OUR MISSION
To reach out to one another and our world as we grow spiritually in a caring, inclusive, Christian community enriched by meaningful worship

A Sense of Community ~ Affirming ~ Caring ~ Growing Spiritually ~ Meaningful Worship ~ Reaching Out

DURING TODAY’S WORSHIP
LARGE PRINT bulletins and music books, and assistive hearing devices for improved sound are available.

A PROFESSIONALLY STAFFED NURSERY for infants and toddlers is available with a pager system; speak to an usher for assistance.

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the seats; if you would like your own set of envelopes, or if you would like to begin pre-authorized remittance (PAR), contact the church office.

A LIBRARY is available at the back of the sanctuary.

HERE FOR THE FIRST TIME?
WELCOME! We invite you to record your name in our Guest Book so that we may welcome you this week. We invite you to stay after worship for coffee, tea, juice, cookies and conversation.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH
ADVENTURE CREW is for children aged 5 to 12 during Sunday worship. It is led by Sharon Holmes, Developer of Children’s Ministry, assisted by volunteers.

PINNACLE YOUNG LEADERS is for youth in grades 6 to 12 during Sunday worship. It is led by Jay Poitras, Developer of Youth Ministry, assisted by Claire Sweeney.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS BOOK
Stained Glass Windows Book
In 1977, a book about the stained glass windows was published for the 25th anniversary of Port Nelson. The text, narrating the various biblical stories represented in the windows, was written by Rev. Dr Bev Johnston and Ken Lloyd. This book was revised again in 1990. Last year, the Worship Committee decided it was time for a further revision. We are delighted to unveil the latest edition of Stained Glass Windows of Port Nelson United Church. We are deeply grateful to Dorothy Birkes for taking the lead on this project, and to Alex Hutchinson for the photography. If anyone wishes to purchase copies, Dorothy Birkes will be taking orders following worship. The books cost $65.

TODAY
Ushers George Leckie; Carolyn Petrie, Alan Tompkins; Leslie Harrison
Greeters Richard & Margaret Hensen John & Margaret Ashfield
Coffee Libby Abbott; Bev Osborne Edie Danna; Ellen Grote
Sound System Mary Carey
Flowers Bobbie Mulveney
Nursery Helpers Carol Inkster; Holly Doucette

A Donation has been made to the Food Voucher Program in loving memory of John McMulkin by Margaret and family.

Rev. Michael Brooks is on study leave today and the coming week as he travels to Georgia for the annual Key Leaders’ Seminar with Dr Kennon Callahan. Michael returns next Sunday, February 26.

Please note: This week the office will be open from 9am-12 noon only - Tuesday to Thursday while Rebecca is on holidays. There will be no groups in on Monday Feb. 20th for Family day. The office will be closed Friday.

GLEE Camp Dates 2017
We are pleased to announce the following dates for the 2017 Summer GLEE Camps!

Week 1:
July 10 to 14

Week 2:
July 24 to 28

Week 3:
August 8 to 11 (4-day camp)

New This Year! On-line Family Registration will be available in late February, prior to Registration for GLEE Camps opening on Monday, March 6th at 9am. Stay tuned for more details.
Sound Desk Operators
We are looking for additional people to staff the sound desk during worship services (approximately once every 4-5 weeks). Full training would be provided. There is also the opportunity to work for special events and concerts for an honorarium.
Contact: Ross Hicks | 905 639 6406
jrosshicks@gmail.com

Gift Card Program
The cards are for restaurants, grocery stores, gas stations, and even big box stores. See Joan and Carol in the Upper Gathering Place – each purchase helps our food voucher program and those in need.

Prayer Shawl Ministry
Prayer Shawls are a Source of Comfort and Caring! Would you as a knitter or one who crochets be interested in being part of a Prayer Shawl Ministry at Port Nelson? You are invited to join others to explore the possibility of having a Prayer Shawl Ministry here at Port Nelson. Bring your needles and hooks on Friday February 24th, 10:00am -11:30am to hear the 11 year history of Tansley United’s prayer shawl ministry group. Two long term members of that group Sue Stephens and Marilyn Stares will be with us to share their stories and love of knitting and crocheting with a special purpose. Please RSVP to Contact: Ann Fleming | 905 319 1064
Email: eann.fleming@sympatico.ca

Food Bank Reminder
The need is still great in Burlington. Collections for Partnership West Food Bank continue on the third Sunday of each month. As before, the need is greatest for canned meats and fish, canned fruit and vegetables, and toiletries such as soaps, toothpaste and shampoos and diapers size 5/6. Cash donations are used for purchase of fresh foods and are receipted for tax purposes.

