



Church Events

A Service of REMEMBRANCE & PRAISE

An Evening of Music, Drama and Readings
To Honour Those Who Serve and
Have Served Our Country

Sunday November 10th, 2019
7:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
200 Maple Street, Collingwood
705-445-4651
www.firstprescollingwood.com

A free-will offering will be taken.
All proceeds go to the local Veterans' Poppy Fund.
Refreshments will be provided by Tim Horton's.

Presents

The First Christmas Story

2019

"Somewhere In Your Silent Night"

THE NATIVITY STORY
RECOUNTED THROUGH MUSIC AND DRAMA

Wednesday, December 4th 7:00pm Seniors
Sunday, December 8th 3:00pm & 7:00pm
(nursery provided at the Sunday afternoon presentation)
Monday, December 9th 7:00pm
Tuesday, December 10th 7:00pm
Wednesday, December 11th 7:00pm

Thanksgiving WORD SUDOKU

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Vocabulary

Logic Skills

- Tues. Oct. 15—Study Series with Rev. Tim, 7pm
Sat. Oct. 19—Guess Who's Coming To Dinner
Sun. Oct. 20—Interger Services at 9am & 10:45am
Tues. Oct. 22—Community Dinner, 5:30pm
Wed. Oct. 23—Bolder Lifestyle Series, 2pm, Lower Hall
Sun. Oct. 27—New Member Sunday
Sun. Nov. 2nd—Clocks Rewind One Hour
Sun. Nov. 10—Burning Bush Theatre presents "Life of the Party"
Sun. Nov. 10—Remembrance Tribute Service, 7pm
Sun. Nov. 24—Communion Sunday
Wed. Dec. 4—First Christmas Story (Seniors), 7pm
Sun. Dec. 8—Wed. Dec. 11—First Christmas Story
Sun. Dec. 8, 15 & 22—One Service at 10:45am
Sun. Dec. 15—Christmas Pageant at 10:45am

Burning Bush Theatre
presents

LIFE OF THE PARTY

The Story of Mary & Martha

Sunday November 10th
9am & 10:45am

From the *Pres*

September 2019

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Everything Beautiful

At Thanksgiving, we make a list of things we're thankful for. If not on paper, at least in our thoughts and prayers. Our family and friends, our health. Being able to say "I Am Canadian!" (choice of beverage notwithstanding) and all the blessings that go with that.

Close to the top of my personal list is the privilege of being a part of the leadership of such a great group of people at First Pres who reach out *to* faith, and then reach out *in* faith, to try to make a difference in the world in Christ's name.

Each of us also knows that with every joy there is a sorrow. It's no secret that struggle is a part of life. Many reading this today will be dealing with a difficult issue. An illness, an uncertainty. The times of quiet desperation. Waiting to round that corner where the fog will begin to clear again. We've all been there.

The writer of Ecclesiastes passes us this great hope: "Even though we cannot fathom this now, God will make everything beautiful in its time." (Ecc 3:10) What a thing to believe— that in all the seasons of our lives, good times or bad, in the end, all will be well. There is a plan, a purpose, to everything. Things are not as random as they might appear.

Cont'd page 2...

Everything Beautiful *cont'd from front cover*

The bottom line? Whatever happens, God’s got a handle on it all. For us, and for all people of faith, this is at the heart of Thanksgiving.

Ecclesiastes 3 ends with this. “What God wants is this: for people to be happy, and to do good while they live.” (*Ecc 3:12*)

Thank you God, for the goodness you’ve given us, and the goodness that will be to come. Thank you for the happiness it brings us. And may we, by the good we do, be a part of making everything beautiful in its time.

Rev. Tim

Session

As a new church year begins, Session also gets back into their meeting schedule. Session meets the second Wednesday of every month but takes a break in the summer. Of course, if something needs to be discussed or decided, we stay connected through email and can meet if necessary.

