

Third Avenue United Church

Winter 2020



From Dexter's Desk ~ Rev. Dexter van Dyke

This newsletter is being published as we are about to enter the season of Lent. Part of the letter's purpose is to provide you with information about the activities and worship services that will happen during this time. Lent is the forty days, not counting Sundays, before Easter. Sundays are not included because they are understood to be mini celebrations of the resurrection and Easter. Like Advent, Lent is meant to be a penitential time of spiritual preparation. The forty days parallel the forty days Jesus spent being tempted in the wilderness and the forty years the people of Israel spent wandering in the desert.

In recent years I have come to understand the penitential seasons in a significantly different way than I had previously understood them. In this new way of seeing things I understand Lent to be a time of examining our lives and our ways of living, individually and collectively, a time of seeking a deeper understanding of God's ways and purposes. Where our ways are not in accord with God's ways it is a time of turning toward God. We encounter this idea in the hymn "Tis the Gift to Be Simple" (# 353 VU) - "to turn, turn will be our delight 'til by turning, turning, we come round right. Engaging in the common practise of giving up something or perhaps of undertaking a new commitment is one way of approaching the Lenten season. It is my experience that this is useful only if it serves as a way of focusing ourselves on the larger task of self examination. Lent is not meant to be a time of punishing ourselves or beating ourselves up either emotionally or spiritually and certainly not physically.

When Jesus was asked, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself. When asked, "and who is my neighbour?" He replied with the story we have come to know as the Parable of the Good Samaritan. (Luke 10: 25 -37) This summary of the law is my starting point as I seek to understand God's purposes for my life and for the world. I know that I am able to love God because God first loved me (1John 4:10) and it is that great love which informs my love of myself and my love of my neighbour. God does not require great offerings or sacrifices burnt or otherwise. What God asks is that I walk humbly, that I love kindness and that I seek justice not just for myself but for everyone and everything. (Micah 6:6)

May you and I know the blessing of God's great love and presence as we undertake our Lenten journey. May we be open to God's grace and love and be channels of that love and grace for those around us.

Official Board Chairperson ~ Joyce Salie

Words about Attitude

Little and Bigs begin a new journey – one that takes us into Lent and then on to Good Friday and into the season we call Easter. This journey is not a simple one nor is it easy – nor should it be. It is time to regroup and discover who we are in all of this. I believe that attitude plays a big part in what we do and so I would offer you words written by Charles Swindoll called "Attitude":

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do.

It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past...we cannot change

*the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable.
The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude...
I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it.
And so it is with you...we are in charge of our ATTITUDES...
Blessings to you as you take charge of your attitude.....*

Pastoral Care ~ Pat Gotto

Members: June Newsham, Dorothy Hawtin, Moreen Cutts, Pat Gotto, Joyce Salie,
Dr. Raj Hathiramani, Myrna Goodman, Val FitzGerald, Karen Wharington,
Rev. Dexter van Dyke 🙏

Community Involvement Committee ~ Shannon Lindgren

Next meeting is Feb 23 after church ☺

Christian Education Committee ~ Lorna Reimer

Third Avenue offers Sunday School classes each week from January to Easter except during the February break. Families may be away taking advantage of the week long school holiday or children are frequently involved in out of town activities at that time. It also gives Sunday School teachers a break. Peggy Maunula is teaching the Junior class this term while Sarah Wood and Ken Holliday continue to teach the older groups.

The Youth Activity Club plays basketball in the gym Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00. There are 40 youth registered with 17 to 19 attending at any one time. Thank-you to Ken Holliday and Graeme Hoover for supervising.

"Games Church " with Rev. Shawn Sanford-Beck continues to meet monthly in Calvin Hall at 5:30. A potluck supper and a short ecumenical family church service is followed by an evening of playing board games. Upcoming dates are March 8, April 26, May 10, June 14.

Sunday School families will be involved in the Lenten Candle Liturgy beginning March 1, 2020. Sunday School looks forward to taking part in the Palm Sunday Service on April 5, 2020.

Rev. Dexter and the Sunday School teachers planned a very successful day for children on January 31, 2020. It was a school break and children from Kindergarten to Grade 6 were invited to "Come and Explore the Light". It was an exploration of Light, Energy and Epiphany. Children attended from 8:30 till 4:30 and experienced Third Avenue as a place for songs, games, crafts and learning about God's world. We are thankful for the support we received from members of the congregation who donated time and energy to help the day run smoothly. We owe Peggy Maunula a million thank-you's for the expert job she did as Co-Ordinator of the day. Her report follows.

