

Chalmers' Spirit

February Congregational Breakfast with Thom & David McClenaghan

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Welcome to March!

Will March come in like a lion this year? No matter what the weather, it will surely go out like "a lamb" since Easter falls on March 31st.

Please watch for all of the Holy Week services and activities in March and join in.

March also brings us World Day of Prayer. We join with several other churches for this event and each church takes a turn hosting. This year the service will be at London First Church of the Nazarene, 179 Wellington Street at 2pm on Friday, March 1st.

One-Day Wonder comes on

Saturday, March 2nd for those junior youth in grades 6-8. If you'd like more information, please contact Linda Adamson or Amy Kemp (or myself).

And don't forget the Social & Communications' trip to see To Kill A Mockingbird at the Palace Theatre on March 3rd as well.

Our next youth lunch is on Sunday, March 3rd and we'll be celebrating Mardi Gras—a little late, but we're okay with that!

Looks like we're going to start March off with a bang!



Letter from the Editor by Lizz Thibodeau

One of my friends broke his leg a couple of weeks ago. Wasn't funny at all!!! It was a very bad break, he was on a ski trip in California when it happened (he's from England) and he had to have surgery to repair it. It'll be twelve weeks of recovery. Not funny at all. But his facebook posting this morning was funny: "If one more person says that perhaps I broke my leg because God was trying to tell me to slow down, I'm going to punch them in the face. NOT HELPFUL." (Perhaps not the best response on his part, but I I'm sure he was just joking). But it made me think. I have had an absolutely crazy week! Way too many things to get done and nowhere near enough time to do them in. By Tuesday, I thought I was going to have a meltdown! And on top of everything else I had to do, Torry's been off sick all week!!! On Wednesday, I had to take a deep breath, examine my endless to do list and really prioritize what NEEDED to get done and what could wait. Thursday morning, I sat down to one of the projects I was working on and discovered that I was much further along than I remembered from where I finished Wednesday night—I'm actually seriously considering the fact that the Shoemaker gave his elves a vacation and they came here for a night! By Thursday afternoon I had enough done that I could sit and watch a movie with my children. Friday, I still had work to do and deadlines to meet, but I had re-prioritized enough stuff that I could take the time to work on some math problems with Torry. Perhaps there was a reason that Torry was home sick this week. Perhaps God wanted me to take a deep breath and stop to think about what's really important. I don't believe that God is sitting on a cloud somewhere firing lightning bolts at people saying, "Thou shalt breaketh thy leg so that thou shalt spend more time in prayer!" But I do think that God cares about us deeply and doesn't want us to live our lives in a whirlwind. We need to take time to breathe and to enjoy the people God has given to us. And during this most Holy of Holy seasons, is it right to be this busy? A line from one of Rev. John's sermons a few weeks back really struck a chord with me. He said, "I have good news and better news. The good news is that there is a God. The better news is that it isn't you!" It's easy to forget that someone else is in control; someone else is in charge. It's easy to try to do everything yourself. The sign by my phone says, "Hello, this is God. I will be handling all of your problems and concerns today. That's my job. Your job is to give them to me and then to trust me. Have a great day!" Sometimes those of us deeply involved in the church are the ones who most need to be reminded of this. At Easter, there are so many things we want to do: We need to prepare the drama, we need to rehearse the anthem, we need to write the sermon, we need to plan the Bible-Read-a-thon, we need to set up for the breakfast, (we need to write the newsletter), we need to... we need to... we need to... We need to "Be still and know that I am God."

Contact me!

- Comments, new emails? Let me know: lizzt@rogers.com

Chalmers Presbyterian Church

Bible Read-A-Thon

Good Friday 29th March



3.00 p.m. - 12.30 a.m.

Cost \$5.00 - includes supper

must be in grade 7-8 or High School

**for more information contact
Lizz Thibodeau or Abbey Poser**

Don't miss the family-fun with the hilarious



**VS
THE SLAM DUNK SALLYS**

7:00 p.m. Friday, April 12

FANSHAWE COLLEGE COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTRE

The Harlem Ambassadors offer a unique brand of Harlem-style basketball, featuring high-flying slam dunks, dazzling ball-handling tricks and hilarious comedy routines. Watch them as they take on a team of students, media, fire, police and other local players.

