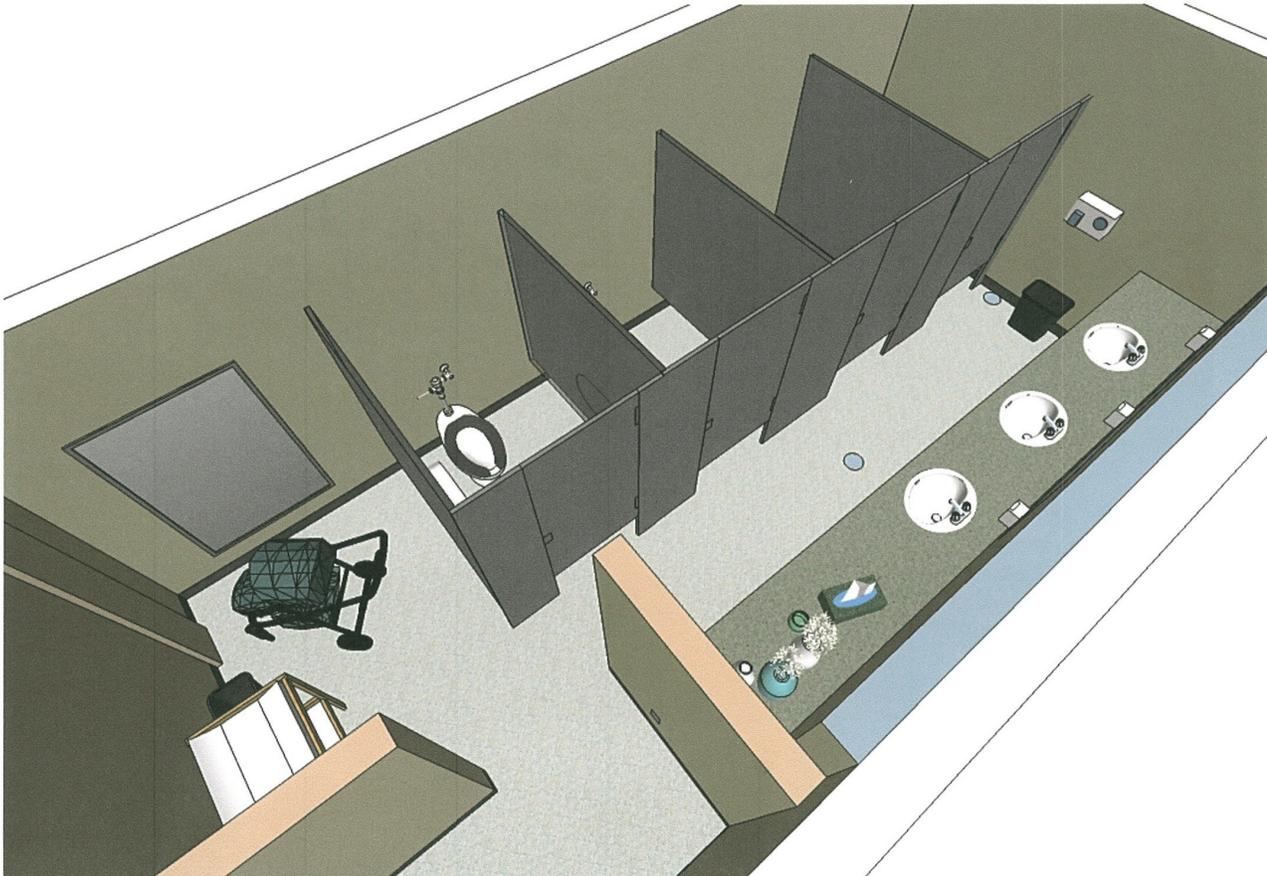




The Kronicles

of Kortright Presbyterian Church, Guelph, Ontario



PROPOSED LADIES BATHROOM RENOVATIONS

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PASTOR ALEX'S INTERMISSION

“What will you be doing on your intermission?”