This season we welcomed 5 new elders to our meetings. New elders bring new ideas, new insights and new concerns. We are so thankful that as we discuss together we are able to make recommendations and decisions that seek to do what is best for our congregation.

Our meetings continue to be filled with updates and discussions about ministries and activities in the church. And from those discussions, we consider new opportunities. We really desire that all the members of the congregation would have a place to grow in their faith and have ways of serving in the community of our church or town.

Elders currently serving on Session are: Doug Brown, Jonathan Brown, Heather Cavill, Brian Denney, Doug Freer, Gord McCallum, Kim McNabb, Melissa Mills, Rob Newman, Al Salcedo, Barb Sharp, Frank Tilley, Karen Wolfe and Joan Vanderkooy as Clerk.

Children & Youth Ministry

It is hard to believe that summer days are over... but it is wonderful to be able to reflect on some of the highlights.

Vacation Bible Camp was bustling with children and leaders for the week of July 15 – 19th. That week certainly was wild and crazy; but so much fun! Over 90 volunteers dedicated themselves to provide amazing experiences for the 200 registered children, and the joy that we shared all week was such a blessing to so many. Through our CD donations and free will offering, we were able to raise funds to support two different charities: Mama Zipporah’s Huruma Home and School in Kenya and The Rock to the Rockies ride for youth mental health educational programs at Royal Victoria Hospital. Thanks, largely, to the families whose children attended, we were able to provide cheques in the amount of \$834 to each charity.

Down By the Bay was a fun way to connect with families over the summer. Several families came out to play games on the lawn in front of the Inuksuk at Sunset Point and have a wonderful time together amid the beauty of God’s creation.

Many children from our First Pres family attended **Camp Cairn**, creating lifelong memories in a camp run by the Presbyterian Church of Canada. Our campership fund provided resources for 12 campers, helping their families with a portion of the costs associated with sending children to camp. We are so grateful for the congregation’s support in creating this campership fund.



Men’s Coffee & Conversation



Every Thursday morning from 9:30 until about 10:30, men of all sizes and shapes gather in the conference room at the church. I think they come primarily for the coffee and treats but they end up having a great time with gossip and conversation. It is not a fixed group. Attendance varies. Conversation varies. We learn about each other and we learn from each other. It is a safe place to explore mutual faith issues or simply vent about sports and politics.

We are prepared to follow any suggested agenda or respond to any need - as long as the coffee and treats are there first! So, if you want to have a good coffee and fellowship on Thursday morning with no membership dues, no dress code and no requirement that you need to come all the time, come join some fellow First Pres guys for an hour or so. We can even do odd jobs if you like. In fact, one time we enjoyed a fun boat ride out around the lighthouse and other harbour delights after one of our Thursday morning gatherings. So, see you there! You are welcome to come!

The Knitting Group

About 15 knitters in the congregation, knit prayer shawls, lap rugs and hats. These are distributed, as needed, in conjunction with Pastoral Care visits.

If you are interested in joining this group, contact Fiona McGaw at 705-445-8901 or fmcgaw@rogers.com



Pastoral Care

We welcome the following people to the Pastoral Care Team: Helen Coleman; Carol Ellis; Bruce & Nancy Gosse; Denman Lawrenson; Ron Monette’ BJ Trombley

A special THANK YOU to all members of the team who provide: 1 on 1 visiting; transportation to appointments/shopping; leadership at long-term care church services; meals for those in need

Thanks to Bobbie and Doug Brown for hosting the June potluck,

If you would like to know more about how you can get involved with the Pastoral Care Team or would like a visit, please contact me.

Blessings In Christ, Catherine Brown

Bow Wow!!!!

Hi my name is Ruby. I am a five year old golden retriever that has just been certified as a St. John therapy dog.

My owner (handler, Bruce) and I have been visiting the residents at Raglan Village Retirement home for the past month or so. I just love to meet people. I meet them in the hallways, after their exercise class, at the cafe and sometimes I go for a special visit in their rooms. We can tell by the smiles on their faces that they love to talk to me while they scratch me under my chin.



