

Thames Road Elimville United Church NEWSLETTER

Spring 2018

THE

CHAIR'S CORNER

With the first of April and Easter fast approaching, 2018 is moving along quickly. In the middle of February we welcomed Rev. Jock back from his holiday in South Africa and the congregation has been enjoying his weekly Lenten messages since his return. Attendance at worship services has been abundant in recent weeks and I invite everyone to join with us for Sunday worship as we continue our journey through Lent, a journey that will culminate in the joyous celebration of Easter. To accommodate those who have difficulty with the stairs, worship services are currently being held in the basement of the church.

Change is beginning to take place at Thames Road Elimville United Church. As the result of a vote following the presentation from the Exploration Committee at the Annual Meeting on February 11, 2018, the decision was made to decline entering into a shared ministry partnership with Crediton United Church. Instead, we will be beginning the search for a half time minister (20 hours per week) to serve our church family in the Thames Road Elimville community. The required paperwork to begin the search for a minister for our pastoral charge has been completed and the request to declare a vacancy to be effective April 2, 2018 has been submitted to Huron-Perth Presbytery for approval. Upon approval, our profiles will be posted on the London Conference Vacancies website and our Interview Team consisting of Amy Parsons, Erin

Parsons, Marianne Veldman, Helen Kadey and Beth Cooper will begin their work. Rev. Jock's twelve month contract with us is now completed and Council is in the process of negotiating an agreement with him to extend his time with us.

Following the presentation on the installation of a vertical lift in the church, those in attendance at the Annual Meeting voted to proceed with the project. The Trustees and the Property Committee will act jointly to work their way through the installation process. The proposed lift will be installed in the southeast corner of the building, opening into the sanctuary on the second level of the church. The lift will be supplied and installed for a cost of \$23,500.00 with the total cost of installation including the lift and related construction costs estimated at \$70,000.00. It is anticipated the work will be undertaken in July/August 2018. A request will be made to Huron-Perth Presbytery for a \$10,000.00 Visionary Fund grant and for permission to use investment funds held from the sale of our manse to fund the project. Dan Gill Construction has been contacted to undertake the construction work related to the installation.

As for other improvement projects to be undertaken in 2018, it is anticipated the outside area at the back door entrance to the church will be upgraded to improve the area in times of wet weather and to make the entrance more accessible.



Designated parking signs will be erected as part of the project.

With the upcoming proposed changes in the governing structure of the United Church of Canada, the current 13 Conferences across the country will become 16 Regions. Huron-Perth Presbytery will remain intact and will be part of Region 8 along with Bruce Presbytery, Waterloo Presbytery and most of the portion of Northern Waters Presbytery located north of Highway 9. It is anticipated there will be a subsequent process to name the Regional Councils. Our region will include 138 pastoral charges and will be comprised of all ministry personnel and lay representatives from each community of faith. If Remit 1 is enacted by the 43rd General Council when it meets in July 2018, the Regional Councils will come into existence on January 1, 2019. The new region will meet in the fall of 2018 to organize and the last Huron-Perth Presbytery meeting will be in November 2018.

This is indeed an exciting time for our faith community as we travel aboard the Thames Road Elimville Express. Let's embrace the journey and enjoy the ride!

Blessings to all,

Larry Lynn

Chair of Council
519-229-8276

WORSHIP COMMITTEE



All worship services are accessible and being held on the lower level of the church to allow those who have difficulty with the stairs the opportunity to attend. Sunday School meets upstairs.

March 25 –Palm Sunday at 10 a.m.

March 30 – **Good Friday** at 10 a.m.

April 1 – **Easter Breakfast** served at 8:30 a.m. Worship at 10 a.m.

If you would like to bring an **Easter Lily** and have the memorial listed in the bulletin, contact Sharon Passmore by March 28.

April 15 – **No service** or Sunday School at Thames Road Elimville UC.

Instead we will join Exeter, Zion West and Centralia UC for the annual **South Huron Foodgrains Service at Exeter UC at 10:30 a.m.** Lunch to follow. Donations will support our foodgrains project.

~ Robert & Kathy Bray, Sharon Passmore

FINANCE

The **Strawberry Smorgasbord Supper** will be on Sunday, June 10 at the South Huron Rec Centre. Over the past 80 years the menu has been tweaked, but the famous potato salad recipe remains the same. Mark your calendars for this annual community event.

Jerry Rader Pie Fundraiser

Wanting to replenish your freezer with some Jerry Rader Pies? Contact Joyce Fulton lifulton10@hotmail.com or Joan Skinner 519-235-1379 to place your order by Tuesday, April 10. Pickup date is Thursday, April 26 4-5:15 p.m. at the church. See the attached order form for more details. Thanks for supporting your church.