That's a question I've heard a lot lately. The answer I've been giving people is that “I will not be working as the Lead Pastor of Kortright Church”. That may seem obvious, but it's actually going to be a challenge for me.

We read about Sabbath from the very beginning of the Bible. At creation, God rested on the seventh day and so established a day of rest. We get “Sabbath” from the Hebrew word “shavat” which literally means to stop, to cease, to finish, to come to an end. That is the purpose of an intermission: to provide an extended period of “not working” so that a minister can be replenished and renewed for the future.

On May 28th, I will continue to be a husband and a father, but my work as the Lead Pastor of KPC will cease for a 10 week period followed by 2 weeks of study leave. Judith is working that day so I will do what I always do and help the kids on their way out the door to school. Once they're gone, I imagine that I will sit down and feel a little weird. I love my job and it preoccupies me. Monday is my day off, but for a while now I have worked on Mondays. One goal I have for my intermission is to reflect on the boundaries in my life and to re-commit myself to keeping Sabbath and to being present with my family. I don't own a cell phone, but I sometimes wonder if there may be an invisible umbilical cord that attaches me to my laptop and my email. I've heard it called “the tyranny of the urgent” -- meaning that we find ourselves reacting to what is urgent and neglecting what is important in our lives. I have succumbed to this tyranny and that must change. For KPC. For myself. And most of all as I seek the peace and presence of Jesus.

I look forward to spending focused restful time with the Lord. I'm not planning to go to a monastery while I'm on intermission, but I will meet with a Spiritual Director. I intend to start writing a daily prayer journal again too. Sometimes it feels as if those practices that should be most personal – like prayer and reading Scripture – are more utilitarian for me. When I pray, I'm often working through a list of church-related prayer requests. When I read the Bible, I'm often thinking of how I can use it in ministry. Would you pray for me that I would be able to listen attentively to the still small voice of God spoken personally to me?

I want to thank the Session and all of you, the whole congregation of KPC, for giving me the opportunity to rest and rejuvenate.



Alex MacLeod
Pastor

INTERMISSION GUIDE



Stephen Morris
Session Member
Chair of HR

Pastor Alex starts his intermission on Monday, May 28th. As previously announced to the congregation and as explained in the March/April issue of the Kronicles, Alex will be away from May 28 to August 6 on intermission, followed by two weeks of study leave from August 6 to August 20. An intermission is a ten-week break from work that you might compare to a sabbatical. The Presbyterian Church in Canada created its Intermission Policy to allow ministers to step away from the intensity of pastoral work and to seek personal and spiritual renewal and new vision for the next stage of their ministry in a congregation. You can refer to Rev. Ralph Neil's article in the last issue of the Kronicles for more information.

Here are answers to some questions you may have about the intermission:

Q1. Why is Alex going on intermission? Is he sick, burnt out, or something similar?

- No, thankfully he is not sick/burnt out and we do not want him to be.
- Intermissions are a proactive response so that this does not occur.

Q2. What will happen when he is gone?

- Rev. Ralph Neil will preach most Sundays and will be available for emergencies.
- Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst (from Westminster-St. Paul's Church here in Guelph) will be our Presbytery Liaison during the intermission.
- The intermission will also take place over the summer-time, which historically has been a slower season for the church.

Q3. What will happen with staff while he is gone?

- Staff work plans have been set and staff proceed accordingly. The staff will continue to hold regular staff meetings.
- Stephen Morris, chair of the HR committee will be available to staff if needed.

Q4. Who do we call for general pastoral care?

- Contact Dale Klein in the church office. Staff and Session will be available for pastoral care and Dale will coordinate between Ralph and the other staff members where appropriate.

Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any additional questions.

