



# Gale Gatherings

THE MISSION OF GALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS TO BE A FAMILY OF EMBRACING AND DYNAMIC DISCIPLES OF CHRIST WHO GLORIFY GOD IN THE WORLD THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

May, 2017

## Gale Presbyterian Church Mark Your Calendar:

**May 19 and 20**  
Gale Garage Sale  
Fundraiser

**May 26-28**  
Gale Fellowship Retreat  
Weekend at Camp Kintail

**June 4**  
Communion Sunday  
And  
Two Baptisms

**June 18**  
Lay Father's Day Service

**June 25**  
Sunday School  
Celebration

**August 14-18**  
Kintail on the Road

**Sunday, September 10**  
Rally Sunday

## INTERMISSION—*A message from Rev. Kees Vandermeij*

I have been doing a lot of thinking about the word "Intermission". Up until now it has basically meant a time-out during a performance. A drink and bathroom break, then on with the show. Today I find myself sitting in Rev. Scott's chair with my face staring at his computer and I have a whole new perspective on the word. He is on a pilgrimage in Spain and it is considered an INTERMISSION. I am privileged to be part of it.

While Rev. Scott is experiencing and discovering aches, pains, joy, friendships, old and new things while he is away from Church work, Rev. Scott is also experiencing the voice, wonder and grace of his Creator. With you, I wish him all God's blessings as we follow his pilgrimage on Facebook.

As I sit in his chair I am also aware that we too are experiencing an

INTERMISSION.

Things are not the same without Rev. Scott here and that is okay because many people are stepping up and doing things we normally take for granted. He will be back at the end of June.

INTERMISSION can also be found in the Scriptures. The

most profound one that comes to mind is the period between the Resurrection of our Lord and the day of Pentecost. Little was going on. The disciples had the message, but were silent until the Holy Spirit inspired them from above. Then the incredible Good News of God's love for all people, revealed in Jesus Christ, went out like wildfire.

INTERMISSION can also be experienced at this wonderful time of the year when we begin to plant our gardens. We place seeds in the ground and cover them. There is a period of "intermission" that is full of anticipation. When the plants come up, we begin to anticipate the harvest, much like the Church of Pentecost after the intermission.

Sometimes I worry that the Church of today has retreated to INTERMISSION.

Silence! The difficulty I have is that I do not see it re-emerging with Good News. We at Gale live in an area of rapid population growth. Somehow, within the church, many people feel that new people are not interested in the Good News we celebrate every Sunday. The disciples likely felt the same way during their intermission until the day of Pentecost. Perhaps God has provided this

time so that we too will begin to anticipate a time when we will go out into our community and share the Good News of His love for all people, by His power.

Would you ponder this thought during Rev. Scott's INTERMISSION. Our Creator is calling us to live and tell the Good News of life by the power of His Spirit. Pray that God will inspire you and all of us with the LOVE revealed in the Cross. Giving ourselves in love and service to each other and our community. Real life is found in giving and serving. This is not what the world says life is about. We have an amazing story to live and to tell.....perhaps we have been placed in the ground like a seed. What will happen when we germinate? INTERMISSION! Will there be a harvest? Look to God, pray for the Spirit to fill each of us with love for one another and our community. When Rev. Scott returns, the INTERMISSION ends. The growth begins and the harvest will come about. May God bless us all as we ponder these thoughts and put action to the Good News we have been blessed with.

## Clerk's Corner *by Darlene Vandermey, Clerk of Session*

While Rev. Scott Sinclair is away on Inter-mission until the end of June, the Session of Gale Church has as its Moderator, Rev. Kees Vandermey and therefore the Session is continuing to meet monthly on the third Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

The Session is greatly encouraged that the Christian Education Committee is moving forward with obtaining some resources that were presented at our January workshop on integrating children into the worship

service more than we presently have been doing. The Session is also excited to have been able to accept, on behalf of the congregation, requests from people to join our congregation and also for baptism.

Part of the role of Session is the responsibility of Spirituality. At every Session meeting, time is spent in prayer for our congregation and community. If you have a prayer request that you would like Session to pray for, just let your

Elder know.

