



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

February 2019

What's happening at Gale this season:

March 1st —World Day of Prayer hosted by Elmira Mennonite Church

March 3rd —Communion

March 12th —Tuesday Communion. What is Communion – A participation service

March 19th—Tuesday Luncheon

March 19th—Tuesday Communion. Common loaf – We share in the making and the receiving of the body

March 26th —Tuesday Communion. Communion in the labyrinth – meditation in motion

March 31st— Camp Sunday—Christine O'Brien, Director of Crieff Hills Community, Guest Speaker, Breakfast Fundrasier

April 2nd— Tuesday Communion. Communion of the pretzels – a unique form of the loaf

April 9th—Tuesday Communion. Alas, and did my Saviour bleed?

April 16th—Tuesday Communion. Nails – have I created them?

April 19th—Good Friday Service

April 21st—Easter Sunday

April 28th—Mark Curtis Event

May 8th—Smoked Pork Chop dinner

May 17th-20th—Gale Fellowship Retreat at Camp Kintail

LENT – GOOD FRIDAY – EASTER IS IT ENOUGH?

What depth of love does it take to suffer and die for humanity? What wonder and awe are inspired in us when we think about Christ's sacrifice made for us? Did it make a difference? Is it enough? Henri Nouwen tells this story. It is a great parable about suffering, sacrifice and love:

Once there was a very old man who used to meditate early every morning under a large tree on the bank of the river. One morning, having finished his meditation, the old man opened his eyes and saw a scorpion floating helplessly in the strong current of the river. As the scorpion was pulled close to the tree, it got caught in the long tree roots that branched out into the river. The scorpion struggled frantically to free itself but got more and more entangled in the complex network of the tree roots.

The old man immediately stretched himself onto the extended roots and reached out to rescue the drowning animal. As soon as he touched it, the scorpion jerked and stung him. Instinctively, the old man withdrew his hand, but then, after regaining his

balance, he once again stretched himself out along the roots to save the agonized scorpion. Every time the man came within reach, the scorpion stung him so badly with its poisonous tail that his hands became swollen and bloody and his face distorted by pain.

A passing stranger saw the old man stretched out on the roots struggling with the scorpion and shouted: "Hey, stupid old man. What's wrong with you? On-

ly a fool risks his life for the sake of an ugly, useless creature. Don't you know that you may kill yourself to save that ungrateful animal?"

The old man turned his head, and looking calmly in the stranger's eyes, he said: "Friend, because it is the nature of the scorpion to sting, why should I give up my own nature to save?"

Rejoice! We are an Easter people!

Shalom

Rev. Scott Sinclair



Tuesday Luncheons 2019

COME JOIN US FOR LUNCH 2019

The third Tuesday of every month (*except October which will be the second Tuesday of the month) from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Only \$12.00 (**except December's Christmas luncheon \$15.00)

Note - no lunches July and August



March 19	Roast pork, mashed potatoes, gravy, bread, vegetables, salad, chocolate oven pudding with ice cream, beverage	May 21	Russian chicken with noodles, hot vegetable, bread, salad, rhubarb dessert with ice cream, beverage
April 16	Meat loaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, hot vegetable, bread, salad, desert, beverage	June 18	Cold ham, salads, bread, strawberry dessert, beverage

A Book You Should Read

Between Heaven And Mirth by James Martin, SJ (2011)

Reviewed by Rev. Sinclair

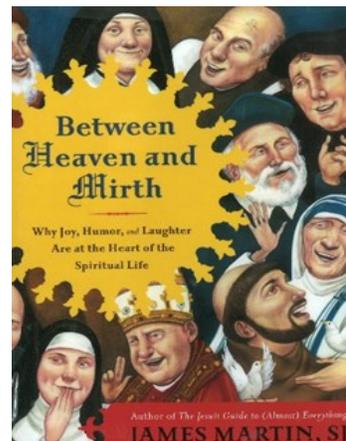
Here is a fun book that recently appeared in our church library. Father Martin has written a serious argument for joy, humour and laughter as part of a healthy spiritual life. The book made me smile, notwithstanding its topic. It comes across so personable and enjoyable. It is an easy read while delving into scholarly research into joy, laughter and happiness. The author leaves no doubt that joy and laughter are God's

intent for us – even in times of suffering and loss.

When you read it you'll find insights from real life, discussions with scholars and a mix of the most helpful ideas from some classic works on joy, humour and laughter. The book is mirthful in itself. There are plenty of jokes sprinkled throughout the book. He inserts a few studies and reflections on selections of the Bible demonstrating the value of joy.