Stephen Morris
Chair of the KPC Human Resources Committee and Session member

ABRAHAM: WORSHIP AND SACRIFICE

Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. (Heb. 13:5)

The term “worship” first occurs in scripture when Abraham takes his son Isaac to be sacrificed, telling his servants, “Stay here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go over there; and we will worship and return to you” (Gen. 22:5). Sacrifice was the means required to approach God, and first appeared when “the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them” (Gen. 3:21). The Mosaic Law codified the principles of sacrificial atonement: innocent blood shed for the guilty, bringing the first fruits and best in offering, and especially foreshadowing the ultimate sacrifice, the crucifixion of God’s Son.



Abraham and Isaac preparing for the sacrifice

Bethany poured out the precious ointment on Jesus’ feet; despite the protests of the position-driven disciples, Mary had been hearing the Lord’s word and knew that His death was impending (John 12:1-8).

Even as redeemed saints, we struggle to worship the Lord, our minds distracted, our hearts wandering, the cares of life choking out the life of the Spirit. To this, Paul exhorts us to present our bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is our spiritual service of worship (Rom. 12:1). Let us therefore continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God.

When David was commanded to erect an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite, he refused to accept it as a gift but insisted, “No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price, for I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God which cost me nothing” (2 Sam 24:24). True worship is costly. Mary of



Sean O’Leary
Worship Director

THE WAITER CRIED - UNCLE CHUCK



Allison Pinches
Director of Discipleship

Last month we celebrated the life of my “Uncle” Chuck. I call him “Uncle” because even though we were not related by blood our families chose to be “family” long before I was born. A few weeks after Uncle Chuck died, his widow, my Auntie G.R. went to one of their favourite restaurants with her sister, daughter and niece. As the four of them walked into the restaurant the host immediately asked them “Where’s Chuck?” When they told her that Chuck had died the host immediately teared up. As they sat at their table a waiter came by and when he found out about Chuck he started to cry too. By the end of the meal 3 staff had sat down to join them at the table and share their memories and fondness of Chuck. When it was time for the bill the staff informed my Aunt that there would be no bill that it “was the least they could do.” Why did they all cry? Why did they sit with them and offer the meal on the house? What moved them so much about a customer?

Chuck cared profoundly for those that crossed his path. It didn’t matter to Chuck if you were a waiter, the housekeeper or a fellow surgeon he took the time to get to know you. Chuck would have known all those staff by name and been able to ask after particular family members and their well being. As a Doctor he took way longer with each of his patients because he asked about their families and for those patients that had English as a second language, Chuck would learn a greeting so the next time they came in for their eye exam he could welcome them in their own language. At Chuck’s funeral the biggest flower arrangement was from their housekeeper!

As I heard the story about the restaurant the same question kept running through my mind – what kind of person is this? Who makes the wait staff cry when they die? The thing about Uncle Chuck was he made you feel like you were extra special to him – well the cat got out of the bag at the funeral when those of us special to Chuck looked around at a sea of people who all thought they were special to Chuck! And the honest and best truth is we all were. In this month as we consider trying some “outreach experiments” and as we pay more attention to the people that cross our path, let’s take time to take an interest in someone, to truly want to know them and to make them feel special. What a quiet, simple and yet profound legacy – to be grieved by your local restaurant.

GOD NEVER TAKES A VACATION, HE IS ALWAYS WITH YOU

Florida is a wonderful place, the precipitation is always easy to shovel.

My wife Nancy and I often thought about escaping the cold Canadian winter and over the past couple of years our circumstances has allowed us to go. Florida is a large state. We didn't know anything about RV resorts so we started asking others about their experiences. Carmaine Timms was able to help us through a friend in Florida with a telephone number for a RV resort. After a quick call, that resort was full, but they directed us to a sister resort that they own about 35 miles south near Brooksville Florida.

Looking back, we believe it was God's intervention that brought us to that particular RV resort. When we arrived we were assigned to a site right beside a Christian couple. Mike and Char attended a seminary college but never went further down that path. They felt at this stage in their life their mission is to have a God presence in the resort by hosting a weekday bible study and an adult Sunday school on Sunday morning. They also encourage campers to attend the Sunday service at Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church, about 3 miles down the road. We willingly accepted their invitation.

