



# 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

December 2018

## What's happening at Gale this season:

### Tuesday Luncheon—

Tues., Nov. 20

### Life and Mission—

Wed., Nov. 21

### Men's Breakfast—

Sat., Nov. 24

### Movie Event— Sat., Nov. 24

### Congregational Meeting

after service—Sun., Nov. 25

### Pages—Mon., Nov. 26

### Church Decorating—

Wed., Nov. 28, 5:00 p.m.

### Gale 150 Meeting—

Wed., Nov. 28, 7:00 p.m.

### Plant delivery—arrange to

pick up —Fri., Nov. 30

### The Allen Family Reunion—

Fri., Nov. 30, 7:00 p.m.

### Secret Sister Evening—

Mon., Dec. 3

### Community Choir at Flo-

radale—Sun., Dec. 9

### Board of Managers—

Tues. Dec., 11, 6:30 p.m.

### Christmas Luncheon—

Tues. Dec., 18

### Christmas Eve Service—

7:00 p.m.

## THE GIFT OF THE MAGI

Of all the Christmas stories and tales I think my favourite is the classic O. Henry short story *"The Gift of the Magi."* It is a wonderful tale of sacrificial love between two common people. In a nutshell, we meet two common folk; little people like you and me who in a simple act of love for each other perform a great act of love for the world. Jim and Della are brother and sister to each other. They are poor. The story opens with Della lamenting over the measly \$1.87 she has to buy Jim a Christmas gift. In a flash of inspiration she sells her most treasured possession - her hair - to buy a chain and fob for Jim's family heirloom pocket watch. Unbeknownst to her, Jim has hocked his watch in order to purchase a beautiful set of combs and brushes for Della's hair. Christmas that year in the Young's flat was blessed. They had no possessions of which to be proud but they did have an invaluable gift in each other - in sacrificial love.

O. Henry writes, "The magi, as you know, were wise men--wonderfully wise men--who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the

art of giving Christmas presents. Being wise, their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of duplication. And here I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these two were the wisest. Of all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the magi."

We enter now into our greatest giving season. It is Christmas and there will be gifts and goodies and toys

and greetings and on and on. And will our gifts be like those of the Magi? Will they be wise? The greatest of all gifts was God's gift of Jesus Christ for which this whole season is celebrated. It was in God's great wisdom and love that the whole idea of such a gift to the world was conceived.

Let us, this season consider the Gift of the Magi, the Gift of God and the Gifts we have for each other in our love and wisdom. May this be a blessed Christmas for us all as we rejoice in God's great Gift.

*Shalom*

*Rev. Scott Sinclair*



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

Even though the Fall weather so far has not been particularly bright and sunny, we here at Gale church can focus inwardly, spiritually and be like Jesus, a light into the lives of those around us.

This is the time of year our church events and committees are full and busy. Perhaps there is a new area in which you feel called to serve God here at Gale. Session encourages you to contact those in leadership of the different groups. You would be most welcome to share your thoughts and ideas.

Those who are now Elders and serve on Session are asking for your assistance on behalf of the nominating committee. Two of our Elders, Maria Liston and Barb Smith have fulfilled their 6 year term and will be leaving Session this year. These two women have added much to the work and role of Session and we thank them for their time of service in this capacity. We are looking to not only replace these two Elders but also add to our number so more can be of service to our congregation.

Recently, there has been an insert in the bulletin for you to have an opportunity suggest names for the role of Elder, perhaps even yourself. Please note that at this time we are asking only for suggestions to help the nominating committee and that you are not voting. This will take place at a later date. Please pray and seek God's guidance regarding this and then place your form, unsigned, in the offering plate or hand it in at the office.

If at any time you have any questions or concerns please let your Elder know, or our Minister Scott Sinclair, or myself as your Clerk. May you experience many blessings and may Jesus name be praised!

**Blessings**  
**Darlene Vandermey,**  
**Clerk of Session**

### Deck the Halls of Gale

On Wednesday November 28<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m. we will be pulling out the Christmas decorations for the church.

This year we would like to invite you to sign up to come and join in the fun for the evening. We will be decorating the church, having some food (don't need to eat supper before coming!).

There will be some activities for little ones if they are bored from decorating. We are also asking that **ALL** kids bring an ornament to put on their very own kids Christmas tree.

See more details and sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall so we have enough food. Questions speak to Melanie Dow.



### MOVIE EVENING

Saturday November 24th. We will be doing the **3 Hotel Transylvania Movies**. This will start at 4:00 p.m. Then we will be ordering in some pizza to have for the tuck shop as well for a small cost. Movie 2 will start around 6:00 p.m. and movie 3 will start around 8:00 p.m. Come to ALL or come to ONE! Bring along your pillows and blankets!