Donna Lenz has been the editor of Gale Gatherings for a few months now, and the Session would like to express their thanks to her for a job well done. Donna is moving to Waterloo at the end of June and will no longer be able to be the editor. We wish Donna and her husband, Fred, all the best in their new home and this new adventure in their lives.

Some items that Session is supporting in the near

future is the Gale Fellowship Retreat this month and in June, on Father's Day, there will be a lay service conducted by some ladies of the congregation as Rev. Vandermey is away that day. There will be a Sunday School Celebration on the last Sunday of June and after that we will anticipate the return of Rev. Sinclair. Your thoughts, ideas are always welcomed as we all serve our Risen Lord together!

Blessings.

## Financial Summary *by Peter MacKenzie, Treasurer*

There has been lots of activity at Gale already in the first four months of the year! We have a new projector wall in the fellowship hall, stained glass windows in the sanctuary, a fireplace in the narthex, expanding community gardens, and of course the Reflecting Place garden. Some of these items have been paid for from our surplus that we generated last year, and others due to fundraising – most notably the Reflecting Place.

While things are taking shape quickly, we have a deficit of almost \$10,000 for the four months ended

April 30, 2017 in our general fund. Unfortunately, this figure is already adjusted to remove the impact of special fundraising and expenses paid from our 2016 surplus. With summer holidays just around the corner, we are going to see some extremely lean months

ahead.

In our building fund, we have made \$25,000 of scheduled payments against our non-member loan and \$30,000 towards our RBC mortgage. We were recently notified that \$7,207 of our Presbytery Loan has

been forgiven. This is as a result of the sale of Waterloo North Presbyterian Church. The proceeds were split among the various congregations in the Presbytery. Our total debt now stands at \$627,793.

Please continue to keep Gale in your givings plans and consider purchasing gift cards to make your regular purchases of groceries and gas, etc. to help meet your needs and Gale's.

Sincerely,

Peter MacKenzie,  
CPA, CA, CBV, CFF  
Treasurer

For the four months ended April 30, 2017		
	General	Building
Donations/ revenue	\$ 75,800	12,800
Salaries/ wages/ benefits	(46,600)	-
Utilities/ maintenance	(12,600)	-
Borrowing costs	-	(5,300)
Giving	(11,700)	-
Other	(15,900)	-
<b>Net surplus/ (deficit)</b>	<b>(11,000)</b>	<b>7,500</b>
Expenses from PY surplus	4,474	-
Reflecting place surplus	(3,363)	-
Debt repayment	-	(55,000)
<b>Net cash flow</b>	<b>\$ (9,889)</b>	<b>(47,500)</b>

## A Reflecting Place *by Shirley Soehner*

It is with great excitement we watch the development of “A Reflecting Place.” Just last week it was noted a group of children were on the cement pad of the garden. It was delightful to hear several adults were with them capturing photos of our dream in progress.

Sixteen trees are needed to enhance both sides of the pathway leading to the pad’s sitting area. Their cost for purchase and planting is \$300.00 each. The proposed Red Obelisk Beech tree’s leaves are red/purple turning coppery coloured in the fall, and

will remain on the trees long into winter. Three benches will be needed for both relaxation or meditation to complete the pad itself. The committee is considering adding plantings and signage of “A Reflecting Place” at the entry of the pathway when funds allow. The support we have been given has been overwhelming, for which we are extremely grateful. We meet regularly, and smile at each accomplishment attained thus far. You will definitely be kept informed with the progress in the coming weeks.



## A Field of Hope - 5 & 2 *by Fran Hill*

Through the years we have gathered with others from Bethany United and Bethel Mennonite churches. The purpose being to dedicate the current crop, which is grown for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. From wheat to corn to soybeans, each year

praying for a good yield so that the crop would provide help and support to those who are in great need. For example, people who have been displaced by civil war, people undergoing extreme drought or weather conditions. Help with immediate

food supply, help in developing food security and help in obtaining a clean water supply.

This year marks 20 years since our first dedication.

We will be dedicating the 2017 crop of soybeans on Thursday, June 15th, at 7:30 pm. A time of fellowship will follow at Jean Goodwin’s home in Inverhaugh. All are welcome.

