

**Chalmers  
Presbyterian  
Church**

# Youth Spirit

**Volume 4, Issue 2**

**October, 2011**

## Here Comes October!

I first want to start of October by thanking everyone who has offered to help with either Little Worship at the 9:00 service or the Preschool class at the 10:30 service. It is so nice to have some new faces helping out and some regulars who are always willing to lend a hand! If you meant to volunteer, but just hadn't gotten around to it yet, just let me know and I'll slot you in!

In October, we'll be celebrating Holy Communion on October 2nd. This is World Communion Sunday so Christians all over the world will be celebrating on the same day. At Chalmers, we're going to highlight this



world celebration with some different types of bread from around the world.

On Thanksgiving, we're looking forward to our first All Ages Sunday of the year. The focus for Thanksgiving this year is on "Safe Arrival" so several members of our congregation will be talking about their "safe arrival" in Canada.

On October 23rd, the youth who went to Winnipeg on Mission this past July will be leading worship at Chalmers at both services.

On October 30th, we'll be welcoming the return of 4:12 as they lead the children in song and

action at the beginning of Sunday Morning Youth at the 10:30 service.

I'd also like to highlight that Sydney LeTissier is going to be doing a presentation on her time in China for the Mary Moffat on Monday, October 24th at 8:00 pm.

**Little Worship Assistants (9:00 am) & Preschool Assistants (10:30 am) :**

**Oct. 2: Erica MacKay (9:00), Siska Soedarmasto (10:30)**

**Oct. 9: All Ages Thanksgiving Worship**

**Oct 16: Bev Cameron & Phyllis Johnston (10:30)**

**Oct. 23: Pat & Erica MacKay & John Biro Jr.**

**Oct. 30: Marg Ward & Cathy Spooner**

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### Contact me!

- Comments, new emails? Let me know: [lizzt@rogers.com](mailto:lizzt@rogers.com)



## From the Editor

Last month, I asked for people to send me in stories from their summer. This month I'd like to feature the story by Sydney LeTissier who spent three weeks in China this summer (page 5). I have some more stories saved up to share with you next month.

Every once in awhile I get an email that is worth sharing. Thanks to Andrew for sending this one to me.

### WE CERTAINLY NEEDED THIS WASHING

A little girl had been shopping with her Mom in Wal-Mart. She must have been 6 years old, this beautiful red haired, freckle faced image of innocence.

It was pouring outside. The kind of rain that gushes over the top of rain gutters, so much in a hurry to hit the earth it has no time to flow down the spout.. We all stood there, under the awning, just inside the door of the WalMart.

We waited, some patiently, others irritated because nature messed up their hurried day.

I am always mesmerized by rainfall. I got lost in the sound and sight of the heavens washing away the dirt and dust of the world. Memories of running, splashing so carefree as a child came pouring in as a welcome reprieve from the worries of my day.

Her little voice was so sweet as it broke the hypnotic trance we were all caught in, 'Mom let's run through the rain,' she said.

'What?' Mom asked.

'Let's run through the rain!' She repeated.

'No, honey. We'll wait until it slows down a bit,' Mom replied.

This young child waited a minute and repeated: 'Mom, let's run through the rain..'

'We'll get soaked if we do,' Mom said.

'No, we won't, Mom. That's not what you said this morning,' the young girl said as she tugged at her Mom's arm.

'This morning? When did I say we could run through the rain and not get wet?'

'Don't you remember? When you were talking to Daddy about his cancer, you said, ' If God can get us through this, He can get us through anything! ' ' '

The entire crowd stopped dead silent.. I swear you couldn't hear anything but the rain.. We all stood silently. No one left. Mom paused and thought for a moment about what she would say.

Now some would laugh it off and scold her for being silly. Some might even ignore what was said. But this was a moment of affirmation in a young child's life. A time when innocent trust can be nurtured so that it will bloom into faith.

'Honey, you are absolutely right. Let's run through the rain. If GOD lets us get wet, well maybe we just need washing,' Mom said.

Then off they ran. We all stood watching, smiling and laughing as they darted past the cars and yes, through the puddles. They got soaked.

They were followed by a few who screamed and laughed like children all the way to their cars. And yes, I did. I ran. I got wet. I needed washing.

# YA YA

CHALMERS' YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT NEWSLETTER

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

## SEPTEMBER 2011



### The Colours of Life

To kick off our new fall season we invited you to a Day Away in Port Stanley to swim and BBQ and to a Paintball fun event. In the evening we did something called Tie Dye Milk and it was sure neat to see! We completed our poster for the theme The Colours of Life. The theme is about the colours/feelings that we experience in our day to day lives and how we relate them to our Christian story. Please see the poster posted on our Youth Tree in the Narthax of the church.

The Colours are:

Gold – Heaven (Revelation 21:21b).

Black – Sin/Death (Romans 3:23 and 6:23).

