

# News From the Pews

DECEMBER, 2016 - JANUARY, 2017

Forward, Together



Growing in Faith  
Going in Mission

## The Journey to Christmas

### Advent, Christmas and Epiphany

What a wonderful time of the year as we prepare to celebrate God's love for us! Our culture focuses on preparing for one day of celebration. However the Church observance covers weeks, not just of a birthday, but three different time periods that enrich our journey in life and faith. What follows are some brief thoughts about the three seasons.

We have already entered the first --- a season we call **Advent**. In this season we focus on waiting for God. In this time we remember Mary waited for nine months, and God's people waited for centuries for the Messiah. The time of waiting was difficult, but also a rich time of preparation for the Messiah's coming. We celebrate the ways that God was known throughout. In Advent we celebrate that God is in the waiting time for us, preparing us for Christ to come to us in real and meaningful ways in our lives. We also celebrate that we are waiting for Christ's promised return.

The second is **12 Days of Christmas** on which we celebrate the birth of Christ. We celebrate that God came into the world, not into a church decked out for the holidays or a palace full of servants, but into the arms and lives of a couple forced to take shelter in a stable. God came amid the difficulties of life into poverty and homelessness. We celebrate Christmas because it happens to us today. God comes to us even amid our darkness, troubles, twists and turns of our lives.

**Epiphany** falls on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas (January 6). But the season of Epiphany lasts from that time until Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. During Epiphany we focus on our lived response to Christ's birth,

in other words what it means for us to be light in the world.

We look forward to sharing the season with you!

Advent, Christmas and Epiphany blessings,

Rev. Jan Hazlett

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## A SPECIAL CELEBRATION

### We Celebrate Ten Years of Ministry with The Rev. Jan Hazlett

Jan's life is truly a story of faith and family.

When she was nine years old, the minister at their family church told Jan's mother, "it's too bad they are not ordaining women into the church as your daughter would make a great minister". So began Jan's journey.

Jan was born and raised in Guelph, ON, the second of five sisters. Currently three of her sisters live in Ontario and one resides in PEI. Jan and John have three grown children; Kristen married to Scott, lives in Kemptville ON, Ben married to Heather, is in Ottawa, and Rachel married to Kaymin, is in Calgary. Jan and John have two grandsons, Malakai five years old and Gideon who is two years old.

During her years of ministry, Jan has undertaken many roles that include Youth Minister, Pastoral Care Giver, Drama Troup, Sunday School Teacher and Christian Educator.

Jan's calling to ordained ministry came following her attendance at an annual conference and course at Princeton. When she returned home, she indicated to John that she believed she was being called to ordained Ministry but it would have to wait until the kids were through university. John's response was, when God calls, you shouldn't say "just wait until I am ready". It is at this point Jan began her studies at university during the same time as their three children, all supported by John.

Jan was attracted to St. Andrew's because of its reputation of being a caring place that looks outside itself. Peter Coutts had telephoned her to see if she knew of any minister who might be interested in a move to our church. She also spoke with Marty Molengraaf who was a member of her Presbytery and who many of us would remember from his years of service at our church. So, it was then she and John made their way to join St. Andrew's ten years ago.

The rest, as the saying goes, is history. This month we salute Jan and celebrate ten years of the Hazlett's leadership and participation at St. Andrew's. There can be no question that we are all better off for the rich blessings they have bestowed upon us. It is through them becoming part of our lives that we thank God for bringing us all together.

Jean Sadler



# AROUND AND ABOUT US

By Terry Zimmer



## 50th Wedding Anniversary JUDIE & FRED COLEMAN



A young couple was getting married in a small town in western Pennsylvania called New Kensington. It was June 1965. The maid-of-honor was the bride's sister, Judie Simon, while a soft-spoken, friendly young man named Fred Coleman from Johnstown attended the groom as best man. Fast-forward a year, and Fred is just finishing his Masters at Penn State University. He has been hired by Chevron in Calgary as a geophysicist. But what to do? Last year's best man and maid of honor have been seeing each other often and do not want to be parted. The solution is easy, they get married on December 10, 1966 so they can go to Canada together. Fred and Judie live in Calgary for two years, transfer to Jackson, Mississippi and Houston, Texas, and return to Calgary in 1972.

