



# **October, 2015**

## **Newsletter**

**Immanuel United Church**

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**A Room with a View**



I had a wonderful summer and now fall is upon us and I am back into the swing of things. I have been busy in the office and look forward to the Fowl Supper.

*Sharon Vandenberg, Office Administrator*



**Retirees Luncheon**

**Tuesday, November 3, 2015**

**Noon – 2pm**



These luncheons are an opportunity to visit with one another, share lunch and enjoy some entertainment. There is a sign up sheet in the AMEN corner. A basket is provided at the luncheon for donations to cover expenses of the lunch and an honorarium for the entertainers.

All retirees and wanna-be retirees are invited.



## ***Fowl Supper***

**Saturday, October 24, 2015**

**4:00 to 7:00 pm**

**\$15.00 per person**

**\$8.00/children 14 years of age and under**

**Children age 7 and under Free**

**\$40.00/Family**

**Includes 2 Adults with children (under 14 years of age)**

**Immanuel United Church**

**755 Golspie Street**

**669-0220**

### **Fowl Supper**

Yes, it's our opportunity to invite our friends, neighbours and family in for dinner. This year, we are preparing for 500 guests. That's the number we've served the last couple of years.

We are available for sign up in the Amen corner after worship or contact me at **204-793-1286** or by email [afryza@msn.com](mailto:afryza@msn.com). We can always use young legs to serve! Do you know any "young-older" grandchildren, nieces, nephews or friends who would like to join in the fun and give us a hand.

Mark it on your calendar, invite folks by telephone, or through your e-mail list. We'll be ready to provide hospitality for our guests who want to enjoy a delicious dinner.

*Alison Fryza*

## Build Up Pay Down

In January of 2015 four major expenses to the church were identified; furnace repairs \$11,375.00, kitchen floor replacement \$5,400.00, copier replacement \$5,560.00 and new shingles for the south side of the roof \$9,000.00. The committee thought it would take 2 years to raise \$31,335.00 but we were able to reach our goal in 5 months.

First, we needed a name for this committee and we thank Lynne Strome for her many suggestions and for the final choice of Build Up Pay Down. Next we needed a visual way of tracking and reporting our progress. Our thanks to Luba Olesky for creating the perfect gauge, especially on such short notice.

Our goal was to raise \$20,000.00 through pledges and the balance through grants, insurance claim and fundraising. We are very pleased to report that the original goal has been exceeded by \$10,538.00. The extra money raised will go towards future repairs.

The committee wants to thank Bob Kenyon for researching and applying for the insurance claim on the furnace repairs, Bob Kenyon and Jim Ross for their work on the grant for the kitchen flooring, Tuesday Morning Study Group for hosting the Rewind concert and to Pat Schulz for applying for the grant from Manulife.

Many thanks to everyone who supported Build Up Pay Down through donations and pledges. Your response shows how we can work together to get a job done.

\$27,151.30	received
\$2,865.00	pledged
\$9,146.97	insurance claim
\$2,090.00	Rewind concert
\$500.00	Manulife donation
<u>\$120.50</u>	January meeting
\$41,873.77	

Respectfully submitted,

Ian Donnelly, June Horsfall, Connie Kryschuk and Glen Smyth

## Where Are We with the Back Forty?

Work continues on the Immanuel Back Forty! In the spring of 2015, we completed Phase 1 of the Canada Mortgage and Housing (CMHC) process, in which quite detailed preliminary investigation of our land was done, and answered positively the basic question, “Can some sort of housing be built on the Immanuel land?” We received a \$10,000 CMHC grant for the first Phase, and completed the necessary work without exceeding that amount. After the 2015 Annual Meeting, The Back Forty Team and a group of people authorized by the congregation met for the specific purpose of considering the terms of a CMHC loan which would allow us to move into Phase 2 (terms that had not yet been finalized at the time of the Annual Meeting). Satisfied that the loans are very reasonable and flexible, the group decided on the congregation’s behalf that we should move into Phase 2, and applied for and received a \$4,500 loan from CMHC. (This loan will be paid back to CMHC upon completion of a potential housing project, and out of the proceeds of that project. Should we decide not to develop the land, but to sell it outright, the proceeds would come out of the sale of the land. It was determined, therefore, that because the loan would not be paid back out of existing Immanuel funds, the risks incurred in securing this loan would be extremely low.)

We now have moved into Phase 2 of the process. Barbara Myers, our Urban Planner made available to us through the United Church’s EDGE Network for Ministry Development, has written a “Request for Proposals” that will be sent out into the building community to see what interest there is among developers in working with us on a building project. The Request for Proposals will be sent out on October 13, with a response deadline of November 10, 2015. Drawing on their own previous experience of similar projects, builders are asked to submit creative ideas for the actual bricks-and-mortar of a housing project on our land. In order not to limit the scope of these ideas that we hope will come to us, the scope of the Request for Proposals was very open.

Meanwhile, we are beginning to gather information about the potential organizational model for the housing project. Should it be a housing cooperative? If so, should it be a “limited equity housing cooperative”, an “equity housing cooperative”, or a “multi-stakeholder cooperative”? On Friday, October 9, we will be taking advantage of a free consultation service offered by Manitoba Housing to learn more about these models. (This does not assume an ongoing relationship with Manitoba Housing—MH is where this government service is lodged.) Should we be considering a co-housing model? Are there other models that would work smoothly and fit more closely with our mission? Whatever model we finally decide upon, the congregation has made it clear that it does not wish to be involved in the ongoing management of a housing development on its land, and we will ensure that this decision is honoured.

