

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER – 2012

Tisdale St. Paul's JNAC - With the resignation of Rev. Rigby St. Paul's struck a JNAC (Joint Needs Assessment Committee) in early June to examine the needs of our congregation as we move into the future.

The committee consists of Judy Saelhof, Maureen Donald, Morley Mehler and Carol McPhee from St. Paul's and Rev. Nancy Steinbachs from Tamarack Presbytery.

We met to formulate a plan which consisted of a survey and a town hall meeting to give some information and then to ask for feedback from the members of St. Paul's.

After meetings to tally the results and examine the comments, we were able to make some recommendations.

Those recommendations were presented to the Official Board at the September meeting and passed with a minor change. There will be a congregational meeting in conjunction with the October 14th service which will be presided over by Rev. Steinbachs. At that time, the congregation will be asked to approve or dismiss the recommendations. If the recommendations are approved, they will be presented to Presbytery at the next meeting at the end of October. If they are approved there, then the recommendations can be acted upon by the congregation of St. Paul's. If they are defeated at either level, it is back to the drawing board to choose another JNAC committee.

The following presents the general findings of the committee and the recommendations as amended by the Official board.

Some copies of the complete JNAC report are on the cupboard in the church foyer. If you take one, we ask that you read it and return it so someone else may use it.

Submitted by Carol McPhee, JNAC chairperson

General Findings:

Services Offered by St. Paul's

- a regular Sunday Service with regular communion.
- someone to be available for Funeral and Marriages.
- someone to be available for Crisis Visiting.
- some Hospital Visitation could be done by lay members as it is now.
- someone to be at least somewhat visible in the community.

Recommendations –

1. A committee be struck to examine the possibility of shared ministry with another congregation (eg. Presbyterian, Lutheran) in Tisdale.
2. Appoint a 1/3 time minister contracted until June 30, 2013. This appointment shall include 2 Sundays per month, funerals and crisis visiting.
3. We do not declare a vacancy at this time.
4. A portion of the reserves may be used.

THERE WILL BE A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, OCT. 14TH DURING THE CHURCH SERVICE AT 11AM. THE JNAC REPORT WILL BE PRESENTED, DISCUSSED AND VOTED ON AT THAT MEETING. REV. NANCY STEINBACHS WILL BE LEADING THE SERVICE.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Since the Sunday School kids started collecting pennies and showing how they could be put to good use, they have collected a total of \$129.74 worth of pennies. This is the **Kids for Goats** program that you may have heard about. Instead of giving an offering each Sunday, the kids have been encouraged to bring pennies, to put them in the gigantic crayon bank that is in the Sunday School room. Around Christmas, the total amount raised will be sent through WorldVision to buy goats (\$75.00 each) or chickens or other animals to help families in Africa become self-sufficient.

You can help, too! Just save those pennies and bring them to church to help the Kids for Goats program. It is a way of sending a meaningful gift to kids in Africa.

More About Sunday School

On registration Sunday we had a great turnout of kids, and parents were generous in signing up to lead Sunday School or to help in the Sunday School room. Most of the schedule has been filled, but there are a few spaces. If you would like to assist (even though you haven't been asked specifically), we always find that more is better than fewer. The sign-up sheet is posted in the Sunday School room.

The Sunday School lessons with activities have been photocopied, so leaders can pick up the file with the lesson for the weeks they'll be teaching and have a sneak peak. The lesson usually starts with a brief story based on the Bible, followed by some activities involving art or craft work or a play. The file folders are all in order by week, and are in the open shelving unit containing art materials, cd's and story books.

As we get closer to Christmas, we're hoping to teach the children some songs that will be part of a children's presentation just before Christmas. Don't worry some of the choir members will assist in teaching the songs. Jocelyn Hilkewich has also offered to lead a baking Sunday. So there are all kinds of special things happening in Sunday School from now until Christmas.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Many St. Paul's congregation members are to be commended on your continued financial support of our church during the usually slack summer holiday season. Although we are still running a substantial deficit as shown by the following Jan. 1/2012 to Aug. 31/2012 Financial Statement, the combination of reduced ministerial expenses as a result of shared ministry with the Presbyterian Church during July and Aug. and the use of Pulpit Supply Ministry, plus your support has resulted in a significant deficit improvement since June.

Going forward there are several fairly large additional expense items such as M&S payments, Presbytery dues, Manse repairs, etc, plus regular monthly expenses to be paid before year end. Hence it will be essential that our revenues substantially increase during the next 3 months, and each St. Paul's member's assistance in this regard is earnestly requested, especially those who perhaps may not have contributed regularly in recent months. Remember income tax receipts for all contributions will be issued at year end.

To maintain a viable St. Paul's Church Community in the future it's also important that the recommendations of the JNAC Committee be accepted by our congregation in an effort to maintain expenses within our means in the future.

God Bless your support. St. Paul's United Church Finance Committee

On the following page you can see the income and expenses Jan.1 to Aug.31,2012.



stpaulsu@sasktel.net

873-2424

www.ftlcomm.com/stpauls/