We found out later that in fact the resort is booked as a Christian campground. The management is very supportive of the Christian activities within the resort, including posting events on the board and the TV information channel.

God lead us to this RV resort; we came for the Florida sunshine and health benefits, but turns out the Christian fellowship ended up being the main attraction and will keep us coming back.

God continued to watch over us, as we headed home. A truck pulled up beside us and sounded his horn, but we had no idea why. Next after him, a car pulled up and the lady passenger was holding a sheet of paper to the window that read "you're tires are on fire". That quickly got our attention, we pulled over to discover there was smoke coming from our tires. We had blown a bearing on the trailer on busy interstate 71 in Ohio. Shortly afterward, a state trooper came along and said someone had called 911, as they thought we were on fire, and the fire truck was on its way. He cancelled the fire truck and left the telephone number of the Ohio state trooper office should we need any assistance.



Doug Hayes
Writer

GOD NEVER TAKES A VACATION, CONTINUED

We thought we were ok as we called CAA who transferred us to AAA. After those two organizations could not help us, we called the state trooper office. They gave us a number of a towing company that performed roadside repairs on trucks. We called and were surprised to hear a truck was coming north on the same highway and would be there in about 45 minutes. When driver arrived, he went straight to work rigging up the wheel so the trailer could be pulled slowly to their shop, 10 miles up the road. An older man started working on the trailer but had to finish the

next day. In the meantime we asked if we could stay in the trailer overnight. He agreed and offered up his power if we needed it. It was a cold night with strong winds so we were thankful for the extra shelter of the temporary garage the trailer was parked in. Next morning the repair continued and we were on our way after lunch.

As we look back, it had to be God's hand on this situation; with the state trooper giving us the towing number, the towing firm already having a service truck on the way, the service shop only being 10 miles away, the temporary shelter on the cold night, and the towing company having the right staff with the right skills to gets us off the side of the interstate and make the repairs.

We had the feeling these men had done this hundreds of times before.



CONSTRUCTION

WE'RE FLUSHED...

...with anticipation as Session has approved funds to upgrade both the women's and the men's washrooms.

The main issues the upgrade plan will address besides the obvious of appearance are:

Number 1 - The height of the toilets and

Number 2 - The width of the individual stalls.

The plan will also address the number of toilets in the women's washroom (9) and the need to maintain that many.

UPGRADES

- 50% wider stalls.
- New standard height toilets.
- New faucets in both washrooms.
- New paint (walls and stalls).
- New higher counter top (women's).
- New mirrors (men's)
- New lockable stall doors.
- New ceiling tile in both washrooms.
- New grid-work for ceiling tile (men's)
- New sheet flooring in both washrooms.

The goal is to have the work complete by July 2nd when ONSIDE sports starts.

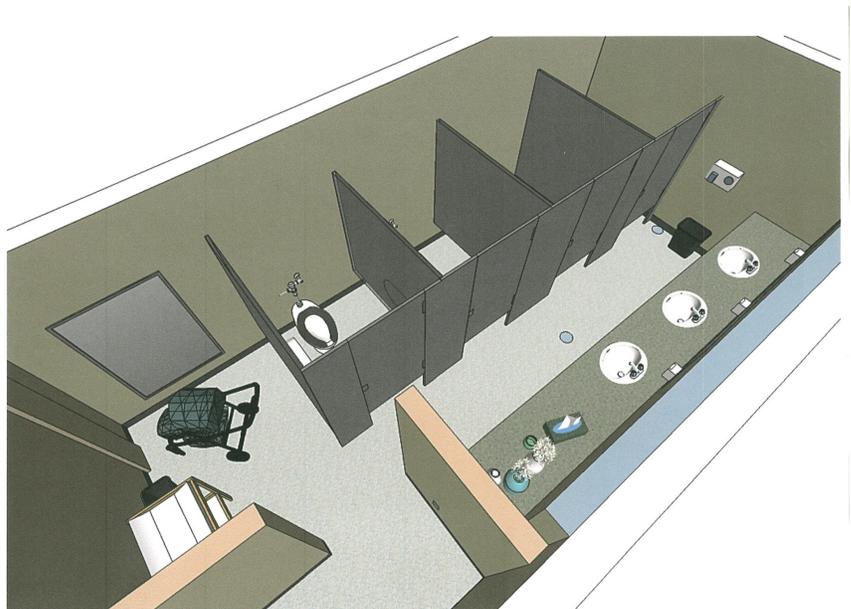
We expect to plunge into the work in June and expect that both washrooms will be out of service for at least one Sunday. You will have to go to the two smaller washrooms by the office.