Red – Blood of Christ (Romans 5:8 and 1 Peter 3:18a).

White – Purity/Forgiveness (John 1:12 and 10:9).

Green – Spiritual Growth (Matthew 18:20 and 1 John 1:7).

We had a total of 25 people out to Paintball including me which was an outdoor-in-the woods experience. We had Port Stanley, and Knox youth participate with us as well. Everyone had fun.

September 17 and 18 was the Shift Youth Ministry Conference in Guelph. I had the opportunity to attend and invited all youth interested to come to Guelph on the Sunday and experience a special worship service in which Dr. Andrew Root was the guest speaker. If you would like to tune into his sermon, "Swiper, No Swiping" go to **HYPERLINK** "<http://www.standrewsguelph.com>"

Matthew Foxall also was saying goodbye as his time as Youth Coordinator at St Andrew's Church in Guelph and is moving on to the position of Mission Trip/Youth Mission Coordinator with the Presbyterian Church in Canada in Toronto.

I did not have the opportunity attend all of Shift this year as my mother, Emerald's and Roland's grandmother died on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to the church for all of your prayers at this time.

**Friday September 30<sup>th</sup> – Get Lost in the Maze –Thamesville- Meet at Church 6pm for an Amazing Time!!!.**

# CHANGE CONFERENCE

CHANGE CONFERENCE 2011

OCTOBER 14 & OCTOBER 15 / CHURCH ON THE QUEENSWAY, TORONTO

## FRIDAY NIGHT CHANGE

FRIDAY OCTOBER 14  
FEATURING MANAFEST



# MANAFEST

# STELLAR KART

FRIDAY OCTOBER 14



# My Time in China by Sydney LeTissier

Throughout my grade 8 year I was involved in my school's Me to We club. The various fundraisers we held and events we organized inspired me to take things to the next level and go to China on a Me to We volunteer trip.

I left Canada on July 6<sup>th</sup> with 28 other young people from all over Canada and the US. After a 14 hour flight we finally landed in Beijing and met with 4 teens from China who were going to be joining our volunteer group.

The first week of our trip was all of the fun stuff, we visited all the popular tourist sites in Beijing and got used to the new environment. Everyone adjusted at a different pace. Some became comfortable right away, while others took a full week to become accustomed to the exotic food, the lack of familiar faces, and of course, the squatter toilets!

I personally, fell in love with the country, the culture, and the people immediately. You seemed to form a connection with the people immediately, the language barrier was forgotten as you communicated through broken English and lots of hand signals. Everywhere you went, the people would ask you for pictures, or simply stop to talk.

About a week into the trip we had our first volunteer experience. We went to teach English at a primary school in a community called Gufopu. Gufopu was a big change from Beijing, dirt roads, tiny houses, lots of dogs and donkeys on the streets. The people were just as kind though, and welcomed us with open arms.

The kids were amazing. They were malnourished and many of them wore the same clothes for days, but they were happy. Overall, they were just kids. They joked in class, loved to play, and could make a game out of anything! I don't know how much English they actually learned because we couldn't get them to sit still!

Our second volunteer experience was going to a new community and digging trenches for the foundation of a primary school. We worked there for 4 days, digging for 5 hours a day. Just like the other community, the people were amazing!

Then we flew out to a small city near the Shaolin Temple. We toured the temple, learned some meditation and kung fu, and even got to share a silent meal with the monks.

Our final volunteering experience was my favourite, we taught English at the Shaolin Orphanage. The kids at the orphanage were much more obedient than the ones at Gufopu, but they still shared the same love of mischief. Teaching them was defiantly memorable. Most of the kids in the class I taught were my own age, so teaching them was more like sharing knowledge with friends. Saying goodbye to the kids at the orphanage was the hardest part of the trip.

Coming home was also difficult. I was around the same 32 people for 3 weeks, and then suddenly they were gone. It was weird hearing people speak English, and eating western food, I basically had to completely re-adjust to the western lifestyle.

After going on a trip like that, it is impossible to just continue on with your life like nothing happened, I have become inspired to make a difference!



## Grab a Book by Christine Hunter

**Adeline's Porcupine** by Bobby Strickland

**Ages toddler – 6 years**

This is another “Adeline” book and is lovely to read to your child – or for a new reader to read for themselves.

This story starts off with a porcupine family living near Adeline's home. When their newest baby arrives, they have no way to look after her. There's not enough food to go around, so mama porcupine sadly leaves the baby on Adeline's doorstep! Now a porcupine baby is not the prettiest of animals, but Adeline has a good heart ..... and so does Grace – yes that's what Adeline calls her new little friend. What a difference this friendship makes in the lives of both Adeline and Grace – and then it spreads to all those around, even to the snooty poodle names Penelope!

Yes a lovely story, with a lovely moral attached. I hope you enjoy this book .... I certainly did!