TICKETS:

Advance: \$9 adults, \$7 seniors/students
At the door: \$11 adults, \$9 seniors/students
OR pre-game pricing with a 2-item food donation to The Salvation Army Food Bank.
Children 5 and under are free.

Tickets are available at:

- The Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters 371 King Street
- Fanshawe College Student Biz Booth
- FREE FM Radio Station Richmond Street at Picadilly
- or call 519-433-6106

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Giving Hope Today



Proceeds towards Salvation Army programs
and services in London and area

Photo Directory is Coming!

Wednesday, April 24th—Saturday, April 27th!!! Please plan to be part of our church photo directory! IT WOULDN'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU!

There are two options for registration:

- 1) Go online to www.chalmerslondon.com and click on the button that says "Portrait Sign Up". The process is really fast and easy. And I'm not just saying that! The feedback I've received so far has been, "Hey, that was really fast and easy!" I know a lot of people have already done this—thank you!
- 2) If "online" is not your thing, just see Erica or I after church any Sunday for the next month and we will register you.

There is no cost to have your portrait taken. Everyone who participates gets a free photo directory and a free 8x10 portrait. There are packages available for those who wish to purchase, but there is no obligation to buy—Lifetouch works with many churches and does not expect everyone to buy, but wants to encourage everyone to take part!

Grab a Book by Christine Hunter

Project Black Bear (The China Tate Series) by Lissa Halls Johnson

Ages 12+



China Tate and Deedee Kiersey are friends; in fact China is staying with Deedee's family while her parents are out of the country.

China and Deedee live at a summer camp, run by Deedee's parents, and they both help with the day to day running of the camp. But they also find time to get up to mischief. When they see two young black bears, they decide to leave some food out for the bears in the hope that they can tame them and make them like pets. Of course this is really not a good idea, andwell you need to read the book to see just how this plan turns out!

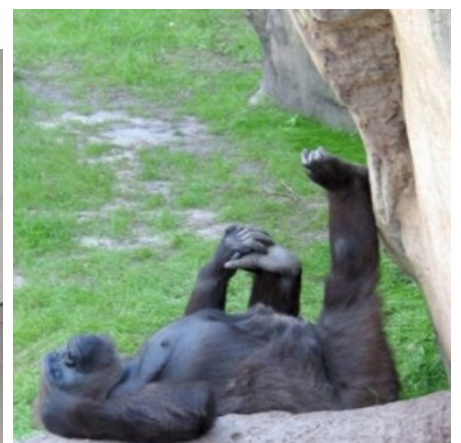
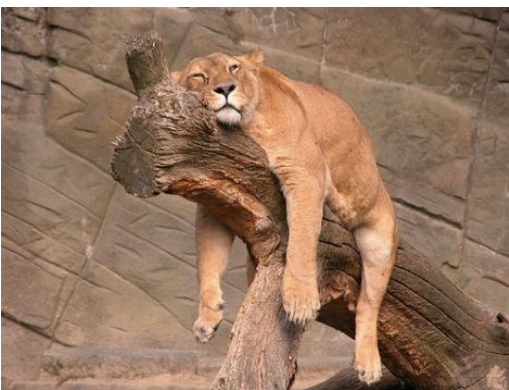
I would be interested to know how you enjoyed this book – and we do have another two books in the China Tate series:

Wishing upon a Star
Sliced Heather on Toast.

Christine Hunter, Librarian

Take Time to Smile!

In keeping with the theme of my article on being overwhelmed, many of us let ourselves get over-tired. Perhaps these photos will serve as a reminder that we all need to get a good night's rest!



A Word on Evangelism by Debbie Kemp

Evangelism and Measuring Success

Many workplaces talk about “outcomes” these days. Outcomes are not just what we want to see happen at the end of this process, but how do we measure success. Without outcome measures, we cannot tell if our time, effort and money have been worthwhile. So what does success look like for evangelism? For many people it is about church growth. In fact, there is a committee at the church that is called Evangelism and Church Growth. We can and do count the number of people who attend most Communion services, and the number of people at each service. It is an easy measurement to do. New members are counted and we are happy when people make such a commitment to join our community. But is coming or joining Chalmers the best way to measure our efforts at sharing Christ to those around us?