The famous 20th century theologian Karl Barth once said, "laughter is the closest thing to God's grace."

Between Heaven and Mirth is available to be borrowed from our church library.



PAGES (Presbyterians At Gale Enjoying Stories)

Date	Book	Leader	Host	Dessert
Mon. March 25	Sensible Shoes By Sharon Garlough Brown	Joan Moyer	?? or at Gale	??
Mon. June 3	Discussion and Book Selections for our 9 th year!	Jan Parsons	Gale Church	Pot Luck

2019 Camping Information

Even though these February days are cold and snowy, it is time to start thinking about the 2019 Camping season! There are many great camp programs available for our children and families through our church. If your children haven't experienced the fun of Christian Camping, we encourage you to give it a try! Check out these camps online—Cairn, located in Baysville, and Camp Kintail in Goderich.

Both camps have great websites which are fun to explore with lots of news about the exciting things they have planned for our children this summer. *Registration forms are also available on these sites. It is a good idea to register early to ensure you get your first choice of week and program.*

Mark your calendar and dust off those camping clothes, **Camp Sunday at Gale**

is on **Sunday March 31st**. CEC will be hosting a **fundraiser breakfast** before church that day. All funds raised will go to support the Campership Fund at Gale. This fund is used to support the Gale Fellowship Retreat (partial cost for children), and up to 60% for summer camps that children can attend. Donations may also be made through your offering envelope by marking "Campership Fund" on the other line. If you have questions about the Campership Fund please speak to any CEC member.

This Camp Sunday service will be a café church style and we are excited to have **Christine O'Brian, Director at Crieff Hills Community** join us as our **guest speaker** during the service.

Keep an eye out in the bulletin for more details related to start time of breakfast being served by CEC that day.

KOTR (Kintail On The Road) 2019

KOTR (Kintail on the Road) date has been set for 2019. It will be returning for its seventh year at Gale this summer! KOTR will be held at Gale on **Monday August 19th to Friday August 23rd**. This very popular full day program is for children who have completed JK up to Grade 6. Preparation is in the works and registration forms will be ready by Camp Sunday through the

church office or website, if not just before. It is a good idea to register early as space is limited and it fills up quickly!

Many volunteers are needed for this program to run successfully, this includes junior and adult volunteers. Gale volunteers play an important role, essentially that of a counsellor at camp. Building relationships between volunteers and campers is important.

KOTR staff are only in the community for a week, but

hopefully relationships built with volunteers will continue long after the week is over. We increase the number of children who can attend based on the number of adult volunteers we can recruit. We often have a 'wait list' and hate to disappoint anyone! So if you are able, plan to set aside some time this summer to volunteer and experience for yourself how Gale is sharing God's love and joy with children in our town!

Also needed will be a **host billet** for the 4 staff members that come from Kintail to run the program for the week. Watch the bulletin, bulletin board and website for more information.



Gale Fellowship Retreat 2019

Our annual Gale Fellowship Retreat this year will be from **Friday May 18th to Sunday May 20th 2019**. This is held at Camp Kintail on the shores of Lake Huron, for a weekend of fun and fellowship. This retreat is a great opportunity to get to know other Gale friends and families better, while enjoying nature's beautiful surroundings, sharing great meals and worshipping God together.

All ages are wel-

come and we hope you will come and join us this year!

This year we are offering a few different options for people to try. You can attend for the full weekend, to come up for 1 or 2 nights or 1-2 days.

Our main activities happen on Saturday with the guidance of Kintail staff. We have use of all the great activities Kintail has to offer such as The Rock Wall, Disc Golf, High and Low Rope courses and the "Adventure Tower" climbing wall, 100 foot

slide and Hobbit hunts and of course the beach!

This year we are also planning on staying until after an early camp fire on the Sunday, which means that we will be able to spread the activities and beach time over **2 full days at camp!**

Registration forms will be available at Camp Sunday. Questions -speak to Melanie Dow.



THE TUESDAY TABLE



Come share and worship with us every Tuesday in Lent.

Enrich this holy season in unique and evocative forms as we celebrate communion
in an intimate and serene gathering.

The worship starts at 7:00 p.m. on the chancel and lasts about 30 minutes.

You will feel blessed in these special services of communion.

Come and join us.

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- March 19th Common loaf – we share in the making and the receiving of the body
- March 26th Communion in the labyrinth – meditation in motion
- April 2nd Communion of the pretzels – a unique form of the loaf
- April 9th Alas, and did my saviour bleed?
- April 16th Nails – have I created them?