**Danger at Lakeside Farm** by Patricia H. Rushford

**Ages 10 - 13**

**Max & Me Mysteries**

This is the second book in the Max & Me Mysteries Series, and I enjoyed reading it too. The story carries on from the first book. Max is now living with Jessie and her family, but although she loves being with this family, she really would like to have a family of her own. Jessie has just had a bone marrow transplant and is still weak and in hospital when the story starts. An elderly lady, Amelia, likes Max, feels she can be of help to Max, and offers her a home. But some folks in the community would like to see Amelia sell her farm and go to live in a retirement residence. Amelia is not ready for that yet, and Max feels that she can help this friend work her lavender farm, sell her goods and ..... well they could really help each other. Read about Jessie's fight to get her health back, Max's fight to build a new life for herself and Amelia's fight just to stay in her home, stay safe and do the things that she so enjoys doing.

Another exciting, interesting story! Try it – I'm sure you'll like it!

Reviewed by Christine Hunter, Librarian.

*Let's Have*

# *"Dinner Out"*

with

Chalmers Social & Communications Committee  
at the

# *Four Seasons Restaurant*

1455 Fanshawe Pk. Rd. West

BRUNCH

Saturday 15th October

DOMINICAN

Time: 6:30PM\*\* off the menu

Sign-up sheet in narthex by 9th October

# Happy Birthday!

There is so much on the calendar this month, that I just don't have space for all of the October birthdays! So I'll list them here and wish each of you a very special day this month!!!

October 1st—Daniel is 17

October 9th—Katelyn is 6

October 12th—Morgan is 9 and Sophia is 5

October 17th—Kyle is 19

October 19th—Dallas is 17

October 20th—Taylor M is 15

October 22nd—Dawn is 21 and Kevin is 21

October 28th—Jackie is 18

Happy Birthday one and all!!!

# Glad to See You!

It's been a slow kick-off to the year this year, but we've still seen lots of children & youth on Sunday mornings and we're glad that each one of you has chosen to join us.

Isla	Josiah	Joycie
Julia	Torry	Allyson
Evelina	Crissy	Yunesta
Lily	Tom	Yunike
Jaxson	Brynn	Hope
Sawyer	Charleen	Emerald
Colin	Kenneth	William
Reece	Zack	Elizabeth
Hailee	Sam	Daniel
Naomi	Jacqueline	Velonna



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

[http://www.chalmerslondon.com/church\\_calendar.htm](http://www.chalmerslondon.com/church_calendar.htm)



# October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2</b> <b>9:00 am Contemp. Worship</b> Little Worship Assistant: Erica MacKay  10:00 Coffee Time  <b>10:30 am Worship</b> Preschool Assistant: Siska Soedarmasto  <b>World Communion</b> 1:30 pm 4:12 rehearsal 2:30 pm Book of the Month Gathering	3	4	<b>5</b>  7:00 pm Study - Home Grown Handbook for Christian Parenting  7:30 pm Reach Out rehearsal	<b>6 - Election Day</b>	<b>7</b>  6:30 pm CW practice	8
<b>9</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b> <b>9:00 am Contemp. Worship (all ages)</b>  <b>10:30 am Worship (all ages)</b>	<b>10</b>  <b>Thanksgiving Monday</b>	11	<b>12</b>  7:00 pm Study - Christian Parenting  7:30 pm Reach Out rehearsal	13	<b>14</b>  5 pm Youth Group to Change Conference  6:30 pm CW practice	<b>15</b>  6pm Dinner Out at The Four Seasons
<b>16</b> <b>9:00 am Contemp. Worship</b> Little Worship Assistant: Bev Cameron  10:00 Coffee Time <b>10:30 am Worship</b> Preschool Assistant: Phyllis Johnston 1:30 pm 4:12 rehearsal	17	18	<b>19</b>  7:00 pm Study - Christian Parenting  7:30 pm Reach Out rehearsal	20	<b>21</b>  6:30 pm CW practice	22
<b>23</b> <b>9:00 am Contemp. Worship</b> Little Worship Assistant: Pat & Erica MacKay  <b>10:30 am Worship</b> Preschool Assistant: John Biro Jr.  (Youth Mission Trip leading both worships) 10:30 am Reach Out at St. George's 1:30 pm 4:12 rehearsal	<b>24</b>  7:00 - 8:30 pm Bible Study - Gifts of God (1)  7:30 pm Mary Moffat Women - presentation by Sydney LeTissier	25	<b>26</b>  7:00 pm Study - Christian Parenting  7:30 pm Reach Out rehearsal	27	<b>28</b>  6:30 pm CW practice	29
<b>30</b> <b>9:00 am Contemp. Worship</b> Little Worship Assistant: Marg Ward  10:00 Coffee Time <b>10:30 am Worship</b> <b>Joyful Noise with 4:12</b> Preschool Assistant: Cathy Spooner	<b>31</b>  7:00 - 8:30 pm Bible Study - Gifts of God (2)					