

**Chalmers
Presbyterian
Church**

Youth Spirit

Volume 3, Issue 9

May, 2011

May Day! May Day!

Each week just gets better and better! The Lenten rotation was a wonderful success and we plan to just keep building on that success right through May. May 1st will be a regular Sunday with Sunday Morning Youth for all three age groups. Then May 7th will be the Congregational retreat for ALL AGES. There will be activities designed for everyone. Please plan to join us.



congregation so that we may worship as a complete family of God.

May 29th we will celebrate Holy Communion. Children & youth will go directly to Sunday Morning Youth and will join worship for communion.

There is a definite excitement brewing in Sunday Morning Youth these days. Winter is over and God is Good! Please help us keep up the great momentum that we gained in April.

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May 8th we will be welcoming the staff from Camp Kintail as they lead worship at both services. At the 10:30 service, there will be SMY classes for our preschool children and those in SK to grade 2. Children and youth in grade 3 and up will enjoy worshipping with our friends from Camp Kintail.

On May 15th, our praise band 4:12 will be involved in leading a praise time with those in grade 5 and under before they head to their classes.

For the Victoria Day weekend, we will have All Ages Worship. All Ages worship is designed to include all members of the

Preschool Assistants:

May 1: Cheri Vlieger

May 8: Pat MacKay

May 15: Jackie Bannerman

May 29: Phyllis Johnston

Contact me!

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



From the Editor

In many professions, it is standard practice to dedicate time to further education. Teachers have mandatory PD days, ministers have study leave, many employers have regular training courses or conferences, etc. I certainly hope my doctor does something to keep his skills and knowledge up to date on a regular basis!!! There are even a multitude of workshops and programs out there for parents. There are also endless opportunities for students to get involved in things beyond the classroom, whether academic or otherwise.

So what about spiritual enrichment? Where do we turn to further our spiritual experiences? Certainly attending church, family devotions, reading the Bible, study groups, fellowship activities, etc. are all wonderful! But do you ever wish for something else? Maybe something more or maybe just something different.

In the upcoming two months, I'm overwhelmed by the number of "enrichment" opportunities available! Here are the ones I know about:

May 7th : Chalmers' One-day retreat at Pearce Williams Christian Centre

May 17th : Kintail Speaker's Series—John P. Bowen "Growing Up Christian"

May 20-23rd : Women's Conference in Richmond Hill

May 20-23rd : PYPs May Camp at Camp Kintail

May 28th : Worship with All the Senses at Knox Presbyterian in Woodstock

May 31st-June 1st : Common Ground Canadian Ecumenical Youth Forum

June 5-10th : General Assembly at UWO, London

June 10-12 : Junior High Retreat at Camp Kintail

June 28th : Cake by the Lake for women at Camp Kintail

And yet, regardless of age it can be so intimidating to sign up for a conference or workshop without knowing someone else who is attending. So here's what I know: there will be lots of people you know at the Chalmers retreat; I'm hoping to go to the Kintail Speaker's Series; Joanne Dickert and 5 others are going to the Women's Conference; Tom Ball is planning to go to May Camp; I'm registered for Common Ground; there will be many members of Chalmers attending General Assembly throughout the week; and Christine Hunter & I are considering going to Cake by the Lake.

If you would like more information about any of these fabulous opportunities, I'm sure I can find it for you. And if you're planning to attend, or considering planning to attend, let me know so I can encourage others to attend too. Each and every one of these experiences will be worthwhile. The more people from Chalmers who attend, the more we all benefit! Each person will return home with new perspectives and new experiences to share. And the whole church will be blessed and enriched!

Happy to See You

Last month I was excited because we had 39 children & youth worshipping at Chalmers. In April, we had 50!!!! Well done everyone! It's great to see more people getting out with the arrival of the spring weather and it's also wonderful to be welcoming new children!

