



MCCLURE UNITED CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023

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A Prayer for the Journey

Since our last two congregational meetings my musings have found me searching for some profound thoughts about who McClure is in this new era and what decisions will shape our future.

I came to only one conclusion. McClure has made many great decisions in the past, back to selling the designated building property and distributing the proceeds to outreach projects.

With that history, one has to believe in some guidance from the Holy Spirit so let's look to the future listening and watching for that continued guidance.

I offer this prayer as we journey on:

Gracious God, this is the season when our hallelujahs ring out - the stone has been rolled away - we are an Easter people. Thank you! We thank you for those who have lived your love and have shown us who you really are. We thank you for the wonders all around us - the amazing diversity of life; plants, animals of the air, land and water. **We thank you** for the amazing diversity of our human race - those who fly in space, fish in our oceans, learn in kindergarten, study at university, build roads and houses and those who worship in churches temples mosques and synagogues. We are awed by the diversity of creation.

Holy God, we praise you for leading us to believe, even at the cost of great pain and suffering by your son. We are grateful that our reluctance to believe has not **caused** you to give up on us. Help us to see the cross with fresh vision. Forgive us for taking our faith for granted and letting it grow stale within us. Forgive us for being satisfied with easy answers instead of asking difficult questions. Forgive us for trying to tame our faith down so it fits into a small corner of our life. May this Easter season be a time to renew our wonder at the mystery of the cross and the love to which it points. May we, move forward with increased commitment to action - as the hands and feet of Jesus on earth - and with strength and conviction that translates to spiritual growth.

Hold us loving God - hold us - love us and teach us to love others. Amen

Muriel Baxter



OUR SINCERE SYMPATHIES

Holding you gently in prayer...

All who have experienced grief & loss in its many forms

Sheila Marshall and family on the death of her sister Norma Code.
The family and friends of Bjorg Birt



to help us acknowledge **CELEBRATIONS OR LOSSES** in our church family please contact Sheila at eskrueger@sasktel.net

CELEBRATIONS

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal

Prior to her passing, Queen Elizabeth II approved the creation of a commemorative medal in honour of the 70th anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the throne as Queen of Canada.

This medal is being awarded to 7,000 residents of Saskatchewan who have made a significant contribution to Canada, Saskatchewan, their communities, or fellow citizens.



CONGRATULATIONS

To **Joy McFarlane-Burton, Angie Bugg and Jim Kells**
on receiving "The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal"

Joy for her lifetime contribution to the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals (FCMF) in leadership roles and performance. Joy's passion and skills as a musician, voice teacher and adjudicator led to the addition of the musical theatre classes at the national music festival.

Angie was nominated by the City of Saskatoon for her work on the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee for 6 years

Jim was nominated by the City of Saskatoon in the field of Education

There may be other recipients in the very community minded McClure family. If so please let us know so that we can congratulate them as well.

The Moss Bag

You may have noticed that there is a beautiful beaded Moss Bag in a display case in our lobby.

Shortly after the discovery of the unmarked graves of children on the grounds of residential schools, an Indigenous woman visited McClure United Church. The woman spoke with Rev. Laura Fohse for some time and then turned over the care of the Moss bag to the church. We were given no particular instructions as to how to care for this beautiful gift.

We have decided to display the exquisitely beaded bag so that we might be reminded of the lost children, and also remember our part in the work of reconciliation



WORSHIP SERVICES



April 2-9th

Church Service 10am – McClure United Church

Palm Sunday – April 2 - 10am



Maundy Thursday and the Passion Service

- April 6 – 7pm

Sunrise Service -April 9 - 6:15 am

Wildwood Park on the hill behind Bishop Pocock School (227 Avondale Road)

Coffee, muffins, cheese, and hard-boiled eggs, back at the church after the service.

Easter Sunday – April 9 – 10 am

Easter Blessings.





Creating Minister Job Descriptions

Since the February 26th Congregational Meeting, I have been asked to explain the process that the Ministry & Personnel Committee used to create the proposed job descriptions for the 1.5 ministers included in the Community of Faith Profile that has now been sent to The Regional Council for official approval.