Burning Bush Theatre



First Presbyterian Church in Collingwood proudly presents Burning Bush Theatre! (BBT) BBT offers youth ages 7 to 17 an authentic Musical Theatre experience free of charge: a ticket to learning about music, dance, drama, staging, and story. We meet Thursdays from 4:00pm to 5:30 pm. and there are several sessions through the school year. No audition is required and it is open to all youth in the surrounding communities.

BBT was formed in 2016 and they have already performed five mini musicals. The troupe began with "From Borders to Bridges" and, since then, has thoroughly enjoyed presenting the upbeat Biblical musicals of Tom S Long and Allen Pote. Audiences have enjoyed "The Rock Slinger's Greatest Hit"; "Malice in The Palace"; "Are We There Yet"; and "The Sailor's Bible". The company is looking forward to presenting "Life of The Party" (The Story of Mary and Martha) on Nov. 10, 2019 at both Sunday services.

An atmosphere of love and acceptance is fostered within this group. Theatre is fun and a great confidence builder. BBT provides an incredible opportunity for both the actors and the audience to live and experience the journey of Jesus and other well-known Biblical characters. The company is thankful for the leadership of Kimberley Raeburn-Gibson, the Musical Director at the church, and, for the talents of Grenville Bray, Barbara Sharp, (Directors) Martha Lawrence (Stage Manager) and Jessica Mills. (Choreographer)



Soulbeat—Music & Movement

In 2018 we offered an 8 week session of music with movement on Wednesdays from 2:00 to 3:00pm. It was so well received that we held another session in the spring. The group is back again this year for another eight week session at the same time. We have tried a number of different folk dances, moving with a parachute, and, sometimes, we just "do our own thing." Quiet meditation and prayer to some very beautiful Christian Music is always a part of our session. Soul Beat welcomes all who are 18 and older. Folks are invited to come to one session or to all sessions. Moving to music offers us a three in one package: improved physical fitness, emotional well- being, and spiritual vitality. Meet in the gym. Wear loose clothing. **"You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness."** Psalm 30:11



An Integral Team

As we look towards celebrating Thanksgiving and giving thanks for our many blessings, it could not be a more appropriate time to give thanks to a very integral team who supports our spiritual growth opportunities at First Pres – our staff. Too often we take all they do for granted. We have eight wonderful staff members, some of whom are full time and others part time – all of whom play a very important role.

Let's start with Rev. Tim, our spiritual and worship leader, confidant, teacher and gifted preacher and musician. Are there enough words? A minister's job is never easy. There is tragedy, sadness, difficulties in relationships, unexpected changes and happenings. We hope that all the many good things that happen at First Pres are enough to provide encouragement and the assuredness that God is always at work here.

Then there is Catherine, our Pastoral Care Director. Catherine's work started in earnest February 2017. What Catherine has achieved in such a short time is astounding. With her formation of about 40 pastoral care visitors, each member of our church family in need receives care, friendship and the knowledge that they are special and loved. Catherine, who was our previous Music Director, continues to support our worship music when needed and organizes our morning worship when Rev. Tim is away.

Music, which awakens something in our hearts and souls and which connects us to each other and to God is given to us through the amazing gifts of our Music Director, Kimberley and Cindy our organist. The beautiful worship music in our church is well known and has drawn many to First Pres. Both combine in an amazing way to enrich our regular worship services. Kimberley is always at work and is instrumental in encouraging our youth to get involved through the Burning Bush theatre and VBC. How very fortunate we are!

*I give thanks to you,
O Lord my God, with my
whole heart, and I will
glorify your name forever.*

PSALM 86:12

Each week, we learn of a new idea/plan to encourage our youth to grow in their spiritual walk and to make the teachings of Christ central to their lives. This is what Julia, our Youth Director, brings as she enthusiastically finds

new ways to nurture our young and to allow them to feel an important and a valuable member of our church family. With her work, we can be assured that the message of Christ's love will be a solid stepping stone as they look to the future.

