

St. Paul's United Church, Midland, ON
Sunday, July 16, 2017

Ministers: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam & Rev. Bev Irwin
Music Director–Victoria Warwick
Multi-Generational Community Worker - Paw Roe Shee



“Behold I Do a New Thing”
Isaiah 43:19

SOMETHING TO PONDER: We are continuing our theme for July “Behold I Do a New Thing.” Peter Drucker, a theologian, said that “the business of a church is to change people; the business of a corporation is to satisfy them.” The key question for Kirk Hadaway, in his book “Behold, I do A New thing” is simply, “are people being changed (transformed) in your congregation?”

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Cathy Metzgar

SUMMERTIME HYMN SING (*your pick*)

CALL TO THE GATHERED (responsive)

One: Hungry for meaning? Welcome home.
Thirsty for purpose? Welcome home.
Yearning for comfort? Welcome home.
Burning for challenge? Welcome home.
Ready for learning? Welcome home.
Eager for serving? Welcome home.

All: It is so good to be here! We feel welcome, it feels like 'home'!

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

As we light this candle, may it remind us that Christ is in us and in our world.

SUNG RESPONSE: VU #958 (sung twice) **Halle, halle, hallelujah.**

PRAYER OF THE GATHERED (*in unison*)

**Like the petals of the flower we unfold,
Like the roots of the plants we draw life,
Like the leaves in the wind we dance and sing and wonder and pray.
And in it all we encounter the Holy.
In community we pray, Amen**

THEME CONVERSATION

LORD'S PRAYER (sung VU#960)

(Discovery Kids Activity with Paw Roe)

HYMN VU #389 God is Here

PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT (in unison)

May these wise words be a source of wisdom, courage and strength. Amen

READING Micah 6:8 (many voices)

Scholar John Dominic Crossan proposes that based on God's repeated concern for justice in the Bible, the primary function of the church should be to take on the 'normalcy' of the world, by which he means challenging the typically unjust social order in which a few prosper at the expense of the vast majority. Yet, far too many Christian communities are unwilling to accept this challenge because justice gets us involved in politics. In spite of this, Jesus and the prophets call each of us to strive for justice in our time and place.

HYMN VU #381 Spirit of Life

REFLECTION

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

SPECIAL MUSIC – Jamie Beagle

*DOXOLOGY: VU #540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN VU #595 We Are Pilgrims

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

Sung Benediction: MV #156

**Dance with the Spirit
early in the morning,
Walk with the Spirit
throughout the long day,
Work & hope for the new life a-born-in,
Listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

POSTLUDE





ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 23, 2017

308 King Street, Midland, On L4R 3M6

Phone 705-526-6077, fax 705-526-4020

Email stpaulsunited@rogers.com

Website: www.stpaulsmidland.org,

Service and Discovery Kids 10 am

Ministers: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

& Rev. Bev Irwin

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Multi-Generational Community Worker - Paw Roe Shee

Bible Reader: Judy Hazell

Welcome Friends!

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,

You are welcome here!

Whether you are a child, youth, adult or elder,

You are welcome here!

Whatever your ethnic origin or language;

sexual orientation or gender identity;

religious tradition or theological position;

whatever your economic status or political persuasion

You are welcome here!

If you are differently abled,

you are welcome here!

If you are spiritually weary and in need of rest,

If you are mourning a deep loss in your life,

If you are skeptical;

if you have been hurt by religion,

If you have questions,

If you come full of doubts or confidence, joy or sorrow,

You are welcome here because you are God's creation, and WIDE is God's Welcome!!

Friends! You are Welcome in this Place –

Just as you are.

Welcome and thank you to Amanda Clarke, our musician today, and to Jamie Beagle, who is gifting us with song this morning.

Pastoral Care: During the month of July, the Rev. Bev Irwin will be available for pastoral care. Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam will be available during the last week of July and the month of August.

Pastoral Care Visitors Workshop: Are you currently a pastoral care visitor or do you wish to become a volunteer for a few hours per week or month? We have a growing number of home-bound folk who would welcome a visit on behalf of the St. Paul's church family. A Pastoral Visitor Planning Workshop is being held on **this Tuesday**, July 24th from 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. to meet, organize and share tips for visiting. **If you haven't already let Bev know, please let her know of your interest immediately.**

Seniors Tea and Communion Service: On Tuesday, July 25th at 11:30 a.m., there will be a Traditional Communion Service followed by a luncheon and tea here at St. Paul's. If you need or can provide transportation, please let us know. **Please RSVP** to 705-526-6077 or e-mail Paw Roe at 308yaya@gmail.com immediately. Anyone who is over 50, who may be retired, or who just wants to be part of this event, you are most welcome!

Fundraising Dance: The Dance Committee reports that we raised over **\$5,000** at the Desosto's dance, which will go toward our Elevate Accessibility project. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated or participated at the event and helped make it a huge success!

Annual Summerfest: The second annual St. Paul's Summerfest is now in full swing. Wow, what an event! Mark your calendars for the next five Wednesday, to August 23rd. Full-course meals begin at 5:30 followed by family entertainment at 6:30. You can't beat this wonderful evening. Cost for the full evening is \$15.00.

How are we doing financially: We are happy to report that half way through the year we are NOT in a deficit position. Thank you again for your generosity to St Paul's Church. Our surplus over our 2017 budget is \$1,947. Here is an update on finances as of June 30, 2017, compared to same period in 2016:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Income:	\$159,590	\$167,029
Expenses:	\$150,008	\$156,117
Balance:	<u>\$ 9,582</u>	<u>\$ 10,912</u>

Camp Awesome – July 31-August 4: "Make a Joyful Noise" – a great opportunity for children ages 5-12, from 9 am to noon. There are lots of activities including stories, games, music, crafts, snacks, fun and adventure! Cost for the full week is \$15.00 per camper. **The date is coming up very soon, so don't be left out!** Please see Paw Roe to register asap.



Exercise Classes: Our VON exercise classes continue through the summer, every Tuesday and Thursday at noon, for 45 minutes. The classes are free and will continue indefinitely, so you are welcome to join at any time.