

SONSHINE LUNCH CLUB NEWS

In this issue:

- Kitchen Renovations Complete
- Nelly Smit Honoured
- Poem by Andy Parks
- SLC Board of Directors

Average Daily Attendance at the Soup Kitchen

October—84
November—94



December 2019



Kitchen Renovations
Completed!

Everything Shiny
and New!

Sonshine Lunch Club Returns to a New Kitchen

On Monday September 16, the Sonshine Lunch Club returned to serving lunch guests at St. George's United Church. Due to renovations at St. George's, the soup kitchen had to re-locate for the summer. Arrangements were made with the City of Courtenay to serve lunches in Simms Park. It was perfect timing for leaving Simms Park, as the weather turned colder and rainy over the previous weekend.

The Sonshine Lunch Club has been housed at St. George's Church since it was started in 1996. The kitchen and washrooms were never designed for daily use and for feeding such large groups. So renovations were badly needed.

Now there is a brand-new kitchen – very bright and easy to keep sanitary for food preparation. Volunteers have been delighted with the new arrangement, storage, and flow of the kitchen. (However, finding the right cupboard has been a challenge!) It is also a pleasure to be back offering our guests a full lunch of soup, sandwiches, hot dogs, hot dish, dessert, coffee, juice/ milk. Although it was a beautiful summer to be out in Simms Park, everyone is pleased to be back indoors.

A special thanks to St. George's Church (in particular, the work of their property committee) for undertaking this large project. A special thanks to the City of Courtenay for allowing us the use of Simms Park during the 31/2 months of the renovation.

December 2019



St. George's Hosts Morning Coffee

St. George's United Church hosted a morning coffee and a dedication of the new kitchen on Wednesday, October 9th. All those who had made contributions to the renovation were invited for coffee and the dedication of the new facility.

Rev. Ryan Slifka welcomed the attendees and introduced the contractor for the renovation, Luke Flaming. Mr. Flaming had recently re-located his family to the Comox Valley and was willing to take on this project when the initial contractor was unable to begin the project for the beginning of June. Mr. Flaming was congratulated on being able to complete the project on time and within budget.

Rev. Slifka then read out the long list of contributors to the renovation fund. This included Rick Hansen Foundation, Ministry of Social Development and Innovation, Comox Valley Community Foundation, Courtenay Rotary Club, City of Courtenay, the Comox Firefighters' Association, First Credit Union, St. George's Church, St. Vincent de Paul, Knights of Columbus, CV Regional District and the Sonshine Lunch Club. The list included many other community groups, businesses and individuals. Keith Kovacs, of St. George's made a presentation to Nancy Milliken, chair of the Property Committee for St. George's. He thanked her for the amazing job she did in heading up the plans for the reno. This included hours in planning the design, sourcing and ordering materials, getting quotes and seeing the project to fruition.

Rev. Slifka and Assistant Pastor, Ingrid Brown then dedicated the new kitchen and washroom area.

Sonshine Lunch Club 2019 Board of Directors

Kevin Elsasser—President
Marion Edmondson—Treasurer
Clinton Wise—Director
Wendy Irwin—Director
Mark Toth—Director

Donna Griffiths—Secretary
Arnold Lamb—Director
Connie Paget—Director
Louise Smiley—Director
Brent Hobden—Director

December 2019



Wolter and Nelly Smit with a special "Thank you" cake following a wonderful retirement party held on August 24th. Nelly led the Friday volunteers for 23 years

Multiply Your Love

by Andy Parks

(Note: These are the words to a contemporary song, that expresses the goal/mission of the Sonshine Lunch Club. Listen to the song on You Tube.)

Multiply Your love through us to the lost and the least

Let us be Your healing hands, your instrument of peace

May our single purpose be to imitate Your life

Through our simple words and deeds,

let love be multiplied.

Chorus: Let us see Your kingdom come to the poor and broken ones;

Let us see a mighty flood of justice and mercy,

O Jesus, let love be multiplied.

Multiply Your love through me to someone in need

Help me, Lord, to freely give this grace that I've received

Let my single purpose be to imitate Your life;

Through my simple words and deeds, let love be

multiplied.

How to Donate

Monetary donations (cheques made payable to Sonshine Lunch Club) can be dropped off at St. George's during office hours (9:30am-12:30 pm Tuesday-Friday) or mailed to St. George's United Church, 505 6th Street, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 1M5.

On-line donations can be made through **Canadahelps.org** Type in "Sonshine Lunch Club"

SLC MISSION:

TO FEED THE HUNGRY, TO GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY, TO TAKE IN THE STRANGER AS COMMANDED IN MATTHEW 25:34-40