Let us not forget Iris and Mac who so loyally take care of our beautiful church property. Their work is most often "behind the scenes" and often taken for granted. Through their care and loving support, we can continue to do God's work in so many different ways. We are indeed grateful to them both.

Can we say enough about our Church Administrator? Always a smiling face, Marlene is the cog, the glue. She is central to the work of our large church. She has taken on several new initiatives and added to her workload with ease and with grace since starting in 2012. We all rely on her greatly and give thanks for her skills and talents, all of which serve to enhance our own spiritual growth.

So, in giving thanks this Thanksgiving let us remember to give thanks for the blessings of our staff. Let us find opportunities to express our gratitude to each of them for all the important work they do!

Respectfully submitted by
Jansje Lawrenson,
Chair, Staff Relations Committee

Spotlight

Youth: *Nolan Alred* is a 13 year old young man, in Grade 8. He and his family recently moved to Collingwood and have been attending First Pres Church regularly. Nolan has always been interested in musical theatre. He was attracted to First Pres initially through Burning Bush Theatre. They were so “accepting” of everyone at various talent levels, which made him feel very comfortable. In November 2017 he played the part of a Sentry in the

BBT Performance “The Rock Slinger and His Greatest Hit”. He thoroughly enjoyed this experience and has been part of the Burning Bush Theatre ever since.

Being invited to participate in the sound and lighting teams has been Nolan’s best and most rewarding experience at First Pres. He has always had a very special interest in technology and how it works, and when presented with a challenge and if given a few minutes to focus, he is likely able to resolve most issues. Definitely his forte.

Nolan loves First Pres because he feels “welcomed”, “free to be yourself” and “have fun” without the ritual of other churches. A lasting memorable experience

was when he received a gift from a lady, who he didn’t know. It was a random act of kindness but through this gift, he has developed a lasting friendship.

His experiences at First Pres have impacted him in such a way that his daily decisions are “based on following in Jesus’ steps”. He has learned to make decisions based on Christian Faith. Nolan is mature well beyond his years and loves being a part of First Pres and surely does shine his best when he is here.

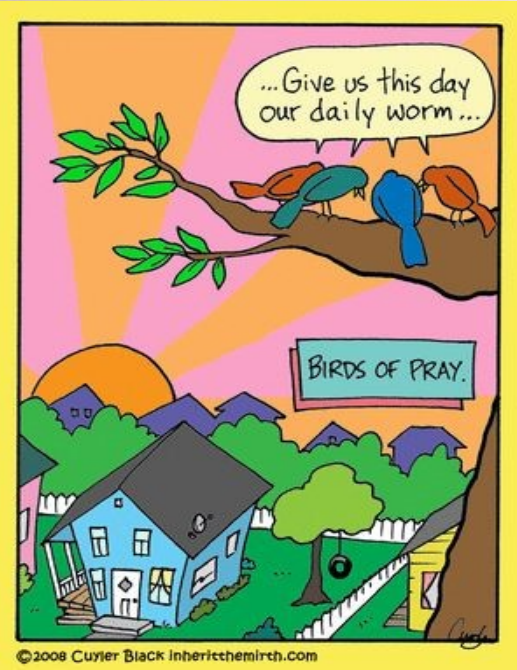
Being involved in so many different activities/responsibilities at the church has resulted in the positive friendships he has made with the youth group, theatre and Tech Team. Volunteering with First Contact, Community Suppers, Vacation Bible Camp, Lighting, Sound and reading scriptures has been most rewarding and he will continue to help in these areas; as well as attend regularly on Friday nights with the Youth Groups and on Sunday mornings with his family.

Thank you Nolan for all you do.

First Pres Cook Book

We are preparing a new First Pres Cook Book and we would love to feature some of your favourite recipes. Please send them to Marlene in the church office and she will include them in our new Cook Book. We are looking for your family favourites: all categories are accepted. All forms of submissions are also accepted, i.e. hard copy, email, photocopy, scanned copy from your grandmother’s recipe card box. Please submit by November 10.