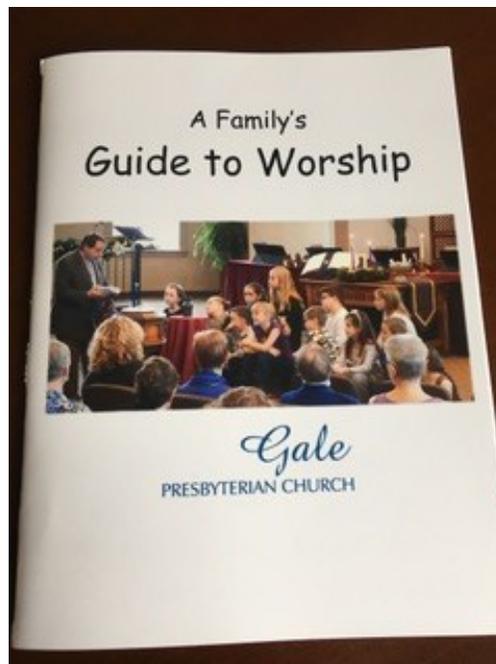
## Introducing “A Family’s Guide to Worship”

At the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary service this year the Christian Education Committee was pleased to introduce the book “**A Family’s Guide to Worship**”. This book was created by the members of the CEC to explain to children what happens each week in our worship service.

After attending a retreat on Intergenerational Worship back in 2017, several elders wanted to find a practical way to bring what we had learned back to *Gale*. We wanted to make children feel a welcomed part of our worship. This inspiration led us to create this little book.

By explaining our worship routines in simple language, with colourful photos, we want to help children understand and feel engaged in Sunday Worship at Gale.

It has taken almost two years to create “**A Family’s Guide to Worship**” and we are grateful for the dedication of the members of CEC to completing this project. We hope our families, and those who are new to Gale, will enjoy reading this book and our children will know that they are an important and valued part of worship at Gale.



### From the Library

The library ladies love to shop..... for books, that is! So we have been at it again. There are about 20 new books in the library for your reading pleasure. Please stop by and see if we have something that might interest you, we are always happy to see you!



### Secret Sister Evening

Ladies mark your calendar for Monday December 3<sup>rd</sup> for our Secret Sister Evening at Gale.

Plans are in the works for the evening. There will be a sign up sheet in the foyer if you plan on attending.

Remember you can come just for the evening and don't need to take on a Secret Sister. Also if you are new and want to join in with a Secret Sister next year please bring along a gift to exchange. Questions speak to Melanie Dow.



## PAGES (Presbyterians At Gale Enjoying Stories)

Date	Book	Leader	Host	Dessert
Mon. Nov. 26	The Mistress of Nothing By Kate Pullinger	Myrna Shantz	Myrna Shantz	Dawna Martin
Mon. Jan. 28	The Glass House By Louise Penny	Jan Parsons	Marg Donald	Joan Moyer
Mon. March 25	Sensible Shoes By Sharon Garlough Brown	Joan Moyer	?? or at Gale	??
Mon. June 3	Discussion and Book Selections for our 9 <sup>th</sup> year!	Jan Parsons	Gale Church	Pot Luck



THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO  
LA LIEUTENANTE-GOUVERNEURE DE L'ONTARIO

October 21, 2018

It is with pleasure that I congratulate Gale Presbyterian Church on the occasion of its 150th anniversary. This significant milestone is sure to be the source of many good memories for years to come and is a testament to the vision of your namesake, the Rev. Alexander Gale.

Communities of faith have played an important role over time in building the social fabric of our province. Many of the values that we cherish today—compassion, generosity, justice—are anchored in faith traditions. Inherent among those who believe is the courage to continuously seek positive transformation in one's own life and society.

I thank all who have devoted themselves over the years to being a part of this parish, and I convey my best wishes for a happy future of continued service to the community of Elmira and beyond. I look forward to what you will continue to contribute.

Elizabeth Dowdeswell

## A PODCAST I'D LIKE EVERYONE TO HEAR

### RETELLING THE BIBLE



Here is a good resource with insightful versions of our familiar Bible stories

Rev. Scott McAndless, minister at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Cambridge has a podcast in which he posts dramatic tellings of Bible stories. It is supported with a blog in which he writes commentaries and contemporary references. For exam-

ple, on Oct. 31st he offered a terrific version of the tale of King Saul approaching the Witch of Endor for advice. Alongside this story he presented a video clip from Monty Python's Holy Grail where the comedians are discussing how to identify a witch.

The podcast has been running for two years now so there is a great archive of his stories to go back to when you want a fresh new way of looking at our familiar faith stories.

The podcast can be accessed by going to this website: <https://retellingthebible.podbean.com/>

The blog, where you can read the commentaries, is at [Retellingthebible.wordpress.com](http://Retellingthebible.wordpress.com).

Rev. McAndless is not far away so you can follow up with him if you have any questions about his stories.

# **GALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS**

## **The Allen Family Reunion**

**A musical concert with a variety of genres of music including country, blue grass, roots, gospel, seasonal and Christmas songs!**



**A VERY TALENTED AND ENTERTAINING GROUP OF MUSICIANS!**

**Please join us for a great evening of music  
and entertainment!**

**Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

**10 Barnswallow Drive Elmira**

**Ticket Cost \$15 (Children 12 and under free)**

**To order tickets, call church office 519-669-2852**

**Proceeds from the evening go to Presbyterians Sharing**

# GALE APPLE PIES—2018