We had a wonderful day with the children as we explored light, energy and Epiphany! We had 16 children, ages 3 – 10. The activities we did included playing with prisms and watching how the sunlight came through the stain glass windows. We experimented with taking pictures in different light and played with colour. We planted three different pots with bulbs, cuttings and seeds. We visited the library where we played with colour, energy, circuits and robot cubes. We made crystal rainbows, a solar oven and a light house. We sang and played games. The children made pretzels and decorated cookies for snacks. We have had many positive reviews for the day. Watch for our next Day Camp!!

I would like to thank all the people who helped to make this day amazing! Rev. Dexter, Ken Holliday and Lorna Reimer who took the time to meet and plan the day; Rev. Dexter, Ken Holliday, Lorenzo Bacchetto, Ilene Wettergreen, Irene Sack and Sarah Woods for spending the day with the children, helping with crafts, in the kitchen and filling in as needed; Val Fitzgerald, Jennifer Marcoux, Pat Gotto did an amazing job preparing our snacks and lunch; June Newsham shared her cookie decorating talent helping the children decorate cookies ~ Peg Maunula ☺

Worship Committee ~ Lorenzo Bacchetto

Welcome friends to the latest installment of Third Avenue's Newsletter. Our committee meets, usually, on the second Wednesday of every other month at noon. Our next meeting will be on March 10, if you'd like to stop in and see what's going on. Our meetings are usually posted in the bulletins and are open to all.

LENT & EASTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Communion	February 23:
Shrove Tuesday	February 25: Pancake Supper 5:00 – 7:00 pm
Ash Wednesday	February 26 (No service)
1st Sunday of Lent	March 1 (Imposition of ashes)
World Day of Prayer	March 6 at St. Joseph Calasactius Church at 2:00 pm
2nd Sunday of Lent	March 8
3rd Sunday of Lent	March 15
4th Sunday of Lent	March 21
5th Sunday of Lent	March 29
Palm Sunday	April 5 with choir cantata
Maundy Thursday	April 9 service @ 7:00 – 7:30 pm

Good Friday April 10 service @10:30 am at Third Avenue United Church
Easter Sunday April 12 (communion)

Communion Services

Sunday, February 23: at Third Avenue
Wednesday, March 11: 10:00 am at Harwood Manor
Wednesday, March 18: 10:00 am at BDCC and 11:00 am at River Heights Lodge
Sunday, April 12: at Third Avenue (Easter Sunday)

Administrative Support Committee ~ Raymond Humenny

Committee Members: Raymond Humenny - Chairperson/Board Member; Merv Zulynik, Ray Hoover, Ken Holiday – Committee Members; Karen Wharington – Treasurer; Barb Truemner – Office Coordinator

Enjoy the winter! Talk to you next time!!

Financial Report

FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO JANUARY 31, 2020

	Income	Annual Budget
Envelopes/Loose	\$ 10,007.45	\$ 164,947.00
Weddings		\$ 500.00
Rentals	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 24,800.00
Interest		\$ 200.00
Fundraising	\$ 2,342.00	\$ 28,500.00
Other	\$ 13,449.45	\$ 218,947.00

	Expenses	
Ministry & Personnel	\$ 11,419.75	\$ 144,726.00
Administrative Support	\$ 5,132.41	\$ 49,896.00
Christian Education		\$ 1,100.00
Community Involvement	\$ 25.00	\$ 3,625.00
Stewardship Education		\$ 500.00
Worship & Membership	\$ 162.17	\$ 7,050.00
Pastoral Care		\$ 1,050.00
Fundraising	\$ 413.67	\$ 11,000.00
	\$ 17,153.00	\$ 218,947.00

Excess Income/Expenses \$ (3,703.55)

The above represents the Income & Expenses to the end of January 2020.
Have you considered participating in the following ways of donations to the church on a regular/monthly basis? You can participate by: PAR
(Pre-authorized Remittance; leaving post-dated cheques; or Envelopes.
We always thank you for your consideration

Third Avenue United Church

1301 102ND STREET
NORTH BATTLEFORD, SK
WESLEY HALL

Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper
From
5:00 ~ 7:00 pm
Tuesday, February 25, 2020
Adults: \$8.00
6 ~ 12 Years: 5.00
5 yrs. & under: Free
Everyone Welcome!



Third Avenue United

1301 102ND STREET
NORTH BATTLEFORD, SK

Is Celebrating
"International Pi Day"

From

2:00 ~ 4:00 pm

Saturday, March 14, 2020

Come and have a piece of pie
with a cup of coffee or tea

\$5.00

Whole pies will also be for sale

Kinds of pies for sale:

Any kind including "Meat Pies"

You may pre-order by calling

306-445-8171

If you would like to make a pie
please call us at the above
number.