A young boy shared his 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish and after Jesus blessed the food, more than 5000 were fed. May we share our bounty with others and with

Jesus’ blessing, may it bring hope.

To get to the field, take Line 86 east toward Guelph. Just after the West Montrose bridge, turn left at the lights at Katherine St. N. (formerly Reg. Rd. 23) and proceed until just past the village of Inverhaugh. Parking is along the side of the road. Travel time from Elmira is about 15 minutes.

Please call Fran Hill at 669-8572 if you have any questions. If you cannot make it to the dedication, take a drive past this summer and see how the crop is growing.



## MUSIC MUSIC MUSIC *by Julie Donaldson*

Lent, Easter, and, now recently, Mother's Day, have been musical highlights for us. I was very happy to get the handbell choir back together for a four week crash session to play three new songs for Mother's Day. Les Brown, Bree Donaldson and I had fun putting together a special instrumental trio.

Volunteers work hard to run a church, and these musical mem-

### **Gale is celebrating 150 years** *by Denise Dickieson*

Gale will be celebrating 150 years in 2018 and the Gale 150 Committee is meeting regularly to discuss, collaborate, and compile details for commemorating the church's milestone.

The Committee's mandate is simply to share the history of Gale and to celebrate the past, present and future of the church. Many things have happened over the last 150 years that have brought Gale to where it is today.

Its rich history holds many tales of trials, tribulations, victories and successes. Many people have been involved in the making" of Gale, and many names are recognized when stories are told.

bers put in many hours to provide a variety of musical word and instrumentation in our Sunday services. The choir plans on singing a couple more anthems in June and then will be enjoying some earned time off. Perhaps you have a musical talent you'd like to share with us through the summer or anytime! Please let me know. We'd love to have you share your talents!

However, there are many people who have, through the years, quietly contributed to Gale's history and to its development. Every person who has in some way touched Gale, and every person who God has touched through Gale, is part of Gale's history. Without the people, God's work at Gale would never happen.

As the committee continues to plan for Gale's 150, please watch for information about upcoming events, speakers, and special dates. The information will be available in the Narthex on a bulletin board designated for the Gale 150, as well as in a monthly newsletter, on the

In September we look forward to a fresh season and will be look-

ing for new members to come join us, too! Stay tuned ...



Back Row: Bree Donaldson, Madison Donkersgoed, Delaney Keen, Brydon Dickieson, Annie Sargent, Karlianna Keen  
Front Row: Ryan Shantz, Brooke Donkersgoed, Brynnlie Donaldson, Kayla Shantz

webpage on Gale's website, through emails, the church bulletin, and the overhead screens (in Narthex and in sanctuary). As much as possible, we will also post information and articles in community publications, such as The Presbyterian Connection Newspaper and The Woolwich Observer.

We hope that the information will be shared with members past and present, as well as with friends and families of Gale past and present! The journey of this church includes each and every one of us. Our journeys have led us to Gale where paths have crossed and intermingled. As complex as Gale's story

over the years has been, the intricacy of its story has been layered and woven with the stories of each person that has walked through Gale's doors.

We want to hear those stories. We want to share those stories -- because your story is Gale's story. Your memories of Gale capture its history. Denise Dickieson will be collecting those memories and stories over the next several months.

Please contact Denise at

dense.dickieson@sympatico.ca

or 519-669-8822

for information on how to submit your stories and memories.

### Kintail on the Road, 2017 *by Sarah Zavitz*

**When:** August 14th - 18th (9 am to 3:30 pm)

**Where:** Our church!

**Who:** any children who have completed JK up to grade six

**What:** An exciting week of camp activities with the benefit of sleeping in your own bed at night.

During the week of August 14th - 18th staff from Camp Kintail will be coming to our church to run a fantastic week of Va-

cation Bible School. Children participate in bible study, chapel, team building activities, nature lessons, arts & crafts, music & drama, and learn about how we can support others around the world.

**Volunteers Needed!** We currently have 56 campers registered and more on a waiting list hoping to participate. In order to allow as many children as possible the opportunity to participate, we need more wonderful volunteers!