In 1976 Judie and Fred became members of St. Andrew's. Judie has been an elder since 1990. She worked in the church office for thirteen years, ending with a period as office manager and retiring in 2009. She is presently Pastoral Care Coordinator and volunteers in many areas of service when needs arise. Fred served two terms on the Board of Managers. Both consider St. Andrew's to be "family".

In leisure hours, Fred likes to garden, hunt, fish and hike. Judie is president of P.E.O. --- an organization that raises funds for scholarships and loans to help women seeking education. Both enjoy spending winter months in Arizona. Fred and Judie have two children and three grandchildren. They both emphasize the importance of teamwork in marriage, i.e., "being there for one another when you're needed."

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## In Memory of KEITH MUNNOCH 1934—2016



"Keith was born in Polmont, Scotland on January 3, 1934. He attended George Watson's College in Edinburgh, Scotland from the age of seven years old and remained there until graduation . . . Following his school years, he apprenticed with Geoghegans, an Edinburgh-based firm of chartered accountants. He then joined the Royal Air Force as an officer and pilot for two years before joining Shell International. On one of his early assignments with Shell, he was posted to Nairobi, Kenya, where he met his loving wife, Elizabeth, who was a flight attendant with a London-based chartered airline. They were married and lived an extraordinary life travelling the world as ex-pats and raising their four girls. Keith and Elizabeth were married 52 years, and they were each other's best friend. A Celebration of Life service was held at St. Andrew's on Nov. 8, 2016." \**The Calgary Herald* Nov. 2 – 7, 2016.



# HELPING OTHERS

## NO CRIB FOR A BED - NEIGHBOURLINK CENTER

This project is to help infants (0-2) born into low-income households get the best possible start in life by providing baby essentials that their parents cannot afford. The project is also known as ICU2. Babies who are currently sleeping on the floor or in a laundry basket are given safe cribs to sleep in. Reaching NeighbourLink’s goal of “Neighbours Helping Neighbours” depends on people like us who help with both items and financial donations. NeighbourLink helps more than 10,000 unique clients in Calgary every year. Clients are screened financially, and come from all walks of life.

The specific items requested from NeighbourLink are as follows: **diapers size 1-6, baby food, baby formula, baby lotion, baby wipes, shampoo, and diaper cream.** As always, we accept gently used strollers. The donor’s name and contact information must be attached.

Beginning November 27 and ending December 18, there will be a playpen in the Foyer for collection of your items. Special collection envelopes can also be designated to NeighbourLink “No Crib For a Bed” during this time and will be put towards cribs and these baby necessities.



## THE MITTEN TREE

## FEEL THE WARMTH



It feels good to be warm, both inside and out! But for many in our city, the winter months bring nothing but cold, bone-chilling cold. We, as a missional church can help lessen that cold and bring warmth to others, by participating in supplying **mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, warm socks, ear muffs and headbands** to those in need. They will not only feel warmth against the cold weather, but maybe also, will feel a little inner warmth knowing that others in Calgary care.



The “mitten tree” will be decorated with your warmth at both services during the Children’s Time on **Sunday, December 18**. This is a unique opportunity for all ages to participate in mission by purchasing or making winter items for the Mitten Tree. Items will then be donated to various charities such as the Mustard Seed, Drop-Inn Centre, Acadia House or others as the need becomes known.

***Please help spread the warmth!***

May the Lord grant you and your loved ones  
Love, Joy and Goodwill  
This Christmas and all the New Year

# CHRISTMAS COOKIE PLATES



A St. Andrew's **CareShare** mission project for our members who are in nursing homes, who are home bound, who have suffered the loss of a spouse this year, and for those who are challenged by major health problems or another crisis.

This small gesture is hopefully a reminder to the recipient and their family, that we do remember and we do support them in thought and prayer, especially at this time of year.

Anyone who is willing to **share a batch of Christmas cookies** is asked to deliver their baking to the Karl English Lounge on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> during office hours (9am-12noon & 1-4pm). Last year 78 plates were delivered, each with a Christmas greeting and a Christmas message prepared by one of our ministers.

We appreciate your consideration of our request for help with the baking.

