



WORLD FOOD DAY

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) created World Food Day on October 16, 1945. The goal of the FAO is to free humanity from hunger and malnutrition, and to effectively manage the global food system. World Food Day events are organized in over 150 countries across the world. These events promote worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and help strengthen the link between agriculture and food security. Here is some information from the FAO about the current world food situation:

Good News: There are 216 million fewer hungry people in the world today than in 1990-92, despite a 1.9 billion increase in the world's population

Bad News: World hunger increased in 2016 to 815 million undernourished people from 777 million in 2015, due mainly to forced migration due to conflict and climate-related incidents

Other Facts about World Hunger:

- around 70% of hungry people are farmers
- women suffer disproportionately, and make up at least 43% of the agricultural labour force in developing countries
- 2017 has seen the largest humanitarian crisis in 70 years; 20 million people in four different countries (South Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria, and Yemen) have been facing extreme hunger and, in some cases, famine
- Canada has been a global leader in food security; however, **Canadian aid is the lowest it has been in 50 years**, contributing only 0.26% of its Gross National Income to helping the world's poorest citizens – well below the average of similar countries (0.54%)

Food Access Ministries of Port Nelson

Burlington Food Bank



On the third Sunday of every month, we receive an offering of food items and donations to help support the Burlington Food Bank. In 2016, the Food Bank provided food to over 8,500 Burlington residents. Port Nelson contributed \$3,037 in cash donations and hundreds of food items.

Friday Night Community Dinner



On the first Friday of every month, Port Nelson prepares, serves and cleans up at the Friday Night Community Dinner, feeding over 200 people. About 50 adults and youth from Port Nelson participate regularly in this community project.

Port Nelson Food Voucher Program



Every Thursday morning from 10am to noon, dozens of people gather here at Port Nelson for coffee, muffins, friendship, moral and spiritual support, assistance with accessing community resources, and the gift of a \$25 PC card to assist with purchasing items that may not be available elsewhere. In 2016, \$33,638 in assistance was distributed to 250 families in need.

Seeds of Life: Canadian Foodgrains Bank



Seeds of Life is a community growing project on a 72-acre farm at Alberton, Ontario for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank – “A Christian response to hunger.” This past year, Port Nelson sponsored the planting of 21 acres of soybeans at a cost of \$400 per acre. The crop was harvested earlier this month, yielding a very good return of \$630 per acre. When matched 4 to 1 by the Canadian Government, our \$8,400 investment becomes over \$66,000 for world food relief. The Foodgrains Bank provides \$41 million of assistance for about 900,000 people in 35 countries.

REKINDLE RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE



The Project Management Team would like to provide an update on what has happened since June. The congregation approved an increase to the Rekindle Renovation Project budget of \$500,000 so that the current budget is \$3.7M. **In addition** we needed to find about \$500,000 in cost reductions. The architect and contractor have found those savings through changes to the construction, demolition, exterior facing, and some realignments such as placement of the elevator.

We are really pleased to announce that we have a contractor in TRP Construction. TRP is a local Burlington construction company who has extensive experience in similar work and has an ongoing relationship with our Architect.

As a result of the design and costing work done by the architect and TRP over the summer, we have reached an understanding of changes needed to the original project design and the resulting cost savings. The proposal will achieve the Congregation's objectives for the project. On that basis, PMT has signed a Letter of Intent to enter into a formal Design-Build contract. There are details to work out before signing a formal contract in three weeks or so. But meanwhile the Letter of Intent allows the Architect to proceed expeditiously with drawings needed for the Site Permit and Building Permit. The review of those documents by the City was suspended when we identified that significant cost reductions were required. The Architect will now work with the City to resume the required approvals based on submitted amendments.

PMT will be sharing more information as it becomes available. A schedule will become firmer once we hear back from the City. Stay tuned for further developments that are beginning to happen quickly.

This week's "Digging In" daily reflections: (October 15 to 21): Harvest

"Love is to the heart what the summer is to the farmer's year. It brings to harvest all the loveliest flowers of the soul."

- Billy Graham

"May something always go unharvested, may much stay out of our stated plan, apples, or something forgotten and left so smelling their sweetness would be no theft." - *Robert Frost*

"The thankful receiver bears a plentiful harvest."

- William Blake

"What we plant in the soil of contemplation, we shall reap in the harvest of action."

- Meister Eckhart

"So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at the harvest time, if we do not give up."

(Galatians 6: 9)

"Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food."

- Hippocrates

"What could be more important than a little something to eat?"

- Winnie the Pooh