***Our Statement of Purpose***

As a community of faith led by the Spirit, we welcome all to worship God and live in loving, just and respectful relationship with each other, our neighbours and the earth. Inspired by the life and ministry of Jesus Christ we strive to recognize the light of God in each person regardless of age, race, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, economic status or any other category by which the world may seek to divide. We challenge ourselves to deepen our relationship to God, to see the light of the divine in each person and in all creation, and to live the faith we proclaim in every aspect of our lives.

***Our Week at a Glance – August 5, 2018***

The flowers today have been placed by Joan Scott, in loving memory of her husband, Walter Scott.

***THIS WEEK AT TSA:***

**Mon. Aug. 6** Civic holiday – office closed

Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, August 15.

**AUDIO SYSTEM** Aug. 5 – Marilyn Eady  
 Aug. 12 – Merv Kusluski  
   
**COUNTING OFFERING**   
 Aug. 5 – Bev Davis & Peter Raaphorst  
 Aug. 12 – Lois Desjardins & Geoff Roberts  
  
**MEALS ON WHEELS** Aug. 5 – Garry & Ruth Charter   
 Aug. 12 – Rick & Susan Lester  
  
**Guest Speaker**: We welcome Felicite Stairs as our guest speaker today.   
  
**From The M&P Committee**: The staff at TSA does a wonderful job and are friendly and always willing to help. However, it is a job and there are lines between any job and personal time. Sunday before during and after service are examples of personal time and this time should be respected so they can enjoy worship and fellowship like everyone else. Except in cases of true emergencies, communication with staff regarding matters relating to their job responsibilities is to be conducted during work hours. Staff has developed an efficient system of communication to accommodate the part time nature of the roles. As always, concerns about staff performance are to be discussed with the M&P Committee, NEVER directly with staff.  
  
**Summer Coffee Roster: TSA Coffee Volunteers Needed**: Please join us downstairs in the refreshing coolness of Stewart Hall for fellowship after the service. Thank you to all the helpers who prepare and clean up. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex.   
  
**Upper Room Daily Devotional**: If you are looking to obtain the Upper Room daily devotional, they are now located in the Office, and can be picked up Mon-Thurs, 9-2. The booklets are $2.00.  
  
**Summary of Meeting of Upper Valley Presbytery (UVP) June 19, 2018**  
  
36 Presbyters and 2 guests met at Calvin United Church in Pembroke.  
  
Correspondence brought to the attention of the court: 2 Certificates of Thanksgiving for donations to M& S Fund, namely $15,045 by the Upper Valley UCW Presbyterial and $177,190 by the pastoral charges of Upper Valley Presbytery.  
  
We joined a Conference-wide telephone call meeting to pass a motion that the Bay of Quinte Conference name Rev. Wanda Stride as an Alternate Commissioner to General Council 43. This is to allow Wanda, who is our immediate past President of Bay of Quinte Conference, to run for the position of Moderator of the United Church of Canada at the meeting of General Council 43 in Oshawa later this month. The motion passed.  
  
Catherine Grant spoke about our (potential) transition to be part of Regional Council 12. Councils 11 (to our west), and 13 (most of Quebec) are considered a unit with us for some purposes. We will share one Executive Minister, Rev. Rosemary Lambie and her administrative assistant. General Council will pay 50% of the salaries of these 2 positions, with the 3 regional councils splitting the rest, i.e. Regional Council 12 will pay 1/6. In addition, there will be a Minister of Vocation and an Officer of Philanthropy to serve these 3 Regional Councils, with salaries 100% paid by General Council. Discussions are ongoing at the Transition Commission as to what, if any, paid positions and programs will be financially supported by RC 12. The clear consensus of that group is that RC12 will work within its budget and not levy any additional fees on the communities of faith within its boundaries.  
  
Our guest speaker was Rev. Takouhi Demirdjion-Petro, minister at Elgin-Portland pastoral charge. She is the first Armenian ordained female minister in Canada. She spoke of her childhood as a refugee in Lebanon, her escape to the U.S. and ultimate move to Canada. Takouhi will be taking a sabbatical year starting September 2018 and will work in Lebanon to bring education to refugee children there. Takouhi and her pastoral charge have started an organization called Peace Through Education – Lebanon. Information on their work and how to help them can be found at www.eppc-ucc.com.  
  
Bronwen presented a plant and card to Margie Patterson, who retired at the end of June. The new Executive was installed and will remain in office until either December 31, 2018 or June 18, 2019, depending on whether the restructuring remit is passed by General Council 43. The members of this Executive are:  
  
Past-Chair Bronwen Harman  
Chair Susan DeHaan  
Secretary Catherine Grant  
Treasurer Joy Curry  
Chair (Administration) – Gary McKay  
Chair (Pastoral Charge ) – Will Patterson  
Chairs (Shared Ministry) – Lee Torvi & Kevin Moratz  
  
We recognized and installed 4 LLWLs who were present: Barb & John LeGrow, John Hannigan and Deborah Jinkinson. Marie Bridges, Harriette Davies, Neil Lloyd and Felicite Stairs have also been re-licensed as LLWLs.



**Affirming**

The Danish Girl – the movie

This is a fictionalized biography of Gerda and Einar Wegener. The movie is set in Copenhagen 1926. Both Gerda and Einar are painters. Gerda is a portrait artist and Einar paints landscapes from memories of his childhood.

What begins as an experiment for Gerda to paint Einar as a woman sets in motion the transformation of Einar to Lili Elbe his female persona and one of the first people to attempt reassignment surgery. Lili seeks the help of many Doctors who all want to fix what is wrong with her even going to such extremes as radiation treatment. Lili recognises herself for who she is and demands to be recognized by those who care for her the most. Through Lili’s bravery she becomes a forerunner for the transgender rights movement.

Although I felt the movie did not adequately portray Lili’s soul it helped me to imagine the extent of pain, suffering and loneliness endured because of the lack of understanding and misunderstanding of the medical profession at that time. The movie did however help in my understanding of the immense struggles for transgendered people.

Linda Boldt



The Struggle to Ban the Bomb

Our gifts for Mission & Service support work with advocacy organizations like Project Ploughshares in its efforts to abolish the use of nuclear weapons.

Hiroshima could happen again. The doctrines, actions, and postures by those who embrace the purported benefits of nuclear weapons perpetuate, rather than renounce, nuclear weapons retention. Today, more than 15,000 nuclear warheads continue to threaten civilization. Even a limited nuclear exchange would bring about devastating humanitarian consequences.

The primary rationale for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons rests in the possibility that a catastrophe could occur, by accident or design, and would likely involve greater numbers of vastly more powerful bombs than those dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Until all nuclear weapons are eliminated, an entirely preventable risk lingers.

Canada boycotted the most recent effort to advance nuclear disarmament—a legal prohibition of nuclear weapons—just as the U.S. had asked. Yet apprehension about Canada’s stand is shared by Canadian civil society experts, academics, former diplomats, and a host of prominent citizens.

The use of nuclear weapons is unacceptable, and the goal of their complete elimination is not negotiable. This is why Project Ploughshares has engaged civil society partners and government officials in Canada and beyond to emphasize the urgent need for nuclear abolition and the gravity of the nuclear weapons threat.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.