

# Chalmers' Spirit

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## Contact me!

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

## In February!

It looks like February is shaping up to be a busy month so get your planners out and get ready.

The first Sunday in February is Communion. You should be receiving a visit from your elder between now and then. If you feel comfortable, please invite them in for a chat—your elder is your voice on session. If you have concerns, questions, suggestions or things that you are enjoying about Chalmers, let your elder know!

The following Sunday is the Annual Congregational General & Budget Meeting. I know many people hear that title and think “Boring”, but don’t! I have been dragged to every budget meeting and every AGM at Chalmers since I was tiny and I certainly did find them boring as a child (By the way, there is a program for children to keep them amused during this

meeting), but as I grew up, I began to look forward to these meetings! Seriously!!



This is a chance to hear what all of the committees have been doing over the past year and find out their plans for the coming year. It was at one such meeting as a young adult that I heard what the Mission Committee was doing and decided to get involved. This year we are combining the Annual Meeting with the Budget meeting, so we will also be looking at the budget for the upcoming year. While this might not sound “exciting”, I do find it quite interesting, but even more, as a member of Chalmers I feel that it’s vitally important to be

there to discuss this. If we choose to accept a budget that relies on greater income next year, we need to ALL commit to creating that higher income. If we choose to cut programs to reduce the income needed, I certainly want to be there to have some input on what is cut. I hope you will take my rant to heart and join us on Sunday, February 12th at noon (a sandwich lunch is provided).

The last weekend of February is Synergy (see page 9) which I hope some of our youth are thinking about attending. It’s also the start of Lent, so it will be the start of the Lenten Rotation in Sunday Morning Youth. And it’s our second in the Soup-er Sunday Series, to raise funds for the youth planning to attend CY2012 in July.

Please join us!



## From the Editor

Earlier this month, at Contemporary Worship, Rev. John posed the question "Who is Jesus?" The set-up went like this: You're having a coffee in between services one week and a friend comes to talk to you, confiding in you that they're going through a faith crisis and they need your support. And then they ask you, "Who is Jesus?" How would you answer them? Rev. John actually opened the discussion up to those of us in attendance and there were some great answers. "Messiah", "Redeemer", "My Comforter", "The embodiment of Forgiveness." But as I listened to the answers and tried to form one in my own mind, none of those answers seemed to fit the question. They're all true and important, but to someone from the church who is struggling, they aren't enough. In some ways, they're the answers we're taught. This person asking for our help already knows

those answers, but is still struggling.

As I sat and listened to Rev. John read a passage about the historical details of Jesus, it struck me: Jesus IS a historical figure. That much is fact. The

**"But if he did... if he did... then that changes everything!"**

question lies in, did He rise from the dead? If he didn't, then he was a good man who had good teachings who did good things and he's a good role model. But if he did... if he did... then that changes everything! So the question that each one of us has to answer is not who is Jesus, but do I believe that He rose from the dead. And if I answer yes to that question, it MUST

affect every aspect of my life, my family, my very essence. That is not a question that can only be answered on Sunday mornings. That is not an answer that can be put on a shelf and dusted off when it's convenient. If I believe that Jesus was raised from the dead, nothing else matters. All of the other questions become trivial. How many people did he Really feed at the feeding of the 5000? Trivial. Was the world created in 7 days literally or figuratively? Not important. Should we read from the Good News Bible or the New International Reader's Version? Irrelevant.

If I believe that Jesus was raised from the dead, there is nothing else to say. And if someone is going through a faith crisis, that is where they need to start. That is where faith starts. That is where it all starts. And Ends. And begins again. Amen.

## Chili Night 2012





## Photo Time!



"Here we go a-carolling..."



Hockey Day in Belmont



Congregational Breakfast—Heather Bannerman:  
A Pharmacy Student in Namibia

## Happy Birthday!

I have lots of Birthdays recorded for Children & youth in March, but I only know of one adult who is celebrating.