The plan is to have the books available before Christmas.



Guess Who’s Coming To Dinner!

As I write this, summer is hanging on, but I’m sure fall is just around the corner. It’s a time when we start enjoying the indoors, cozied up with a good book, or enjoying the company of family and friends.

Please let us tell you more about GUESS WHO’S COMING TO DINNER (GWCTD).

FELLOWSHIP: Each Sunday we are given the opportunity to walk around, say hello and shake hands. It’s a fleeting moment of friendship with each person. On October 19th, we have an opportunity to gather with a few of our church family members in the comfort of a home. The atmosphere is warm and friendly. We will share conversation and get to know some others better.

FOOD: You are asked to choose from a category on the sign up sheets and bring enough to share among 8 people. We were at the pot luck on Friday, September 20th (prior to the Knitting Pilgrim’s presentation) and trust us, the food was scrumptious! Much of the fare was simple, what you might call “good eats”! **GUESS WHO’S COMING TO DINNER** is like this as well! You can do this!

FUN: When you put folks together who enjoy conversation and good food, it just follows that this will be a great evening as GWCTD *is* a recipe for Fellowship, Food, and FUN!

Please be sure to fill out the sign up sheet found in your church bulletin. Hand in your completed form at the church office, or drop onto the collection plate. Please do this asap. Our final sign up date is October 6.

In friendship, your GWCTD Team
705 446 1724 or lizbardele@hotmail.com

Christian Ed



Your Christian Education Committee at First Presbyterian is more than just alive and well. Members of the committee are Barb Sharp (past chair), Doug Brown (current chair), Judy Milley, Julia Sheffield, Carolyn Campbell-Sheen, Shari Robertson, Bobbie Brown, Mark Belvedere and Heather Cavill.

With a major “thank you” to Julia for programming, First Pres is known throughout the community for its youth programs and its activities for all ages on Sunday mornings and during the week. Many people come because our church is more than just some gray hairs sitting in pews. We get involved. We journey together. We inspire each other. We learn. We practice what we believe and value!

Check out the many activities and notice how CE permeates all that we do. Notice the many young people and the energy that spreads across the age groups. And, remember that it doesn’t just happen by accident. When Tim, Kimberley or Julia ask for help, please volunteer. You really do get more out of it than you put into it. That’s what Christian education is all about!

Respectfully submitted by
Doug Brown, Chair, Christian Ed. Committee

Family—Roots & Wings

I am fortunate enough to have grown up in the Presbyterian church, a little church called St. Andrew's in Chatsworth. We were lucky to see fifty people on a Sunday morning but the impact that church would have on me would last a lifetime. My Aunt is a missionary in Taiwan, Dad is an elder as was my Grandfather, my Grandma was a deaconess in the church, and my Mom was a Martha (giving freely whenever needed). To say the least, I was surrounded by God's teaching growing up.

When our son, Alex came along, it became very clear to both Perry and I that we needed to raise our children in the church, and we quickly found a home at First Pres! I will always remember that first day in this building. Alex was in a bucket car seat, we sat strategically just under the edge of the balcony (as to not stand out as the new people with a baby), the children's time was full of children and therefore life, the music was outstanding, and we met Catherine Brown. She greeted us with a warm, but not overbearing, welcome. By the time we finished the conversation with her and headed to the car, we had found a place to call home. A place to raise our children and for us, as a family, to grow stronger with Christ.

This church community has been a safe place for our children. It's a place for questions and through those questions much growth. The love that they feel from the members here is great and sincere, it has helped them through some pretty dark and sad times. The loss of a loved one or the unimaginable loss of a role model can have a positive or negative effect on a child. This church family has helped both Alex and Ashleigh grow through the tough times and turn towards God's teachings rather than away from them.

From the very first time, we entered this church building, the people have had an everlasting effect on our family. Next time you see a new family in the building remember to reach out (gently as Catherine did) and welcome them home.