Naomi	Jessy B.	Morgan	Jackie B.	Sam	Braden
Kirsten	Alyson B.	Sarah L.	Brynn	Jackie N.	Kylan
Isla	Reece	Aly	Amber	Joycie	Emerald
Lily	Josiah	Damien	Sydney	Abbey	Anthony
Sarah W.	Cameron	Zoey	Charleen	Taylor	Quade
Jaxson	Billy	Torry	Spencer	Allyson	+ 5 friends
Sawyer	Nicholas G.	Crissy	Kenneth	Yunesta	
Colin	Cooper	Tom	Zack	Yunike	

Brain teaser Answers

Here are the answers to last month's brain teasers:

1. If you went to bed at 8 o'clock at night and wound your alarm clock to go off at 9:00 the next morning, how much sleep would you get? **One hour. Wind up clocks don't work on 24 hour time.**
2. Why can't a man living in North Carolina be buried in South Carolina?
3. If you had only one match and you entered a room in which there was a kerosene lamp, an oil heater, and a wood-burning stove, which would you light first? **The match of course!**
4. Two men were playing checkers. Each played five games and each won the same number of games. No draws. How can this be? **They weren't playing each other.**
5. You have two coins in your hand equalling 30 cents. One of them is not a nickel. What are the coins? **A quarter and a nickel. One is not a nickel, but the other one is!**
6. It is a scientific fact that a person eats over an inch of dirt at every meal. How is this possible? **All houses are built overtop of dirt, therefore you are eating OVER an inch of dirt.**

These are all taken from Uncle John's Bathroom Readers.

The Bundle of Sticks—Aesop's Fables

An old man once called his sons to him. "I shall soon die," he said, "but before I leave you, I want to show you something of great importance. But first go and gather some thin sticks for me."

His sons did as they were bid.

Then the father gave each of them a stick and said, "Please break this for me."

Each of them broke a stick with great ease.

Then the father took all the remaining sticks and placed them together. "Now," he said to one of his sons, "break all these sticks at one time." The son tried and tried but could not do so. Nor could any of the other boys break the bundle of sticks.

"I am sure," said their father, "that you know what I mean to tell you by this. Each one of you, alone, is weak; but if you stay together, you will be strong."

What a Quote!

"God has given us two hands—one to receive with and one to give with. We are not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for sharing."

Billy Graham

Grab a Book by Christine Hunter

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

How do I know which books to sign out?

My child is 2 years old – where do I look for a suitable book?

The reading table and the moveable bookcases all have books suitable for children aged from infant to when they start to read by themselves. Even babies love to be read to – and all these books designated as “**CHILD**” are wonderful ‘read – to – me – books’.

There are also some excellent first reading books in this section. Children who are beginning to explore the world of ‘I Can Read’ will find easy reading, interesting books in this section.

The smaller bookcase in the alcove has books designated as “**YOUTH**” books and also have a sticker on the spine that gives a recommended age for reading. The ages range from 5 years old to 15+ and are purely a guide as to the reading ability and sometimes content of the books. Into the teenage years some of these books deal with dating and friendship issues – not very interesting to a 7 year old. So these ages are purely guides on reading ability and age specific subjects. The books with a larger **green dot** on their spine are more suitable for older teens to college age young people. Again because of the size of the book and the subject matter – they are recommended for an older reading group.

How many books can I sign out?

In theory you can sign out as many books as you want – but we like to have them returned within two weeks, so use that as your rule of thumb. Usually we recommend two books at a time, but some avid readers will sign out three in a week, and we have no problem with that as long as the books are brought back on a timely basis. (We don’t like having to chase up folks for non-return of books)!

How long can I keep a book?

Really already answered! We like to have books returned within two weeks of signing it out. We will not come hounding you if a book is kept longer, but we will give you a phone call if the book is not returned in a reasonable length of time!

How do I sign that book out?

Easy – go to the back page of the book. Find the card inside the pocket – take out the card and fill in the date and your name. Put the card in the “Registration” box (a clear plastic box hanging on the wall between the two sets of bookcases at the moment) – and you’re done. Take your books home and enjoy!

Returning books?

Even easier! There is a cardboard box – also in between the two sets of library shelves – marked “Returns”. Put your book(s) in there and go choose some more. It’s that easy! The library helpers will return the card to the pocket, and put the books back on the bookcases.

Christine Hunter, Librarian.

Welcome Evalina

We praise God for the safe arrival of **Evelina Mary Hendriena Vlieger** who was born on April 7th to Dave and Cheri Vlieger. Evalina is a little sister for Julie Vlieger.



April Photos!