If you know of any adults in the church with birthdays in March, please let me know (so that I can let everyone else know!!!)

### Children & Youth

Feb. 2nd—Crissy Ball is 14.  
Feb. 13th—Josiah Duffin is 7.  
Feb. 20th—Naomi Duffin is 6.  
Feb. 24th—Julie Vlieger is 6.  
Feb. 27th—Colin Ball is 11.  
Feb. 15th—Hunter Nurse is 10.

### Adults

Feb. 8th—Gail McHardy-Leitch  
Feb. 10th—Kim Poser  
Feb. 18th—Lorraine Woods  
Feb. 24th—May Lee-Jarvis  
Feb. 25th—Robyn MacKeigan  
Feb. 26th—Jackie Brown-Harrett  
Feb. 26th—Linda Murray

## Grab A Book! By Christine Hunter

### I Can Pray with Jesus

by Debbie Trafton O'Neal

Ages 2 – 6 years

What a lovely book this is. It can be read by a beginner reader (with help from a parent), but is a lovely book to read to your little one. It goes through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, giving examples of what this phrase means to a child. Your little one could be learning the words to this wonderful prayer as you read this book together. It is also an encouragement to 'talk to God' anytime, anywhere, about anything – a valuable lesson at any age.

Consider signing this book out and spending some precious time reading and sharing with your child!

Ah..... precious times!

### Riddles from the Hope Chest

by Becky Freeman

Ages 7 – 10 years

### **Camp Wanna Banana Series**

Joy and Jake are 10 year old twins whose parents own and run Camp Wanna Banana. Their best friends are twins Maria and Marco – and the four of them are amateur detectives. Whenever there is a mystery at Camp Wanna Banana – they get together and try to figure out what is going on – and how to solve the problem.

In this story Joy mistakenly opens a neighbor's mail ..... and can't stop herself from just reading a little bit of it ..... and then another little bit .....and then she takes a huge jump into what the message means. Well I think I have told you enough! Oh what

a tangle Joy creates - read and see what happens and how they finally put things to right!

Wouldn't you just want to read anything about a Camp called Wanna-Banana?

Blessings and Happy Reading

Christine Hunter, Librarian



# Guess WHO'S coming to Dinner

**WITH A TWIST**

This will be a fundraiser for a new heating & A/C unit for Chalmers

The host/hostess will collect \$10.00  
from each guest  
The host/hostess does not pay.

If you would like to be part of this fun event  
but feel you don't have room for 4 extra people at your table  
sign up anyway but let us know this.  
We will make every effort to fit you in.

You will be notified where you will be going to eat a week in advance.

Please fill in the lower portion of this sheet and hand it to Doris Tutt by January 29<sup>th</sup>. Contact number is 519-681-7298 or [doristutt@yahoo.ca](mailto:doristutt@yahoo.ca)

*(This is an adult only evening)*

## Sunday Morning Youth Envelopes

For all parents or caregivers of Sunday Morning Youth Participants: SMY offering envelopes are available from Judy Steward. Although SMY does receive funding through the budget to

cover the cost of curriculum, we use SMY offerings to cover all other supplies (markers, paper, glue, craft supplies, and food—especially for the Lent & Christmas rotations). There are several ways that you can help—children can bring their weekly offering with them to SMY, adults can make a designated offering on their envelopes, or supplies can be donated directly to SMY. We deeply appreciate everyone's support!!!