Thank you, Lois Kerslake, 403-252-9597

## LADIES AFTERNOON GUILD



The Ladies Afternoon Guild will be holding their buffet Christmas Lunch on

**Tuesday, December 13th** in the Garden Court Dining Room

**Glenmore Inn**, 2720 Glenmore Trail SE

beginning at **11:30 am** and we invite **all ladies** of the congregation to join us.

Prices are \$19.02 regular; \$16.60 for seniors, 65 and over.

All prices include a 15% gratuity (groups more than 10) and include coffee, tea and pop.

Please sign the sheet at the sign-up centre in the Narthex to reserve your spot.

Hope you can join us!

## CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve - December 24th

Family Story Service 4:30 pm

Candlelight Service 7:00 pm

Candlelight & Communion Service 9:00 pm

Christmas Day – December 25<sup>th</sup> One Service Only 10:30 am

New Year's Day – January 1<sup>st</sup> One Service Only 10:30 am



# LOOKING BACK

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS NOVEMBER 2016

This year the Session of St. Andrew's is intentionally striving to seek God's will for our future together. We have spent much time at meetings to develop the Ministry Position Descriptions and the necessary related accountability and feed-back provisions.

We also begin each meeting intentionally with scripture and prayer using a method called "word-share-prayer." This involves prayer and discussion of where we have experienced God's leading in our lives and in the congregation. It involves praying for each other and for God's guidance as we as a congregation move toward calling a Minister, Vision and Direction. This month our passage was Colossians 1:11-20.

Some items of interest that were discussed:

**The Budget for 2017:** We received the draft budget both for our continuing ministry on Heritage Drive and the 5 year plan for ministry south of Fish Creek with some discussion not just about numbers, but about good stewardship of resources.

**Alternate Worship Service:** Starting in January 2017 there will be a monthly Alternative Worship Time that will be the next generation of Holy Smoke Café. This service will take place early evening on the last Saturday of each month. We look forward to a fresh format and developing a family worship time that might be appropriate for ministry South of Fish Creek.

**Congregational Visitors:** As a congregation we continue our tradition of trying to keep in contact with our congregation through our "District Visitors". As our society has changed, our culture does not experience visits in the same way it once did. We have asked our District Visitors to contact our congregation to find the preferred ways for us to be in contact, whether it be through personal visits, telephone calls, email or texts. We hope that you will help us through your visitor, to know the best way to communicate important information, usually about 3-4 times a year, and establish ways for you to communicate with your visitor when the need arises.

**Search Team:** Although the particulars of the Search Process need to be confidential, the co-convenors of the Search Team, Cathy Millar and Loran McVittie, reported that they are meeting regularly and that the search is progressing.

## VETERAN'S FOOD BANK

As of November 20th, Heritage Seniors collected two grocery carts full of food and the congregation of St. Andrew's collected four, for a total of **six carts**. In addition, St. Andrew's donated **\$3056** to the Veteran's Food Bank.

**Thank you to everyone for giving generously.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Alan and Evelyn Reimer** are thrilled to announce the birth of their grandson, Elliott Roan Turner, on November 9th. Proud parents Denis and Dusty and big sister Poppy are delighted with the new arrival.

**Carol Elizabeth Doyle** wishes to thank all of those people who have driven her to and from Church Services and Activities throughout the years. Too numerous to mention, Carol wants you to know that your kindnesses are greatly appreciated.

Our condolences to the friends and family of **Sherrill Allan**, whose sister recently passed away.

Our condolences to **Shirley MacLeod** and family whose sister recently passed away.



### SAVE THE DATE

The Coldest Night of The Year

Saturday February 25th.

Join us for a family-friendly 2k walk and dinner. More info to come!

# LOOKING FORWARD — SAVE THE DATE



## Men's Fellowship Breakfast - Saturday, January 28, 2017

All St. Andrew's men and guests are invited to attend our first Men's Fellowship breakfast of the new year being held on Saturday January 28, 2017 in Trinity Hall starting at 8:30 am. Please join us for a delicious breakfast, warm fellowship, and a great speaker. Our special guest speaker is **Captain Karl Kjarsgaard**, a pilot and dedicated historian from Halifax 57 Rescue, a group whose dream is to assemble a Second World War Halifax bomber by raising aircraft from the Atlantic Ocean and Baltic Sea. Karl has spoken widely about this ambitious project and was interviewed recently by CBC. We will also be welcoming men from McDougall United Church to join us at the breakfast. Cost is only \$5.00 per person. Please pre-register at the sign-up centre in the narthex and please invite your guests to join us. We look forward to inviting the ladies to a breakfast at a later date. Come out and join us for an entertaining and informative morning.