Top left: The children gather around Rev. John on Palm Sunday
Top right: Jessy, Torry, Cooper, Isla & Haillee
Middle left: Serving ice cream after a morning of crafts
Middle right: Sarah & Lily enjoying their ice creams
Bottom left: Reece, Josiah & Colin
Bottom right: Pretzels, chocolate eggs and ice cream! Every child's dream!!! Sunday Morning Youth ROCKS!

YA YA

CHALMERS' YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT NEWSLETTER

FROM THE DESK OF
LAURIE PONSFORD-HILL
YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR

MAY 2011

Once again we are all invigorated by our share in the life of the risen Lord! At Chalmers we are strengthened in that life by your sharing in our ministry in the Church.

Bible Read A Thon

What a great time we had at our overnight vigil this Easter. My first attempt I am sad to say was not a great one, as I and Laurel as well as Abby came down with illnesses that stopped our all night stay. There is always next year!

Don't forget to write your prayers on the Prayer Flag pages on the table in the Narthax.

Teens 2 Teens

We had a great turn out on our Friday nights in April, as we all made the decision to give the Teens program a try for 3 successive Friday nights. So, I thought, why not give it a try again in May! So for the 6th, 13th and 20th from 7-9 pm we will be getting together in support of one another working towards our dinner in June and doing our own personal work as well as working on the puppet show and the making of fortune cookies.

Experience the Sights and Sounds of China! June 3rd Dinner and movie night!

General Assembly in June

General Assembly will be held in London this year June 5th-10th. Presbytery of London is looking for youth to participate in two ways. Grade 8 and up as ushers for Sunday June 5th and youth to lead worship on Monday June 6th. I have sent an email out to all about this, so if you did not receive it, or you would like to participate, please let me know. Deadline May 15th to sign up.

New E-mail address: HYPERLINK "

Chalmersyouthministry@live.com

Office hours @ Chalmers: Sunday afternoons and Tuesdays each week, if you would like to see me. Please call the church office to make an appointment.



“PARTNERS IN PROMISE” YOUTH MISSION 2011 MANITOBA



FRIDAY JULY 29th to MONDAY AUG. 8th 2011

OPEN TO:

Highschool Youth

(youth who are presently in grade 9 through to grade 12)
Within the Presbytery of London

**Interested in Going? Need more info?
Contact Rev. Mavis Currie
mcurrie@execulink.com or 519-472-3443**

Children & Youth Ministries at Chalmers

May 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Contemporary Worship 10:30am SMY Preschool Assistant: Cheri Vlieger	2 Happy 4 th Birthday Charlotte	3	4 7:30 pm Reach Out rehearsal	5	6 7-9 Youth Group	7 Congregational Retreat (all day)
8 Happy Mother's Day 9am Contemporary Worship 10:30am SMY for grade 2 and under Preschool Assistant: Pat MacKay (Worship led by Camp Kintail)	9 Happy 11 th Birthday Tyler	10 Happy 20 th Birthday Heather McT.	11 7:30 pm Reach Out rehearsal	12	13 7-10 pm Freaky Friday Dance for Jr Youth (grade 6-8) at Oakridge Presbyterian 7-9 pm Volleyball at Laurier SS - All Welcome 7-9 Youth Group	14
15 Happy 16 th Birthday Tom Happy 24 th Birthday Lindsay 9am Contemporary Worship 10:30am SMY Preschool Assistant: Jackie Bannerman	16	17 11-3 Kintail Speaker Series - John P. Bowen	18 7:00 pm Reach Out presentation at Chateau Gardens	19	20 7-9 Youth Group	21
22 9am Contemporary Worship 10:30am All Ages Worship	23 Victoria Day	24	25 Happy 11 th Birthday Joyceline 7:00 pm Reach Out presentation at Ashwood Manor	26	27	28 Happy 22 nd Birthday Craig 9-3 Worship With All the Senses
29 HOLY COMMUNION 9am Contemporary Worship 10:30am SMY Preschool Assistant: Phyllis Johnston 2:25 pm Reach Out presentation at Caressant Care	30	31	Want some more special days to celebrate? May is "Revise Your Work Schedule" Month.	How about May 9: Lost Sock Memorial Day May 13: Frog Jumping Day May 27: Cellophane Tape Day (from Uncle John's Heavy Duty Bathroom, pg 98)		