



# The Kronicles

of Kortright Presbyterian Church, Guelph, Ontario



Chelsea Giesbrecht's team before leaving Kona for the Himalayas!

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# BUILDING FOR OUR FUTURE—AN UPDATE

As first announced at this year's Annual General Meeting, Kortright has moved to a year round Sunday morning single service format. The new format allows us to make better use of our volunteer resources and provides new opportunities for Christian education on Sunday morning. To accommodate this format, updates are required in our sanctuary. The renovation plan includes expanding our seating capacity to almost 300 seats, installing a new carpet, moving the prayer area to a dedicated room and making updates to the sound booth. Part of the sound booth updates will be enhancements for assisting those using hearing aids.



**Andrew Isaak**  
*Session Chair*

## RENOVATION PROJECT STATUS

As of the end of May, we have hired an architect to develop permit drawings and specifications. The architect has also been retained to assist with tendering of the project and review progress during the construction phase. An interior designer has been assisting us with selecting colours for paint, carpeting and chairs. Based on current estimates for obtaining required permits and hiring contractors, the current estimate for project completion is October 2019. Our hope is to minimize disruption of the services if possible however, it may be necessary to worship in the gym for a few Sundays during the midst of construction.

## GIVINGS STATUS

On Sunday, May 26th, we raised over \$60,000 in a Special Givings offering. The cost for the contractor work may not be known until we have completed the tendering process. However, the budget for this project is currently in the range of \$120,000 to \$150,000. The outstanding balance of the project cost will be paid through some of our cash reserves and a bank loan.

## PLEASE PRAY

Please continue to pray for our project team including Ken Phillips, Mary MacLeod, Les Ferrier, Doug Hayes and rest of the Maintenance Committee.

We thank them for their many hours spent on this project. We thank our God for his continued provision to our church and pray that our renovated space would continue to further the Gospel to the city of Guelph.

If you have any questions or comments about this project, please contact your elder representatives, either Ken Phillips ([kphillips@dkpc.ca](mailto:kphillips@dkpc.ca)) or Andrew Isaak ([akisaak@gmail.com](mailto:akisaak@gmail.com)).

# DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP AND OUTREACH

For those who haven't met me yet, I'm Justin Sytsma, the Worship and Outreach Director at KPC. I started at the beginning of April and our family has loved getting to know everyone so far. We're feeling very loved!

While many of you see me up front leading worship, another key part of my role is exploring ways in which we can better reach out to our neighbourhood. In my time leading a downtown church, I got to see first-hand the depths of both spiritual and physical need in our city, and I also got to be an active participant in seeing both of those needs met. Justice and the gospel go hand-in-hand and I am praying that Kortright would grow in our capacity and love for our city and neighbourhood.

Many of you know that I've launched a survey about outreach (available at <https://tiny.cc/kortrightoutreachsurvey>), and this will be the first step to get a sense of where God is leading us in these areas. I look forward to dissecting the results. There is so much opportunity, but to be truly effective it is critical to discern what the Spirit is calling *this* particular community to do.

One crucial question to ask for all of us as we think through our various spheres of influence: *What is God already doing that I need to join with?*

This way, we presume that God is already working in lives, because the fact is that He is! Even when we are inactive, God isn't. Jesus says, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working." (John 5:17 - NIV).

May we rest in this reality, but may it inspire us to join in with what God is doing in our midst!



