***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.
We will live into this statement by encouraging all who make TSA their faith home to participate fully in all aspects of the life and work of this community of faith.

TSA is a place where the gifts of all people are celebrated.

***Our Week at a Glance – March 10, 2019***

 ***THIS WEEK AT TSA:***

The flowers today are placed by John & Marilyn Naismith, in loving memory of their parents.

**Mon. Mar 11** Unit 6 – Library, 11:00
 UCW General – Marian Roffey, 1:00

**Wed. Mar. 13** Men’s Breakfast – Rocky Mountain House, 8:30
 Property – Library, 10:00
 Bible Study – Marian Roffey, 12:00
 Mat Group – Stewart Hall, 1:00
 Crafty Ladies – Library, 1:00
 Finance – Library, 6:00

**Thurs. Mar. 14** TSA Choir – Sanctuary, 7:00
 ***Volunteer Corner***:

*Lay Reader*: Felicite Stairs
*Sound Board*: Merv Kusluski
*Greeters & Ushers*: Marg McLeish & Ellen Groenewoud
*Soloist/Guest Musician*: Catherine Helferty
*Meals on Wheels*: Brenda Kellar & Helper
*Coffee after Church*: Unit 11
*Snow shoveling*: Bert Brisco
*Offering counters*: Bev Davis & Barbara Symington
*Funeral Lunch Coordinator*: Sandra Comba
*Thrift Shop Volunteer Coordinators*: Faye Gagan & Cathy Morris
 **Men’s Breakfast**: the next Men’s Breakfast is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, at 8:30 a.m. at the Rocky Mountain House.
 **Pancake Supper**: Thank you to everyone who assisted in our annual Pancake supper!  **Lenten Series**: Join us tonight for a Lenten evening service, starting at 7pm in the Chapel.

**Joanne Ciphery Memorial Community Supper** - **Sunday March 17 4:30 p.m**.: Jesus reached out to people of all ages, stages and income levels to share a meal and fellowship, and so did Joanne Ciphery. Joanne was instrumental in starting TSA’s community suppers and supported them passionately until she died tragically in September 2018. This spring’s Community Supper is dedicated to her, and proceeds will go to one of her favourite charities, CPAN (Child Poverty Action Network). If you can help, please sign up in the narthex, and we hope to see everyone at the supper to welcome our community as Joanne did so well.

**UCW Presbyterial Meeting**: Plan to attend the UCW Upper Valley Presbyterial General Meeting at Grace United Church in Cobden on March 18th from 9 to 3:30 pm. Our guest speaker will be Mary Prince RN who is the Psycho-geriatric resource consultant for Renfrew County, connected with a geriatric outreach program out of the Pembroke General Hospital. Pat Gilmore will have her book display. Registration is $20 (lunch and refreshments). There is a signup sheet in the Narthex. Please pay Lois by March 8th. All are welcome.

**Lent 2019 “Give it Up for the Earth”**: Lent is traditionally a time of prayer and spiritual practices including fasting, (giving something up), and actions, (almsgiving, or committing to a positive spiritual disciplines). This Lent TSA is taking part in a postcard campaign organized by Citizens for Public Justice, an ecumenical partner of the United Church of Canada. The postcard includes a pledge to individual climate actions - what will you “give up” to care for God’s creation; and also a call for more far-reaching national climate policy. Postcards will be available in the narthex before and after worship during Lent (March 6-April 18), and in the office during the week. When you have made your pledge, please return the cards and we will take them to Citizens for Public Justice to be presented to the government along with postcards from Christians across the country.

**How can we live ethically** in a time of climate crisis? How can our Christian faith support us as we try? Are there others in the church who care about climate justice too? If these questions interest you, or if you have thoughts to share, please join us on Sunday, March 24 at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel for a potluck supper and conversation. For more information, please contact Felicite Stairs or Yvonne Powell.

**TSA Photo Booth**: A copy of your photo taken by Mickey McDonald can be picked up in the office. A donation of a toonie to help cover expenses is appreciated.

 Embracing the Spirit

Rob Dalgleish, Executive Director of EDGE, says the growth of Embracing the Spirit, a Mission & Service program, demonstrates that there is an appetite across the church to experiment with new forms of worship and ministry. Embracing the Spirit is a Mission & Service program, learning network, and innovation fund.

As Dalgleish notes: “People sometimes ask me, ‘What do art shows or cooking classes have to do with church?’ I tell them it’s about loving your neighbour and the neighbourhood. Changing lives for the better, whether economically, socially, environmentally, or through more traditional spiritual practices, is an act of love. It’s an expression of the abundant life that was Jesus’ purpose. Through our own deepening discipleship, it becomes an opportunity to introduce people to who Jesus is and the way he invites us to walk.”

The Embracing the Spirit learning network consists of more than 300 people receiving guidance from more than 80 mentors. These mentors include retired professionals who are willing to lend their skills and expertise to help others. Another part of the program is the Social Innovation Challenge, where participants can develop a concept, discover new partners, and compete for start-up funding. There have been 11 Social Innovation Challenges so far, which bring a spiritual bottom line to entrepreneurship.

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.