To begin the process, we reviewed the Ministerial position descriptions that were finalized in January 2020 when the decision was made to proceed with 2.0 ministers. The job descriptions were defined as:

1. Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care: Children, Youth, Young Adults and Families
2. Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care: Middle Age and Older Adults and Families

Both positions were full time positions - Laura was assigned to the first position while Debra was assigned to the second position. However, due to the COVID pandemic neither of our ministers were able to fully live into their new job descriptions.

We reviewed the duties of both positions and looked for ways to convert the 2.0 minister job descriptions into a 1.5 minister job description.

We reviewed the information provided in our Community of Faith Profile Report and contemplated the make-up and dynamic of our current congregation. We considered the strengths and passions of our current minister, and we contemplated the unfilled need to focus on our young families, youth and young children. Given the connections that Debra already has with our congregation, we felt Debra would be the best fit for the full-time position of Minister of Pastoral Care and Christian Discipleship.

We also looked at the possibilities of recruitment and decided to focus the 0.5 minister position on the writing and delivery of the weekly sermon. Preparing the weekly sermon is a defined job duty that has a clear beginning and end; allowing us to better manage a 0.5 minister's hours. We felt we had a higher probability of recruiting a minister focused on sermon delivery than any other. The Ministry & Personnel Committee also considered our past experience with Brian Walton. A number of years back we hired Brian on a 0.5 ministerial contract. Brian's sole focus was to write and deliver the weekly sermon. Given the overwhelming positive feedback we received regarding Brian's sermons, that decision proved to be a very good one and we are still enjoying Brian's sermons every now and then.

Debra has been fully vested in the job description creation process from the beginning and has offered wonderful insights to assist the Ministry and Personnel Committee. It is the Committee's view that our 1.5 ministerial complement will continue to work within a Team Ministry concept. Debra will still be very involved in the planning and delivery of weekly worship. By having the sermon written and delivered by the 0.5 minister it will allow the full-time minister to focus on other important areas of our McClure Ministry that have received very little to no attention since Laura left in July 2022.

Submitted by:
Gaylene Gorniak
Chair, Ministry & Personnel Committee

Was That You I Saw in the Photo Directory???

We Still Want to See You in Pictures

Last month we began our search for a person to coordinate production of a new McClure photo directory. Perhaps a little info about the job might be helpful to recruit a volunteer.

The company we have dealt with in the past, is willing to provide all the photography, and production of the directory.

THE JOB OF THE VOLUNTEER would be:

- make several reminder announcements in church about the photography days, have sign up sheets for people to choose a time for their photo shoot,
- coordinate volunteers to be at the church when the photographer is present (some folks have volunteered for this job already),
- distribute the directories at church.

That is a basic volunteer job description. Anyone up for the challenge??? It would be great to begin our church year in the Fall with plans in place for the directory. Please contact the church office if you can help with this very important project. (306) 373-1753 or mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca



PUZZLE AND BOOK SALE, CRAFT TABLES Saturday, April 22, 2023. 8:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

We plan to use two large spaces. We encourage everyone to wear masks.
Please bring your own bags

Sanctuary: PUZZLES, Craft Tables. Games, Records, DVDs, CDs
Multipurpose Room: Books

(at noon everything is 1/2 price)

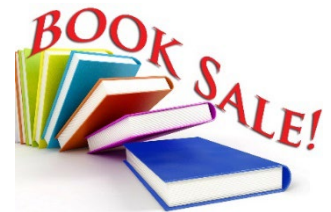
As always, we rely on your donations to make this a successful sale.
Books/puzzles etc. may be dropped off at the church April 16- noon April 21

Volunteer sign-up sheets will be available April 02 and April 16 at church.
Please consider helping. We cannot have a successful sale without you.

PLEASE, NO : textbooks, National Geographic, atlases, dictionaries, computer books, Readers' Digests, encyclopedias of any kind, magazines. They do not sell.