We hope the go is smooth as planned as we relieve ourselves of another item in transforming from a school to a church. Hope everyone can go with the flow and see this project through.

The Maintenance Committee.



Doug Hayes
Maintenance Chair



The Library

NEW BOOK ADDITIONS

Library Co-ordinators

Betty Schuett

Meilanie Sharpe-Berges

New Additions to the Library

Section:	Title:	Author:
249 Women	Redeeming Grace: Ruth's Story	Jill Eileen Smith
249 Women	Crimson Cord: Rahab's Story	Jill Eileen Smith
248 Christian Life	Battlefield of the Mind	Joyce Meyer
248 Christian Life	The Purpose Driven Life <small>(Also available on audio CD)</small>	Rick Warren
220 Bible Resources	Searching the Scriptures	Charles R. Swindoll
241 Inspirational	No Weapon Formed Against You Shall Prosper	Georgina Packer
277 Biographies	Outrageous Courage: Story of Tracy Evans	Kris Vallotton
231 Faith Questions	Place Called Heaven	E. M. Bounds
248 Christian Life	Free to Live	John Eldredge
242 Inspirational	Wherever You Go, There You Are	Jon Kabat-Zinn
234	Six Keys to Breakthrough in Healing	Bill Prankard
	Legend of Sheba	Tosca Lee
	Without Warning	Lynette Eason
	Dramatic Encounters with God	Nicole Johnson
	Healing Adventure	Anne White
232	Prayers that Avail Much Volume I and II	Word Ministries Inc

COMMUNITY

Interested in Intercession?

Do you pray? Do you have a heart for intercession? Do you have a heart for the Men of Kortright?

Is there more for Kortright men? Would you like to see Kortright men be all that God has for them?

Kortright Men's Ministry is reimagining itself and we need prayer. If you answered yes to any of the questions above we need you.

We are looking for people to pray regularly and faithfully for Men's Ministry Leaders and Men's Ministry. We need prayer for wisdom, prayer for God to guide us, and prayers of protection. Help us do what God has called us to do for His men.

If this is you, men, women or children, please contact Steve Taylor via email at steveandelaine@hotmail.com or at (519) 760 2313 to discuss becoming one of our intercessors.

Thank You

Gertrude de Haan would like to thank the Kortright congregation for giving her a new CD player for her room at St. Joseph's Health Centre where she resides in the long-term care facility. She was pleased that her Kortright friends still remember her and expressed their love and care for her in this way.

Many thanks and love,
Gertrude

UPCOMING EVENTS

Services

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| May 20 | 10am Summer Single Service begins |
| May 27 | 10am Single Service, Baptism, Elder Ordination |
| June 3 to Oct 14 | 10am Single Service |

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| May 26 | Ladies Breakfast, 9:30am |
| June 12 | JOY Group Meeting |
| July 3 | Onside Athletics Begins for 8 weeks |
| July 23 to | Office Closed |



The Kortright Kronicles is published four times per year. It is created to tell the stories of Kortright Presbyterian Church.

*For the next issue, please submit articles to Dale in the office by **August 20th**. Articles may be edited for length in order to accommodate space requirements (aim for 250 to 300 words) and may be edited for content. Photos are encouraged to be included with articles. A photo of the author should also be submitted.*