## Cameroon Mission - February, 2017

On February 8, 2017, **Dr. Caroline Bain** and **Dr. Yvonne Kangong** will travel to Cameroon, West Africa with a medical/non-medical mission team. The team will provide medical care/education to churches, a university, orphanages, a rehabilitation centre for special needs kids, and the community at large. They will also help repair a school in Buea where Yvonne Kangong attended Sunday school as a child. The mission trip is in collaboration with the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon Buea Station and Cameroon Canadian Foundation.

For further information please contact Yvonne Kangong ([yvonnebey@hotmail.com](mailto:yvonnebey@hotmail.com)) or Caroline Bain ([baincec@gmail.com](mailto:baincec@gmail.com)), or consult the following websites: <http://camerooniancanadianfoundation.org/> and follow the link for Cameroon Medical Mission 2017, or <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/cameroonian-canadian-foundation-foundation-camerounaise-canadienne/>.

The Mission Team solicit our prayers and donations towards the success of the mission. Bake sales are planned to raise funds. Donations of cookies will be appreciated. Cheques may be made payable to **Cameroonian Canadian Foundation**. Please include your full name and address for tax receipts. Thank you and remember, "It takes a village to raise a child." God bless you!



## Homes of Hope Mexico Build - March 2 - 5, 2017

St Andrew's has an opportunity to join with two Calgary Rotary Clubs, in partnership with YWAM (Youth With A Mission) to build homes for six families in one of the poorest regions of Mexico. In this program, we would find our own way to San Diego, and pay US\$385 for room, board and local transport, including transfer from San Diego to the build program in a nearby area of Mexico. There is also an opportunity to contribute further to the YWAM program, but the fundraising for the building materials has already been done by the Calgary Rotary Clubs. This notice is to get you thinking about your possible involvement and to help organize any joint travel planning. If you are thinking of participating in this work in 2017, and/or would like additional information, please contact Bill Judd (403-278-5904) as soon as possible.

# What's the Deal with the Café?



The author of Ecclesiastes wrote that “for everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven”. Seasons change, and change, it seems, is the natural state of things under heaven. Whether we call it entropy or the stirring of the spirit, part of our life as a church involves understanding and recognizing the direction in which God is moving and joining him where he is.

Three years ago, Holy Smoke Café was started as an initiative to engage families and younger people in worship than a typical Sunday. It was a space to try new forms of worship, to create and experiment with what Church can be as we move into the future.

At a recent meeting, the worship team began a process of assessment around Holy Smoke, attempting to determine metrics for success. The conclusion was that, given the dwindling attendance and the increased workload required to maintain Holy Smoke Café in its current form, something had to give. The worship team advised taking a break from it in its current format and potentially revisiting it in the future.

Sometimes, following the spirit's leading though leads you in a funny direction because at the same time as the worship team was pondering the future of Holy Smoke, the Family Ministry team was considering what family worship might look like South of Fish Creek.

The result was the season changing. Instead of Holy Smoke fading into memory, something new is being created in its place.

**A new Saturday evening service will launch on January 28th** and continue every month with a more intimate atmosphere and a different form of worship.

A final service under the Holy Smoke brand was held on November 19<sup>th</sup> with a liturgy created by the Family Ministry team. Now the process of creating something new begins. The family Ministry team has put together a survey – you may have seen some of the young adults handing out iPads before, between and after Sunday worship. Take a minute to fill one out. Let us know what your experience of Holy Smoke has been; let us know what you might like it to be.

Turn, turn, turn.

Rev. Jared Miller

## Spring for the Shingles

A reminder about the ongoing **Spring for the Shingles** project. You can donate by buying a bundle of shingles for \$250.00 or part of a bundle for whatever you would like to donate. Receipts will be given for any donation over \$10.00. Consider your donation as a special gift or a memorial to a loved one. Visit the display any Sunday and speak to members of the Stewardship and Facility teams. Your donation is appreciated.



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Articles may be submitted in the mailbox in the Karl English Lounge or emailed to :

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\*The editorial team may edit your submission due to space limitations.

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