**Justin Sytsma**

*Worship and Outreach  
Director*

# COME PLAY OUTSIDE!

Recently I met with someone who has connected with Kortright in the past year; we met at the playground behind the church with our kids after school. The visit was completely worthwhile and enjoyable just getting to reconnect and see our kids play together at the park. But while sitting at the picnic tables visiting with my friend a few things happened... First, I met some neighbourhood kids whose townhouse backs onto the park behind the church, they were friends of my friend so I got to learn their names and share some goldfish crackers. I then saw a girl from my daughter's grade 1 class, evidently she lives in the neighbourhood right near the church and I had no idea! A noise caught my attention over by the tennis courts and I watched as a Dad took a saw and cut off the bottom of a bucket. Wondering what he was up to I watched as he hung the bucket up on the tennis fence and his family including wife and two kids started tossing a basketball into their improvised "basket." Not long before I had attended the final missional imagination course and we had been talking about ways to make our property more hospitable and our Project 242 team has been imagining creative ways to engage with our neighbourhood. My head started to yo-yo between this family playing basketball with a bucket on the tennis court and over to the back of the church where we have two basketball nets, back to the family with the bucket, back to the empty nets, bucket, nets until finally I thought... I need to go and say something! I walked over and introduced myself and said that they would be very welcome to use the basketball nets at the church anytime. We struck up a conversation and turns out they attend a church in Fergus but were interested to hear what we were up to and particularly about our youth program. This all took place in 1 HOUR hanging out on our property. It got my wheels turning – if that could happen in an hour, what could be possible if we actually committed to spending some regular time out here?

In an effort to think about hospitality on our church property we are endeavoring to try 4 "experiments" this summer on the property. The first has already begun and a team of people have been clearing, preparing and planting a garden behind the church. They have already met a neighbour who wants to help and be part of this. Imagine what could happen if we started to spend more time outside and make these connections! Would you consider spending some time hanging out on the church property? You could bring your kids to play at the playground after school, walk your dog there, or borrow a dog (I can give you names,) bring a picnic lunch after church, help out with the garden, take initiative with one of the experiments (open to ideas and suggestions, or we can give you some simple ideas!) Let's think about how we can be present on our property and make it a place where people know where they are and know they are welcome! Come join us outside!



**Allison Pinches**  
*Director of Discipleship*

# KIDS AT SUNDAY SCHOOL

New babies are in the nursery and there will be more to come which means a full nursery at Kortright. Along with the single service Sunday this means more kids in our program. We have added a new class to the lineup. This Sunday school class is to transition the 3 to 5 year old kids from nursery to Sunday school. It has been a joy to see these young kids get introduced to a more structured play and lesson time, with a water table, sand box, train table and tent, the kids feel right at home in their new classroom. Adding a story/study time, craft time, and game time, has them transitioning to a more structured experience. All in all they are really enjoying their time.

## Summer Schedule

This summer we will be running nursery and a Sunday program for ages 3 to grade 3! Join us for some exciting adventures this summer!!

A huge thank you to all of our dedicated nursery children's ministry volunteers who have spent hours preparing and leading the youngest members of our community!



**Rowena Ridder**  
Director of Family Ministries



Before Church  
Kathryn, Armen



Girls Class  
Annabelle, Grace, Judith,  
Lilly, Yvonne, Viv, Eden



Boys Dive Class  
Mason, James, Thomas, Jack, Dawson, Kaelen (back)



Our New Junior Class  
Frank, Xavier, Iris (back), Silas, Kathryn, Armen

# CHELSEA AT YWAM

Hi Kortright friends & family!!

These past five months I have been with YWAM, doing a discipleship training school. I left on January 3rd. This program has taken me from Kona, Hawaii where I completed my lecture phase, all the way to Nepal, where I have been living for the past 2.5 months doing outreach.

I've got bucket loads of stories of how I have seen the Lord work in my own heart and in the lives of the people in this nation! One quick story: over the past 4 days we partnered with a church in a remote village and ministered to the local people there. We saw some wild things. One day as we were walking back from ministry when we met a man on the side of the road who was almost completely deaf. After praying for him, Jesus restored his hearing! Seeing how the Lord pursues his children is absolutely one of my favourite things ever.

We will leave Nepal in one week and head to Peru for 3 weeks and then I am home-bound! I will only be home for a week and then I am headed up north to Pioneer Camp Ontario for my second summer staffing - a bit of a different type of ministry but one that is so dear to my heart. I am so extremely expectant for how God is going to move on the lake. So far, this has been the wildest year of my life and it's all because this has been the year I met Jesus, for real.

He is worthy of it all and living surrendered to his plans is too, too sweet.

[Chelseagiesbrecht.wordpress.com](http://Chelseagiesbrecht.wordpress.com)



**Chelsea Giesbrecht**

*Writer*



Before leaving Kona for my 3 month Outreach Assignment in the Himalayas.



I had the privilege to speak at church this week and it was the most amazing experience!

Here is me and my most awesome translator.