Phase 2 takes us into the challenging and creative work of collaborating with a builder actually to design a potential housing project for the Immanuel land. The Back Forty Team will be keeping the congregation informed and consulting with you often. No important decisions will (or may) be made without thorough consultation with you and with Winnipeg Presbytery of the United Church. If you have questions or concerns, or wish us to consider an idea, please bring them to us, and we’ll talk about them with you.

In the meantime, we continue to request your prayer for the faithful ongoing discernment of our mission in relation to the use of this land, and for the imagination and the courage to move into the possibility and promise that lie before us.

We are your Back Forty Team:

Margaret Smith, Scott Douglas, Jim Ross, Ruth Campbell, Glenn Nicholls, Bob Kenyon,  
staff resource Nancy Sanders and urban planner/project manager Barbara Myers of SvN (formerly  
Regional Architects)

### **Winnipeg Harvest**

On September 14<sup>th</sup>, we were busy setting up for our clients and we were visited by Morgan Thomas, the agency liaison for Winnipeg Harvest. His mission is to visit from September 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> as many food banks in Winnipeg as possible is to ask questions and receive feedback. The main office is in the process of updating their client call in service and other areas of operation. Morgan has been employed for over ten years with Winnipeg Harvest and told us in the twelve years we have been running our foodbank they have never received one complaint and that we are very organized and friendly. I replied we have terrific volunteers! Morgan also stated our foodbank is one of the top six foodbanks with the lowest amount of "NO SHOWS". I am always amazed when I hear or read of the many contributions from schools, churches, community clubs, volunteer groups, businesses, farmers, colonies who raise funds, produce, eggs, cheese and not to forget the community gardens.

But did you know? Winnipeg Head Office offers training courses. The courses are open to current or former clients who volunteer at Winnipeg Harvest and all courses are offered free of charge. The computer courses: Microsoft Word, Excel, Computer Security, Computer Diagnostics, Microsoft Powerpoint and Web Design. Two hundred people have completed these courses to date. Safe Food Handling Certificate for any jobs in the food industry; restaurants or grocery warehouses is also available. Winnipeg Harvest provides the training and Manitoba Health issues the certificates, more than six hundred in the past two years. Winnipeg Harvest has trained more than one hundred and fifty people to work as forklift operators. The kitchen training program provide hands on training in the main kitchen which serves one hundred and fifty meals each day, six days a week. The training also includes a two week culinary course at R.B. Russell Vocational High School. There are also programs which lead to employment offered by various businesses that include american sign language, customer service and financial literacy. Winnipeg Harvest is not just food and part of their mission is "Fighting hunger and feeding hope". Think of training as a hand up not a hand out. Please continue to save plastic grocery bags, especially the large plastic shopping bags and egg cartons. Thank you for your help.

*Joyce Smyth*

### **Habitat for Humanity**

September 29<sup>th</sup> we provided the 10 am coffee break for 75 volunteers. The build was at 870 McCalman Avenue. Fresh fruit, yogurt and granola bars were provided. My sincere thanks to Judy Bartlett, Marlene McNabb, Betty Patton, Cindy & Glen Smyth, Barry MacKay, Ron Metcalfe and Sharon Vandenberg for all their help.

*Joyce Smyth*

## Immanuel Sunday School

September at Immanuel means people coming back from cottages, the choir singing in worship, announcements about how many days are left until the Fowl Supper, AND the children of the Immanuel Sunday School re-appearing, ready to learn and to teach.

We are a small group, a lively example of the affirmation in the claim “where two or three are gathered in my name...” One of the joys of small groups is that each person becomes known by the others in deep and significant ways. There is always space for each voice to be heard, time for every question, room for all ideas. The children of the Immanuel Sunday School bring to our community curiosity, compassion, confidence, cooperative spirits, and huge amounts of creativity. They make connections with the biblical stories and they care about the church and the people with whom they form the community that is Immanuel.

The first week of Sunday School we talked about the nature of God, using the story of Moses and the burning bush and a story called Old Turtle. In this story, all of the creatures have their own understanding of who God is and what God is like. The old turtle reminds them that God is known in each of their images and that God is bigger than any of them. Some of the ideas about God from the story appear in the picture below, along with the assurance from the burning bush that our God is a God whose name is “I will be there”.

Last week we talked about the 10 Commandments and the concept of covenant. The second picture shows the covenant the children developed for their journey in Sunday School.

We give thanks for the presence among us of these faithful seekers. If you are interested in journeying with them as a teacher, helper, or source of ideas, please let us know.

Ann Naylor

for the Guiding Elders of Faith Formation and Lifelong Learning,

Jane Nicholls and Ann Naylor



Ethical and Fair Trade merchandise,  
Local and global benefits to shopping –  
A ***Justice*** event – is coming to



**Gordon King Memorial United Church  
127 Coburg Avenue  
Sunday, November 15, 2015**

**1:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**Free admission – Everyone Welcome**

**A project of the United Churches of Northeast Winnipeg**



## Staff

Nancy Sanders, Minister

Sharon Vandenberg, Office Administrator

Jim Goldrup, Caretaker

Eileen Metcalfe, Choir Director

Peter Fyne, Organist

J. Douglas McMurtry, Minister Emeritus

William Hickerson, Minister Emeritus