Which of the following does not represent successful evangelism?

-someone asks a question about prayer while we are delivering flyers (and we did our best to answer it)

-a person who attends a group that rents from Chalmers comes to the Christmas Eve service

-Fifteen kids show up to a PD Day Camp at the church

-a person visits the church during the week in their time of need

OK, that was a trick question! I think all of these would be true.






You see, I don't think that evangelism is just about getting more people to come to Chalmers, although if more of our friends and neighbours join us that would be great. The goal of evangelism, in my opinion, is that more people will experience the forgiveness, joy and peace that come with serving our crucified, risen Lord.

In Paul's first letter to the Corinthians he talks about everyone having a part in spreading the Gospel but it is God who is responsible for the changed lives. “I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow....For we are God's co-workers, you are God's field, God's building.” (I Cor 3:6, 7, 9)

Anything that we do in obedience to God is not wasted in that person's life. It will bear fruit at some point, even if we never see it. So keep befriending the stranger; spending time and energy on your friendships; serving the poor, sick and needy; and God will make that seed of faith grown in that person, just like he did in us. God will bring the outcome.



April 2013 - Chalmers Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31  10am Worship - Easter Sunday 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Coffee Time 11:15am Library Open 11:30am Children's Choir	1 Easter Monday Holiday	2 9:30am Pastoral Care 10:30am Session Exec 1pm Care & Share 1pm Seniors' Fitness 7:30pm Policy & Planning 7:30pm CE & Faith Development	3 2:15pm Knitting 6pm Stewardship Team 7:30pm Reach Out Rehearsal	4 6:25pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:30pm Senior Choir rehearsal	5 9am Seniors' Fitness 1pm Seniors' Euchre 7pm Youth Ministry Conference @ Best Western	6 9am Youth Ministry Conference @ Best Western
7  10am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Coffee Time 11:15am Library Open 11:30am Youth Group 11:30am Children's Choir	8 1:30pm Walkfit 6:30pm Mission 7pm Worship Committee 7pm Stephen Ministry	9 1pm Care & Share 1pm Seniors' Fitness 7:30pm Social & Communication	10 2:15pm Knitting 7pm Worship Cte 7:30pm Reach Out Rehearsal	11 6:25pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:30pm Senior Choir rehearsal	12 9am Seniors' Fitness 1pm Seniors' Euchre 7pm Harlem Ambassadors Basketball @ Fanshawe College	13
14  10am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Library Open 11:30am Children's Choir 11:30am Congregational Meeting	15 1:30pm Walkfit 6:30pm Evangelism 7:30pm Worship Planning Team	16 1pm Care & Share 1pm Seniors' Fitness 7:30pm Session	17 2:15pm Knitting 7:30pm Reach Out Rehearsal	18 6:25pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:30pm Senior Choir rehearsal	19 9am Seniors' Fitness 1pm Seniors' Euchre	20
21 8am Congregational Breakfast  10am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Coffee Time 11:15am Library Open 11:30am ...	22 1:30pm Walkfit 7pm Stephen Ministry 7:30pm Mary Moffat Bible Studies	23 10am Y4C Sandwich preparation 1pm Care & Share 1pm Seniors' Fitness	24 2pm Photo Directory 2:15pm Knitting 7:30pm Reach Out Rehearsal	25 2pm Photo Directory 6:25pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:30pm Senior Choir rehearsal 7:30pm Property Management	26 9am Seniors' Fitness 1pm Seniors' Euchre 2pm Photo Directory	27 10am Photo Directory
28  10am Anniversary Sunday Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Coffee Time 11:15am Library Open 11:30am Children's Choir	29 1:30pm Walkfit Bible Studies	30 1pm Care & Share 1pm Seniors' Fitness	1 2:15pm Knitting 7:30pm Reach Out Rehearsal	2 6:25pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:30pm Senior Choir rehearsal	3 9am Seniors' Fitness 1pm Seniors' Euchre	4 9am Congregational Retreat @ Pearce Williams

This calendar is updated throughout the month as activities are added or change. Please check it out!

http://www.chalmerslondon.com/church_calendar.htm

Last Laugh!

