we have. We hope that they will keep coming back…"the more, the merrier"! We read a book about Thanksgiving and then played and had our craft time…a sucker with a coffee filter wrapped around it. That's my kind of ghost!



When we met on October 30, we took full advantage of the Hallowe'en theme. Our story was Peep and Egg by Laura Gehl. Peep is so excited to go trick-or-treating with her friend Egg. She wants to visit the duck pond and the cow pasture to get treats. But Egg thinks Halloween is too scary, with frightening monsters possibly lurking everywhere! Peep tells her jokes because laughing helps you feel less scared. Egg is still not cracking. But soon Egg learns that maybe trick-or-treating is not so scary after all when you have a friend to hold on to. Isn't that the truth…life is better with a friend!









We had some stations set up where the children could toss the hoola hoop on the pylon, bean bag toss, and wrap a banana like a mummy. We danced to the Monster Mash and then played or did some crafts. Each child received a treat bag.

See you on November 13 and 27.



Light Fruit Cake

Submitted by Marguerite Boyd from Grandma's Touch Cookbook

Rich, Moist & Full of Fruit

8 oz. diced candied pineapple	1 lb. butter at room temperature
1 lb. red glaceed cherries	1 c. sugar
1 lb. green glaceed cherries	8 eggs
2 lbs. light raisins	5 c. flour
1 lb. mixed cut peel	1 c. apple juice
1 lb. whole blanched almonds	1 tsp. almond extract
½ c. brandy	

- In a very large bowl, soak the fruit and almonds in brandy overnight.
- The next morning, in a large mixing bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until light. Add the eggs and beat until well blended. Add the flour, juice and almond extract; beat until batter is smooth.
- Stir egg batter into soaked fruits. Mix well.
- Prepare 3, 5x9" (13 x 23 cm) loaf pans by lining them with buttered heavy-duty waxed paper or brown paper. Turn batter into pans.
- Bake on centre rack at 300°F for 30 minutes. Reduce oven to 250°F and continue baking for an additional 3 hours. During baking time have a pan of hot water in the bottom of the oven. Replenish this water if it evaporates during baking.

NOTE: this recipe contains no baking powder
YIELD: 3 LOAVES



We have had 6 children on a regular basis this month ranging in age from Junior Kindgergarten to Grade 2. Our stories this month have been from the Old Testament including Jonah and the Whale and the baby Moses. During the Sunday that we have church downstairs, we are coordinating our lesson with what the adults are hearing. During the next three months, these Sundays will focus on the miracles of Jesus. In October, we studied the miracle of Jesus healing the centurion's servant. The children enjoyed the story and then made a centurion's helmet. They did a great job.

Everyone (adults and children) is encouraged to participate in the Community Christmas Pageant on December 19 in Dutton. Check the earlier pages of the newsletter for more information. What a great family activitiy participate in and to experience the real meaning of Christmas.



Join us on Sunday, December 6 @ 11 am for our annual Family Christmas service. We will have music and messages to celebrate the Advent season. Invite your family and friend and don't forget to bring your favourite food for our potluck after.

Can't wait to see you!

Mark this date on your calendar along with the Community Christmas Pageant on December 19. Both are wonderful ways to experience the true meaning of the Christmas season.

HALLOWE'EN TREAT BAGS AT THE CHURCH

Glad to see so many trick or treaters come out on such a beautiful night. Lots of great costumes and not one the same! We had 20 children visit us.

















Answers to Bible Trivia Challenge

1.b	5. b
2.a	6. c
3.a	7. b
4.c	8. a



Deadline is November 27

for the December Newsletter