E-Tax Receipt

Donors who support any projects or outreach programs of our church can receive their charitable tax receipt by email. Simply provide Treasurer, Mary Lou Thomson mlthomson@quadro.net with your email address.

Your act of stewardship can be designated towards:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Care and Support of the Church; | <input type="checkbox"/> United Church Women; |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission & Service Fund; | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday School; |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Fund; | <input type="checkbox"/> Elimville Cemetery; |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thames Road Elimville Community Park; | <input type="checkbox"/> South Huron Foodgrains Project |

Cheques can be made payable to **Thames Road Elimville United Church** and indicate on the memo line where you would like the donation to be directed. Mail to the attention of **Mary Lou Thomson, Treasurer; P.O. Box 3 Exeter, NOM 1S6.**

PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance)

Stewardship can also be through automatic monthly withdrawal or PAR. Besides being convenient, regular monthly givings help your church's outreach even when you are away. If you already participate in PAR, have you considered changing the amount of your gift? **Contact PAR Secretary Sharon Passmore 519-235-2708**



Have you disconnected your land line? Let Sharon Passmore know your cell #, so our church membership's contact info is correct and up to date.

TRUSTEES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Trustees and Property Committee are working towards the installation of a **Platform Vertical Lift** to transform our sanctuary into being **accessible to all**. We have met with contractor Dan Gill, who will undertake the construction part of this project. Dwayne McNab, South Huron Chief Building Official has provided us with direction on the information needed to obtain a building permit. We have also contacted and are waiting for a reply from the Architect, Allan Avis in Goderich.

The budget and outline of our accessibility project will be presented to Huron Perth Presbytery for permission to proceed with this capital project and to access funds held in trust from the sale of the Thames Road Elimville manse.

~ Beth Cooper, John Miner, Robert Bray, Ken Kadey, Dave Passmore

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

We continue to offer outreach ministry at the **Exeter Villa**. On Wednesday, April 4 at 2 p.m., Rev. Jock will be leading the worship service. All are welcome to come and visit with our friends at the Villa. The next worship service will be Wednesday, June 6 at 2 p.m.

Our 2018 goal for the Mission & Service Fund is \$8,000. We hosted **Coffee Hour** following church on the first Sunday of January and March with proceeds going towards the **M&S Fund**.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School

The children continue to enjoy their story time with Rev. Jock during the worship service and then move upstairs to the sanctuary for Sunday School. A Grilled Cheese Luncheon after worship will be held the near future.

The **Exeter & Area Food Bank** greatly appreciate our monthly deliveries of food items that are dropped off at the church on the first Sunday of the month. Suggestions for food items are: **cereal, rice, pasta sauce, personal hygiene products, canned fruit or vegetables, peanut-free items for school lunches such as pudding cups and fruit cups.**

Thanks to those who made sandwiches and cookies for the Annual Meeting Luncheon and helped raise \$200 for Camp Menesetung and Camp Bimini.

~ Judith Parker, Marianne Veldman

Women's Night Vendor Market and Bake Sale

The CE Committee and Outreach Committee are making plans for a Women's Night of shopping, chatting, and food. What more could you ask for! Watch for details on this event to be held in May.

~ Sarah Govers, Amy Parsons

THAMES ROAD ELIMVILLE COMMUNITY PARK



A new fundraising project was launched last year for the purchase and installation of a **New Gateway Sign**. The goal is \$4,000 and the sign will be installed in the spring of 2018. To date there is \$2,885 raised and a plaque will be placed on the new sign recognizing these donors: Grace Theophilopoulos; Kate Monk & Doug Hocking; Memorial donations in memory of Rhoda Rohde; Memorial donation in memory of Scott Hodgert, Memorial donations in memory of Jack Borland; Larry & Sharon Lynn; Robert & Kathy Bray, Murray & Bea Dawson.

Contact a committee member to help us reach our goal!

~ Judith Parker, Robert and Kathy Bray, Beth Cooper, Jack Hodgert, Kristy Bray, Jayne Rowcliffe, Sydney Rowcliffe, Ryan Parker, Brad Cann

Thames Road Elimville United Church

Jerry Rader Pie Sale – 2018 Fundraiser

YOUR NAME:

PHONE NUMBER:

Customer Name	Beef	Turkey	Chicken	Bacon Mushroom Quiche	Veggie Quiche	Cherry	Apple
TOTALS							

All pies individual serving size. Cost: \$4.25 per pie or 5 pies for \$20.00

Please return orders (in person, by phone, in box on table at church or email)

by Tuesday April 10, 2018 to:

Joyce Fulton 519-229-6289 (ljfulton10@hotmail.com) – please make sure I confirm receiving your order if sending an e-mail

Or Joan Skinner 519-235-1379

Pick-Up Date: Thursday, April 26, 2018 4-5:15pm at the Church – Please put this date on your calendar so that arrangements have been made for all pickups.