

Celebration Sunday is Coming!



Once again we are holding our St. Luke's Celebration Sunday. This year it will fall on November 15th. On that Sunday, we will celebrate our coming together as a full congregation to honour both our heritage and our commitment to St. Luke's future.

We urge you to plan now to attend this important two-part event: the Sunday morning worship with a celebration luncheon (a fully catered meal, not a potluck lunch) immediately following worship that same day.

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money we give to our churches merely as a way to pay the bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as helping people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Stewardship is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of givers to give for their own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat them as people growing in their faith journeys who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. As well as a response to their baptismal promises and call, this program encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?" During morning worship on **Celebration Sunday**, we will ask those attending to make their financial commitments to our church's ministries in this community and around the world.

Everyone who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on **Celebration Sunday**. We urge people to attend even if they feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if they choose not to fill out a card.

During morning worship, our guest preacher will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

Stewardship Team members (Daniel Fournier, Sharon Hallsor, Tara Poilievre, and Barb Prescott) and Parish Council members encourage your participation in **Celebration Sunday** events. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend **Celebration Sunday** worship. Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in the **November 15th Celebration Sunday** events.

Please contact the Stewardship Team at communications@stlukecedarhill.ca if you have any questions.