# THE HEART OF THE KITCHEN

It seems to me that the kitchen is the heart of most homes. The preparation and sharing of food not only promotes camaraderie, positive communication but many problems are solved over a cup of shared coffee.

Since becoming kitchen coordinator of KPC, I have come to realize that the kitchen at KPC is as much the heart of KPC community as is the sanctuary. One feeds the body while the other feeds the soul. Perhaps it is not accidental planning that one can walk straight into the kitchen when coming through the KPC front doors.

One recent Saturday morning, the men's bible study group were wheeling their coffee cart out to the board room while the women were preparing breakfast for a group of sixty women.. At the same time, the youth were stumbling in for breakfast as they were waking up from their sleepover. By noon , the women were cleaning up as another group came in to make lunch for the senior girls group.

The kitchen is regularly used for such things as preparing Sunday morning coffee hour, monthly JOY potluck lunches, youth snacks and fundraising activities such as pie making.

There are many who volunteer in the kitchen by purchasing milk and cream for coffee hour, taking home laundry, showing up for kitchen cleaning blitzes and by stocking the freezer with casseroles to be given out by the staff to those in need.

My thanks to all who make my task easier by keeping KPC kitchen clean and helping out where necessary. Many hands make light work.



**Carmaine Timms**

*Volunteer Kitchen Coordinator*

# KORTRIGHT WOMEN-Inspiring, encouraging, supporting!

Women's Breakfast-June 1, 2019

Theme: Identity!



*Greeters - Ruth and Lisa*



*Speakers- Janet and Terry*



*Emcee- Joan*



*KORTRIGHT WOMEN!*



*Serving Breakfast- Emily and Carmaine*

# GREETERS AT CAMP

Ralph gave such a good sermon on 1 Corinthians 11 in conjunction with communion and the unity of the body of Christ being shown in His church on June 2nd. He pulled from parts of Ephesians in reference to the purpose of God's church. One verse stands out in Ephesians 1:

<sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

As we approach the summer, we want to give everyone the opportunity to increase your part in "filling everything [with Christ] in every way." As Allison spoke of, every single one is important and has a part to play in the body. You can do this by volunteering to help make Onside Sports a true outreach to our community this summer. Our vision is to have a group of 5-6 (perhaps your small group?) take on one of the five weeks when we host Onside this summer. However, individuals are welcome to participate in any way they are available.

We hope to have morning greeters who welcome parents and children, but also send parents off to work with a smile and perhaps a coffee or tea. The morning greeters could also set up the morning snack. If you are very ambitious, you could hang around and pull weeds in the garden and likely have opportunity to interact with the kids. In the afternoon greeters would be there to say "good-bye" to kids and parents. Perhaps you would like to help with an end-of-day craft? Thursday evening each week is an ideal night to host a barbeque for families and staff to create more opportunities to connect with families. Other ideas for interacting are welcome. You will not be alone in this. We have hired a summer student to help coordinate this along with Justin. We have a small budget to cover most of the food for Thursdays.

Onside Sports will be at KPC 5 weeks this summer: July 8 through Aug 2 then Aug 19 to 23.

If you can help please contact Joan Pollari, Tanya Wright or Justin.



**Joan Pollari**  
*Outreach Cluster  
Session Member*



**Tanya Wright**  
*Outreach Cluster  
Session Member*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Services

June 16	10:15am Single Service
June 23	10:15am Single Service
June 30	10:15am Single Service
July 7	10:15am Single Service, Communion
July 14	10:15am Single Service
July 21	10:15am Single Service
July 28	10:15am Single Service
Aug 4	10:15am Single Service, Communion
Aug 11	10:15am Single Service
Aug 18	10:15am Single Service
Aug 25	10:15am Single Service

## Upcoming Events

Enjoy the Summer

Kortright Presbyterian Church  
55 Devere Dr,  
Guelph, ON N1G 2T3

Pastor:	Alex MacLeod
Director of Discipleship:	Allison Pinches
Director of Family Ministries:	Rowena Ridder
Worship and Outreach Director:	Justin Sytsma
Administrator:	Dale Klein

*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 Klein in the office ([office@kortrightchurch.org](mailto:office@kortrightchurch.org)) by **Aug 30th**. 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.*