Respectfully submitted by Heather Cavill

2019 Photo Directory



The photo directory process started in early April, with photo sessions taking place in May and June. We are hoping to complete the directory and have it printed before Christmas. By now you've likely picked up your family photos from the Welcome Desk.

Thank you to the many volunteers who made the new directory possible - from the people who helped phone our members and adherents, to the ones who worked at the desk welcoming & registering them before their photo was taken - it was a full team effort.

A special thanks to Marlene who helped so much to get the project started; Jean Jones, who got the registration desk scheduled with so many great people; Catherine Brown, who's in the know of everyone who moves or the small details, i.e. telephone number changes; and last but not least; Jansje & Denman Lawrenson, who photographed the committee members, staff, and shut-ins and kept the project steered in the right direction.

Volunteering for this project has allowed me to meet many members I had not met, and become more familiar with others. We have some great people in our congregation.

Thank you for your patience while some of the finishing touches are still to be done.

Elaine Griffin
Photo Directory Team

Spotlightcont'd

New Adherent

When **Carol Ellis** moved to Collingwood one of the first things she did was to find a church. A friend from her book club in Toronto highly recommended First Pres Church encouraging her to "go there and you will love it". So, she did, and she does love it.

First impressions are lasting impressions. Carol received a warm welcome from the start; and felt engaged by the music and sermons. She was "at home". She particularly likes the fact that there are children everywhere as her granddaughter likes to come with her to church, she knew this was a place where she would be welcome.

Volunteering has always been part of Carol's life. When she first joined First Pres she was curious as to where she could contribute. The first place she chose was the community dinner. She joined the renowned "dishwashing team" and thoroughly enjoys the camaraderie associated with contributing to this monthly outreach.

Carol enjoys her work as a leadership and career coach and has offered her services through the Pastoral Care Team. She also volunteered at Vacation Bible Camp this summer and had a great time with all the campers and other volunteers. Three words that Carol used to describe First Pres: "inclusive, inspiring and supportive".

Thank you Carol.



Long-standing Member: **Isobel Jardine**



has been attending First Pres Church faithfully her whole life. Over the years she has contributed in many different ways. She was a Sunday School teacher as well as being involved with CGIT (Canadian Girls In Training), the Outreach Singers, Women's Association, Bake Sales, Knitting, Anniversary Dinners and Senior Choir. Isobel continues to contribute to the Community Dinners, Funeral Luncheons and ushers on Sundays.

One of Isobel's favourite memories was when Rev. McMillan's daughter Jean did highland dancing at the Robbie Burns dinner, held at the church. She thought that was "just the berries".

Isobel, like many others, has had her share of hardship but her faith has never faltered. She says "when you're a Presbyterian you're a Presbyterian". She is always inspired by the message and music on Sunday mornings; she feels good when she attends First Pres Church; always friendly and welcoming.

Isobel is an incredible baker and one of her favourite recipes is raspberry pie or her sister Marion's date cream pie, which she has promised she will share when we prepare our next recipe book.

Thank you Isobel for your continued support.

Children & Youth Ministry

Now that fall has officially begun, we are back into the swing of many different activities and programs for the children and youth at First Presbyterian Church! All of our regular programs, PA Day Camps and Special Activities are posted, updated and shared through our church website. Be sure to visit it often! You can also stay up to date by liking the Children and Youth at First Presbyterian Church Facebook page; or following YouthFirstPres on Instagram.

Upcoming/Ongoing Mid-week Programs and Activities:

Treasure Time for Tots (Birth – School Age and their caregivers) meet Thursday mornings for story time and puppet play

V.O.I.C.E. & Impact youth groups (Gr 4 – 6 & Gr 7 – 12) meet Friday evenings with games and a message.

Triple P: Positive Parenting Program is offered for parents, guardians, grandparents, once per month for Sept, Oct and Nov. Each session builds conversations for raising resilient children. Childcare is provided.

