

Chalmers' Spirit

Welcome the Little Children!

The nursery at Chalmers has, for the past few years, been a place where parents can take their babies and small children to listen to the service over the speaker system while their child plays or sleeps or feeds. While this format works, sometimes it would be nice for parents to be able to remain in worship while their child is looked after by another caring adult. Bev Cameron has offered to

be available to the nursery on a regular basis but we need to always have 2 responsible care-givers to meet our Leading with Care standards. So I am looking for some people who are willing to volunteer to help care for these littlest of God's family. If you are willing to help (teens welcome too!), please let me know and I'll get a volunteer schedule made up as quickly as I can.



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Contact me!

- Comments, new emails? Let me know:
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A New Year!

I know at this time of year, a lot of people like to make New Year's Resolutions. Sometimes this can be a useful tool for reaching a difficult goal. This year, I would like to encourage you to think about a New Year's Resolution that involves Chalmers.

Chalmers runs with the help of many committees and groups. Many of these are struggling right now to find enough volunteers! In some cases, volunteering a couple of hours a month would make a huge difference. Watch the coming announcements to see where you can help.



Photo Time!

A little Christmas social time after the December Session meeting!



Around the church—in December

More Photos!



White gift Sunday



Celebrating the end of the Mayan Calendar (and then some carol singing)!

Joy is a Song!



Helping at the Salvation Army Kettle—our dedicated coordinator Andrew and faithful volunteer Harold.



The Children's Choir, Senior Choir and Reachout Singers sharing the joy of Christmas throughout December!



It's a "Chili" night in January

join us for our

14th Annual Chili Contest
and meal

Saturday January 12th, 2013

at 6:00 pm

cost \$5.00 per person

**Sign-up for the contest and
make your favourite chili recipe**

OR

**sign-up to come and enjoy
fellowship and food**

**Who will be
"Chili Champ 2013?"
can you predict the winner?**

sign-up sheet in the narthex

A Word on Evangelism by Debbie Kemp

Evangelism – What NOT To Do

John Bowen coined a phrase “Flasher Evangelism”. Catchy phrase, isn’t it? Imagine you are sitting alone in the food court and someone comes up and sits down without asking. Then that person asks you if you are saved. Before you can answer, the person tells you that if were to die today and are not saved, you could burn in hell. Then the person leaves. That is an example of Flasher Evangelism. John Bowen describes this approach as “inappropriate, violent, de-humanizing.” He describes schools of thought that the unsaved are the enemy to be conquered or that evangelism is a marketing campaign to attract converts.

How did Jesus call his followers? Certainly not like this. He had conversations with people. He asked them questions and showed concern. In of all his interactions with people he showed respect for where they were. Although he did not dance around the truth, his love for them was never in doubt. He met their physical needs as well as fed them spiritually.

Coming to Christ for most of us is not a single mountain-top experience, it is a process; it is a journey and takes time. We have learned that this journey is easiest in a community of faith, where we don’t have to put on false pretenses, where people accept us in spite of our faults and where it is OK to ask questions. Just as we learned what God is like by seeing Christ, people can learn what Christ is like by being with Christians.

So how do we share Christ? – First be a friend. “You have to see, like, approach and serve people if you want to become their spiritual friend – we need to earn the right to be heard” (John Bowen) It is up to God to bring that person to Christ. Knowing that takes a lot of pressure off, doesn’t it? I can be a friend and trust that God will use me to help that person in whatever way is needed.

So make more friends.



Take Time to Smile!



January 2013 - Chalmers Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10am Worship - All Ages 11:15 am Coffee Time	31	1	2 7:30pm Policy & Planning	3	4	5
6 10am Worship - Epiphany 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Coffee Time 11:30am Youth Group	7 1:30pm Walkfit 7pm Stephen Ministry	8 10:30am Session Executive 1pm Care & Share 1:30pm Seniors' Fitness 7:30pm Social & Communication 7:30pm CE & Faith Development	9 6pm Stewardship Team 7:30pm Reachout rehearsal	10 6:25pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:30pm Senior Choir rehearsal	11 9am Seniors' Fitness 1pm Seniors' Euchre	12 6pm Chili Night
13 10am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Coffee Time	14 1:30pm Walkfit 6:30pm Leading with Care 7:30pm Worship Committee	15 1pm Care & Share 1:30pm Seniors' Fitness 7pm Session	16 2:15pm Knitting 7:30pm Reachout rehearsal	17 6:25pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:30pm Senior Choir rehearsal	18 9am Seniors' Fitness 1pm Seniors' Euchre	19
20 10am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Coffee Time	21 1:30pm Walkfit 6:30pm Evangelism 7pm Stephen Ministry	22 10am Y4C Sandwich preparation 1pm Care & Share 1:30pm Seniors' Fitness	23 2:15pm Knitting 7:30pm Reachout rehearsal	24 6:25pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:30pm Senior Choir rehearsal 7:30pm Property Management	25 9am Seniors' Fitness 1pm Seniors' Euchre	26
27 8am Congregational Breakfast 10am Worship - Holy Communion 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Coffee Time	28 1:30pm Walkfit	29 1pm Care & Share 1:30pm Seniors' Fitness	30 2:15pm Knitting 7:30pm Reachout rehearsal	31 6:25pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:30pm Senior Choir rehearsal	1 9am Seniors' Fitness 1pm Seniors' Euchre	2

This calendar is updated throughout the month as activities are added or change. Please check it out! http://www.chalmerslondon.com/church_calendar.htm

The New Calendar

I hope you have noticed that the calendar is a little different this month! My father and I have long discussed that we could make an improvement to the calendar that we use on the webpage, but we haven't been able to find exactly what we were looking for. We spoke about the issue again over Christmas and lo and behold, he was able to find the perfect format. Without boring you with all of the details, trust me that it's a great improvement over the way we were working before!

In the new calendar format, I have also included some colour-coding. Blue is for Worship. Purple is for things that don't necessarily stick to the same schedule every month. Black is for our regularly scheduled committee meetings and groups. And red is for a regularly scheduled committee meetings or groups that have had to make a change for a particular month. So for example, in January—both Policy & Planning and CE committees normally meet on the first Tuesday of the month, but since that is New Year's Day, they have moved to other dates and I have put them in red to draw your attention to that. I have put youth group and congregational breakfast, chili night and Stephen Ministry all in purple because these are groups which have a little more flexibility in their meeting dates. Again, the colour is just to help draw your eye to those meetings which are less predictable.

So please do have a look! The calendar in this newsletter is the same as the one on the website and the one available at church, BUT if you check the one on-line, it is updated with changes on a regular basis.

Last Laugh!