Each volunteer allows 6 children to participate in the week. If you are only available during one day we very much need help on Tuesday the 15th and Thursday the 17th. There will be four staff coming from Camp Kintail to run the program. The campers will be divided into different age groups. Each group will have a volunteer who will travel with the group and help with games, crafts and making sure everything is fun. It is a great way

to bond with kids from Gale and our community! There is a volunteer sign-up list in the gym, all help is appreciated!

#### **Snack Donations:**

Gale will be serving two snacks each day to the campers.

Watch for sign-up sheets for the donations we need for this year. If you would like to help prepare and serve snack during the week please sign-up on the sheet in the gym

**Sunday School Graduation**

will be held on **Sun June 25**. There will be a small presentation during the service and cake to celebrate our last day of Sunday School until the Fall.



**Gale Family News**

**New Members and Baptisms**

Sunday, March 12, **Chris and Jane Laurin** joined the church. Chris and their daughter, **Maddy**, were also baptized. Chris and Laurin also have a son, **Hudson**.

Sunday, April 2, **Jon and Cheryl Ewart** joined the church and their son **Averi**, was baptized.

Also, on Sunday, April 2, **Jeff and Debra Dally's** daughter **Peyton**, was baptized.

Sunday, May 14, **Norma Baker and Sheila Tutton** became members of Gale by Transfer of Certificate.

**Welcome to the Gale Family**

**Gale Fellowship Retreat**

Gale Fellowship Retreat is happening from Friday May 26 to Sunday May 28 at Camp Kintail up on Lake Huron.

We are hoping for great weather and lots of fun.

If you aren't coming up this year make sure you mark your calendar for next year

May 25-27 2018

for it is such a fun weekend for everyone that attends and we would love to see it continue to grow in number!

**Questions?**

Speak to Melanie Dow



## Gale's Card Program *by Karen Pond*

We started the Card Program in 2006 to raise money to help build our new church. Many thanks to our supporters. You have helped us raise over \$70,000. We have been able to give \$52,000 to

Gale. The balance is in card inventory and bank account.

How Does it work? Easy. For example you buy a \$100 grocery card which I have bought for \$96.00 Slowly but surely the profit

grows over the year. But the profit is decreasing each year. We would love to have more families try our cards for groceries, gas, Shoppers, Can. Tire, Home Hdwe , restaurants , retail etc.

Come and have a look. Any questions please ask Karen Pond



### Noon Hour Lunches 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. \$12.00

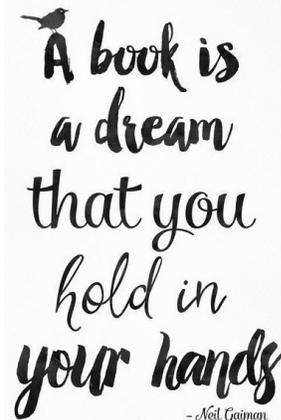
**September 19**  
Meat or Vegetarian Lasagna  
Caesar Salad  
Roll  
Peach Dessert with Ice Cream  
Beverage

**October 17**  
Harvest Roast  
Mashed potatoes with gravy  
Roll  
Vegetable  
Coleslaw  
Pumpkin Dessert  
Beverage

**November 21**  
Meat loaf  
Mashed potatoes  
Salad  
Green Peas  
Apple Dessert  
Beverage

On Sunday, April 9th, **Wendy Lair**, was recognized and thanked for her many years of dedicated church work as Gale's Church Administrator. Thank you Wendy, and good luck with your new adventures.  
**Milly Siderius** is now temporary Church Administrator until August 1, 2017. Welcome, Milly.

**Library News**  
With summer and vacation time quickly approaching, you may want to check out the Gale Library.  
New books were added to the library in April. There are some by well loved and familiar authors, but there are also some new ones to explore.  
*Check us out !*



Thanks to **Peter Fulcher** for work he has done on installing the stained class windows in the Sanctuary.

**Did you know..**  
that Gale now has a projection wall in the Fellowship Hall? This will be very useful for many events, including Café Church and movie showings.