UPCOMING EVENTS – SAVE THE DATES

Sunday, February 26 – Port Nelson serves dinner at Wesley Centre

Wednesday, March 1 at 7pm – Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday, April 2 – Family Curling Night

Sunday, April 9 – 65th Anniversary Worship Service with Rev. Don Parsons, Guest Preacher

Saturday, April 22 – 65th Anniversary Celebration Dinner!

Sunday, May 28 – Choir Spring Concert

The Staff of Port Nelson United Church
Michael Brooks, Minister
Gord Dunbar, Associate Minister
Candy Harvey, Voluntary Associate Minister
Stillman Matheson, Director of Music
Sharon Holmes, Developer of Children’s Ministry
Jay Poitras, Developer of Youth Ministry
Holly Doucette, Nursery Coordinator
Rebecca Murphy, Church Administrator
Maryann Collins, Bookkeeper
Rick Tucker, Church Custodian
Jacqueline Boin, Security Lock-up

Small Groups Brochure
A brochure outlining the many groups at Port Nelson is available this morning, or on the church website.

Seniors’ Luncheon – Wednesday, March 1
Our next Seniors Luncheon will be at noon on Wednesday, March 1. The lunch will cost $15.00 per person and will include soup, sandwiches, sweets, etc. Margo Jamieson will conduct a lively presentation outlining the “Power of Music”, not just as entertainment but as an enhancement of our lives. Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the upper foyer. We will be collecting $15.00 per person on Sunday, February 26, as we have to pre-pay the caterer.
Contacts: Donna Duncombe | 905-639-6260
Anne Smith | 905-639-1645

PNUC Men’s Breakfast
Saturday, March 4, 2017 @ 8:30 am
Classroom 5 under Sanctuary

“Lake Ontario Stone Hookers”
Presented by:
Fred Coutts

Please sign up in the Narthex
or call
Ham Jukes 905-639-3669
$8.00 per person at the door

PORT NELSON’S FRIDAY FAMILY FUN NIGHTS

Presents

ENCHANTED

FRIDAY, February 24th
6:00pm – 8:30pm
Port Nelson United Church
Room 5

Pizza, popcorn & drinks will be provided
(free will donations are greatly appreciated to help off-set the food costs)

R.S.V.P. to Sharon
sharonholmes@portnelsonunitedchurch.com

Wearing your pj’s, bringing your pillow and favourite stuffed friend is not only allowed but encouraged
Annual Meeting – Update

Thanks to everyone who attended the Annual Meeting of the congregation on Sunday, February 12. The following occurred at the meeting:

- Approved the Visioning Plan; this means your Church Council will be setting up working groups to explore the following new initiatives:
  - expanding GLEE Camp
  - Introducing an after-school program
  - Introducing mid-week inter-generational activities
  - creating an event hosting service to utilize the newly renovated space in 2018
  - the possibility of an additional "service" or alternate gathering opportunity

- Approved a new value of "Affirming" which replaces our current value of "Being Inclusive;"
  The new value statement is:

  "We affirm, include, and celebrate people of every age, race, belief, culture, ability, income level, family configuration, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation in the life and ministry of Port Nelson United Church.

  As followers of Jesus we believe that we are part of the body of Christ. The apostle Paul said that 'the body does not consist of one member but of many' and all are indispensable. (1 Corinthians 12:14, 22-26)."

- Approved the 2016 financial statements and the 2017 operating budget of Port Nelson

- Heard an exciting update from the Rekindle Team about the wonderful progress of the Rekindle project

- Approved the disbursement of $16,000 from the Endowment Fund for outreach projects within our community

- Elected members of your Church Council for 2017 with Brian Snell as the new Chairperson

- Thanked Alan Brown for his time as Chairperson of Council - particularly as he and Elaine will be moving to British Columbia this spring

At last Sunday's Annual Meeting an error was made in calculating the results for Motion 10, which dealt with joining Affirm United. 48 ballots were cast in favour of joining and 15 against. There were 3 abstentions. We have since been advised by Affirm United that abstentions should not have been included in the total vote tally. This conclusion was supported by the legal counsel for the United Church of Canada.

Therefore, the percentage in favour of the motion was 48/63 = 76%. Since the minimum approval, set by Affirm United, is 75%, Motion 10 passes.

Our next step is to formally apply to join Affirm United and send the $100 annual fee. Upon their acceptance of our application we will plan a celebratory event. At that point we can call ourselves an Affirming Ministry.

If you have any questions please address them to me.

Brian Snell, Chair of Council