## Who's Helping?

	February 5 <sup>th</sup> Holy Communion	February 12 <sup>th</sup>	February 19 <sup>th</sup> All Ages Worship	February 26 <sup>th</sup>
Little Worship Assistant (9:00 service)	Erica MacKay	Bev Cameron	No Children's Program	Courtney
Preschool Assistant (10:30 service)	John Biro Jr.	Cathy Spooner	No Children's Program	Phyllis Johnston
Coffee Time Volunteers (between ser-	No Coffee Fellowship	Gail & Don Leitch	Bob & Mary Taylor	Marilyn & Dave McFadden
World of Welcome (10:30 service)	Heather Reid Holly Williams Kim Poser Bev Cameron Dennis Smedley Betty Burrows	Muriel Bertling Debbie Scott Cathy Spooner Keith Spooner Ruth Laidlaw Paul Laidlaw	Mary & Bob Taylor Harry Soedarmasto Siska Soedarmasto Yunesta Soedarmasto Yunika Soedarmasto Heather deHoog	Linda Murray Bill Murray Yvonne Daniel Paul Nutt Kathy Colledge Jackie Bannerman
Offering Counters (after 10:30 service)	Brenda & Todd Webster	Bob & Mary Taylor	Bob & Mary Taylor	Heather Reid Marian Weldon
Library Volunteers (after 10:30 service)	Shirley Hall	Christine Hunter	Joyce Kilbourne	Margaret Holdsworth

This page has been steadily growing over the past few months. I used to include the volunteers who helped with Children's Programming when the newsletter was directed at families of children & youth. When it was expanded to be a full congregational newsletter, I started including more of the Sunday morning volunteers. If there is another group of Sunday morning volunteers that I have missed, please let me know—I would be happy to include them. If you are not on any of the above lists and would like to be involved, just let me know and I'll put you in touch with the corresponding co-ordinator. Most volunteers are called upon between 3 & 6 times a year.

## Coffee Time Volunteers

One area that is looking for extra volunteers right now is Coffee Time. If you are able to help set up, serve and clean up once every few months, please let Laurie Spence-Bannerman know (519-281-9876 or [spence-bannerman@sympatico.ca](mailto:spence-bannerman@sympatico.ca)).



# YA YA

Chalmers Youth and Young Adult Newsletter

**From the desk of Laurie  
Ponsford-Hill  
Youth Co-ordinator**

## YaYa February

The month of January has yielded two promotion videos that were created by our youth (at our two youth nights held the first and second Friday of every month) to use in worship to promote upcoming youth events this spring. The first was for:

## SYNERGY

will take place the weekend of February 24-26<sup>th</sup> @ Crieff Hills Community Puslinch, ON. This is a weekend retreat in preparation for Canada Youth, later this summer. If you would like to participate in a youth filled spiritual learning experience and do not have an entire week to devote to it in the summer for Canada Youth, spending the weekend at Synergy is another option.



## ODW – One Day Wonder

Spend the day with other youth grade 6-8 learning about and visiting mission stops, participating in worship, crafts, games, sports, music and more starting at 9:30 and ending at 7:30.

Other upcoming events include;

### Soup R Sunday

Fundraising soup event after church to raise funds for youth and adults who are going to participate in the week long event of Canada Youth this July.

**Parents Night**, guest speaker John DeBruyn from

Thames Valley Addiction Services, speaking about drug use in youth and the effects on the family, from 6-7pm in the upper hall. The Tuesday nights, 6-7 Feb, 14, 21, 28, and March 6 will be follow up nights with youth.

**Youth Group** will meet Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> to continue to create 2 more videos to promote BRAT and Canada Youth. If you would like to help or would like to supply a testimonial, let me know!

**CREDO** youth opportunity to become a member of the Presbyterian church, contact Rev. John if you would like to join in

REGISTER ONLINE AT:  
[WWW.SYNERGYEVENT.CA](http://WWW.SYNERGYEVENT.CA)