P.A. Day Camp – November 22nd: Follow the Flight Plan. Camp is open to students from JK – Gr 6. Those in Gr 7 and higher are encouraged to be youth volunteers.

An important part of building a safe and inclusive environment for children and youth is ensuring that we have up to date information and permissions. We encourage all parents/guardians of children who attend First Contact, Nursery, either youth group, or Treasure Time for Tots to complete a **2019 Child and Youth Information Form**, found on our website. The form is quick and easy to complete and allows you to select which programs your child is likely to attend.



Blessing of the Backpacks, Sunday September 1

This year, we also marked our return to the school year with a **Blessing of the Backpacks** which was a wonderful opportunity to remind our students of all ages that they are loved and supported by their greater church family. We blessed over 40 children on their return to school, providing them with a tag to hook onto their backpack and a bag of items, each with a special message. That same Sunday, we had a number of our nursery children “move up” on Sunday morning, beginning First Contact as kindergarten students. Some of our other First Contact children moved up into an older Small Group, and many continued in the same group as last year. It is so exciting to watch children grow and discover what being made by, and loved by, God really means for their life. This year in First Contact, we are walking our way through the bible to gain a better understanding of God’s big story. In the Nursery, we are hoping to implement a circle time that helps the older nursery children prepare for First Contact, and become more involved in their Sunday mornings. We look forward to opportunities each week to connect with the children and youth of our church on Sundays to teach them how amazing our God is, and just how special each of them are as one of His creations.

Fall Favourites from the Library

For children and youth -
The Unofficial Graphic Bible for Minecrafters - recommended by Sebastian and Tristan Robinson - “Great!” and “I like Minecraft, so I like the Bible!”

It Will be Okay: trusting God through fear and change - recommended by Tabitha Terrell

Jesus and the 12 Dudes (board book)

- recommended by Dianne Belvedere

What's Your Spaghetti: Children's Guide To Self

Regulation (Dilley) – recommended by Yvonne Leliveld, Sharon McFarlane

Secret of the Hidden Scrolls (series of 5 books) – recommended by Nichola Alfing

For adults -

The Sensible Shoes (Brown) book #1 of 4 novels – recommended by Barb Sharp, Sally Patten, Joanne Beacock, Kari Mirrlees, Paulina Monette, Judy Milley

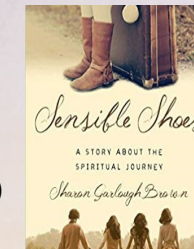
Sarah book #1 of 3, Canaan trilogy (Halter) – historical fiction – recommended by Angela Girdwood

Love Does and **Everybody Does** (Goff) - recommended by Dianne Belvedere, Catherine Brown; author recommended by Rev. Tim

Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith (Taylor)– recommended by Karen Wolfe

The Prodigal Prophet: Jonah & the Mystery of God's Mercy (Keller) – recommended by Darlene Elliotson

*By the way...*the library is open when the church is open! The library is self-serve! Check us out (by signing & leaving us the borrower's card, found at the back of the book.) Borrowing time for books – 3 weeks; for DVD's – 1 week. Volunteers needed for your busy library! Contact Judy Milley if interested @ 444-9172.



Thank You Volunteers

When we moved to Collingwood, we were attracted to First Pres by the many community outreach programs.

Our church has been blessed to have an outpouring of volunteers for children’s programs, pastoral care, community dinners, Christmas hampers, funeral lunches and more. I am truly grateful for the funeral luncheon team that comes together at a moment’s notice. You all know who you are and you are invaluable. My sincere thanks to everyone.

However, as our population ages and health issues are incurred some of our long standing dedicated volunteers are needing to step aside. We love them and appreciate all they have done and will miss the camaraderie that comes with serving together. This leaves opportunities for others to step forward. If each of us gives a little we can keep our programs running smoothly without over burdening anyone. What a wonderful opportunity to get to know one another.

If you would like more information about how to volunteer please call Paulina Monette at 705-443-8623

