Chalmers' Spirit

Built by **FA9TH**, strengthened through **WORSH9P**, bringing **HOPE** to life's journey.

March 2017

In January, we were all rocked by the shooting in a Mosque in Quebec, killing six Muslims while praying in their place of worship. The following week, bomb threats were received in one of the synagogues here in London.

In response to these horrible acts of hate, the people of Chalmers decided to spread some love to our Muslim and Jewish neighbours on Valentine's Day.

Six large Valentines for the

three synagogues and the three mosques in London were signed by many members of the congregation.

Approximately 150 individual valentines were also hand-crafted by members of the congregation and given to the Islamic Centre on Pond Mills Road and the Islamic Library

on Wellingsboro, our two nearest neighbours.







Page 2 Chalmers' Spirit

Photos—Family Fun Day













Page 3 Chalmers' Spirit

Jackie Bannerman in Hungary

This month in the PCC monthly newsletter, there was an article written by our own Jackie Bannerman!

Greetings from Hungary

February 16, 2017

<u>Jacqueline Bannerman</u>

Hello! My name is Jackie Bannerman and I am a PCC young adult intern working in Budapest for 8 months with the Reformed Church of Hungary. I spend the majority of my time working at Kalunba, the RCH's refugee ministry implementing organization. So far I have started teaching English to refugees and translating for those coming from French-speaking African countries. I also spend some time at the national church office where I help with communications projects, such as coordinating with international delegates for the Starpoint Festival this summer. In addition, I spend two afternoons a week at an after school program for Roma youth, where I lead activities and English programming.



I was fortunate enough to join Glynis Williams and Ian Ross-McDonald on a trip to Debrecen last week, where we celebrated 500 years since the Reformation with many other international guests. We enjoyed a beautiful service in the Great Reformed Church in Debrecen and learned about the Reformation's lasting impact on Hungary. We then went just across the Hungarian border to Ukraine, where we learned from the Bishop of the Sub-Carpathian Reformed Church and PCC partners <u>David and Anna Pándy-Szekeres</u> about their work with Roma people. We caught a glimpse of the extreme poverty they live in while visiting a high school and primary school for Roma children.

During my short time here, I have already learned a lot about the struggles refugees in Hungary face due to the government's removal of social assistance and their discrimination from the general public. I am also learning about the discrimination of Roma people and how, even though they are marginalized, they are still generally more accepted and supported than refugees in Hungarian society. I am learning about the extreme privilege I have in comparison to many of the people I work with simply because of where I was born and what language I grew up speaking. It has only been a few weeks, so I am looking forward to what I will learn and how I will grow by the end of my time here.

Page 4 Chalmers' Spirit

Photos—February



Left: London Youth Presbytery held an evening worship service at Chalmers in February.

Below: Sunday Morning Worship held in the lower hall.



Page 5 Chalmers' Spirit

Youth News

DON'T MISS:

- Volleyball—Friday, March 24th @ 7pm at Supreme Courts—\$2 per youth
- Junior High Retreat—June 2-4 at Camp Kintail

Exciting News:

Amy Kemp & Abbey Poser have both been accepted to participate in the London Youth Presbytery Mission Trip to Guatemala this August. We will be doing some fundraisers over the coming months to help support them financially on this trip. Our first fundraiser, Mint Smoothies from Rheo Thompson in Stratford, has been going very well and we are getting close to being sold out, so please get them while you can!



Page 6 Chalmers' Spirit

Photos—Sports



In February we had All Ages ball hockey as part of the Family Day celebrations and our monthly volleyball game for teens and adults.



Page 7 Chalmers' Spirit

Upcoming



TASTEFUL TOPICS LUNCH SUNDAY, MARCH 19TH

510

Jaclyn Holdsworth Clean Water in Kenya

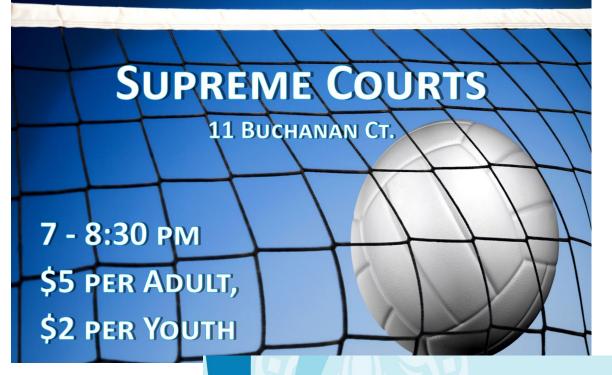




Page 8 Chalmers' Spirit

Upcoming

VOLLEYBALL FRIDAY, MARCH 24





Page 9 Chalmers' Spirit

Photos—Raise the Roof Concert









Four Heaven's Sake hosted a concert in February with the Agritones and The Ukes of London.



Page 10 Chalmers' Spirit

Last Laugh