# "SPARK"



**PYPS SYNERGY YOUTH EVENT**  
**FEBRUARY 24-26, 2012 • CRIEFF HILLS**

**AN EVENT FOR YOUTH 14-19**

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN CNOB & SWO PYPS,  
CRIEFF HILLS COMMUNITY & CANADIAN MINISTRIES

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA**

**\$70**



# ONE DAY WONDER

*"MAKE SOME NOISE"*

Saturday March 3rd 2012

9:30am to 7pm

Grades 6 to 8

St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church

910 Huron Road, London, ON

Please register for this event by contacting  
Rev. Mavis Currie at 519-633-1410 or [m.currie@knoxstthomas.ca](mailto:m.currie@knoxstthomas.ca)  
with your name, age and any health issues by February 18th, 2012  
Completed Registration forms can be handed in on the day of the event  
(you can ask your minister or youth leader for one of these – or print one off  
from the presbytery website at [www.presbylondon.ca](http://www.presbylondon.ca))



# February 2012 – Updated 25 January 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 2:15 pm Knitting group 7:30 pm Reach Out rehearsal	<b>2</b> 1pm-2pm Care & Share 7:30 pm Senior Choir	<b>3</b> 6:30 pm CW practice 7pm Youth Group	<b>4</b> Guess Who's Coming to Dinner - Part I
<b>5</b> <b>9 am Contemp. Worship</b> No Coffee Fellowship <b>10:30 am Worship</b> Holy Communion will be served at both services 12:00 Children's Choir 2 pm Book of the Month Gathering	<b>6</b> 1:30 pm Walkfit 7:30 pm Worship Planning Team chez Lizz	<b>7</b> 9:30 am Pastoral Care 10 am Session Executive 1pm-2pm Care & Share 7:30 pm CE & Faith Develop. 7:30pm Policy & Planning	<b>8</b> 2:15 pm Knitting group 7:30 pm Reach Out rehearsal	<b>9</b> 1pm-2pm Care & Share 7:30 pm Senior Choir	<b>10</b> 6:30 pm CW practice 7pm Youth Group Theatre Night - Palace Theatre: Treasure Island	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <b>9 am Contemp. Worship</b> 10am Coffee Time <b>10:30 am Worship</b> 12:00 Children's Choir Noon Chalmers Budget & AGM 3:30 pm Meadow Park Service	<b>13</b> 1:30 pm Walkfit 7pm Stephen Ministry 7:30 pm Worship Committee	<b>14</b> 1pm-2pm Care & Share 6-7pm Youth - Addictions 7:30 pm Social & Communication	<b>15</b> 2:15 pm Knitting group 7:30 pm Reach Out rehearsal	<b>16</b> 1pm-2pm Care & Share 7:30 pm Senior Choir	<b>17</b> 6:30 pm CW practice	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 7:30 am Men's Breakfast <b>9 am Contemp. Worship</b> 10am Coffee Time <b>10:30 am Worship</b> 12:00 Children's Choir	<b>20</b> <b>FAMILY DAY</b> 6:30 pm Evangelism	<b>21</b> 1pm-2pm Care & Share 6-7pm Youth - Addictions 7:30 pm Session	<b>22</b> <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 2:15 pm Knitting group 7 pm Ash Wed. worship 7 pm Reach Out @ McCormick Home	<b>23</b> 1pm-2pm Care & Share 7:30 pm Senior Choir 7:30pm Property Management	<b>24</b> 6:30 pm CW practice	<b>25</b> SYNERGY → Guess Who's Coming to Dinner - Part II
<b>26 - Lent I</b> → <b>9 am Contemp. Worship</b> 10am Coffee Time <b>10:30 am Worship</b> 12:00 Children's Choir Noon "Soup"er Sunday 7pm Stephen Ministry	<b>27</b> 1:30 pm Walkfit	<b>28</b> 1pm-2pm Care & Share 6-7pm Youth - Addictions	<b>29</b> 2:15 pm Knitting group 7:30 pm Reach Out rehearsal	<div> <b>This calendar is updated throughout the month as activities are added or change. Please check it out!</b>  <a href="http://www.chalmerslondon.com/church_calendar.htm">http://www.chalmerslondon.com/church_calendar.htm</a> </div>		

## Last Laugh!