Contacts: If you are unsure of what we prefer in the way of book and puzzle donations, please contact one of us.
Sandy Hoenecke 306-374-5012 (rhoenecke@sasktel.net)

Marlene Kells 306-374-0238 (marlenekells@sasktel.net)



Youth and Young Adult

A Saskatoon Area Cluster youth leader has been hired. And we look forward to the opportunities our youth will have to join with other youth in the city for fun, connection and faith growth. See Kyle's letter of introduction.

The Faith Development committee is currently working on a job description for a McClure youth leader for our own youth and our Sunday morning connection. Stay tuned.

SASKATOON CLUSTER NEWS – YOUTH LEADER (edited) March 17, 2023

Hello and Greetings to all of you!

I wanted to take a moment to formally introduce myself as my start of work was this week. Attached is a picture so you may get to know my face ahead of time.



My name is Kyle Feader, and I go by He/Him pronouns. As you have likely heard by now, I was fortunate enough to be selected by the interview committee to take up the position of Youth Minister which I have happily accepted. I am incredibly privileged, humbled, and blessed to have been given this opportunity and to take up the calling which I felt.

A bit about myself so that I may be less of a stranger until we meet in person. I am 23 years old, born and raised in Saskatoon. In addition to this youth minister position, I am a substitute teacher for both Prairie Spirit and Saskatoon Public School Divisions, with a focus on teaching high school students. As such I am quite familiar and comfortable working with youth, and I suspect that will lend itself nicely to the job at hand. I was baptized and received Eucharist through the Roman Catholic Church and attended Catholic schooling during elementary and high school. While I may not currently know a lot about the United Church, I am aiming to rectify that during my time in this position, and I greatly appreciate everyone's patience and support as I educate myself and grow in both my faith and abilities to become the best person and youth minister I can possibly be.

Upcoming Goals/Plans

General

One thing discussed shortly after my hiring was a shared desire and understanding that this youth ministry should aim to engross all United Churches within the community. In an effort to foster this myself, my goal is to attend each of the churches and communities for worship over the coming months to get an opportunity to meet with everyone, establish a presence and see the lovely communities. In the coming days, I will be reaching out to everyone to arrange a Sunday where I can come for service, and I hope to see you all soon.

Easter Vigil

This Easter season, there are plans to have an Easter Vigil with the youth. This will involve meeting on the night of Holy Saturday, partaking in overnight activities, games, and faith discussion, and then participating in a Resurrection Sunday sunrise service outdoors. I will be communicating the specific details such as location and time by early next week. To make this a success, the hope is that we will have some volunteers to chaperone the overnight event and help it run smoothly, as well as having some ministers for the sunrise service.

Youth Group

The hope is to get a shared youth group up and running as soon as possible. If churches would be willing to promote the events and spread the word, that would help greatly!

Closing

I am looking forward to meeting everyone, working with everyone, and I will strive to do my absolute best using my God-given abilities in every endeavour to make this a success. Thank you for the continued support, prayers, and kind words in previous emails. Thank you for your patience as I learn and grow in this position, in my faith, and within the United Church communities.

Best Regards,
Kyle Feader
kyleafeader@gmail.com

STAYING CONNECTED

Family Ministry

We are doing our best to care for the kids who attend church Sunday mornings. Eden Polischuk, continues as our Rainbow Village leader. Eden is at the Church every Sunday at 10am.

Children are welcome to join their families in the worship space for the first bit and then move to Rainbow Village where Eden has stories and activities prepared to enjoy.

If you have any questions, please call Debra

Young Adults

Thanks to a member of our Faith Development Committee, a small event was planned in March. Some fabulous McClure young adults got together to check in and enjoy a meal together. Plans are underway to do it again

Nursery

If you are a parent with an infant or toddler, please know you are welcome in the worship space. A little noise is understood and just fine. If you need to use the nursery space, please make yourself at home and turn on the speaker so you can continue to hear the service.

Please communicate your needs to Debra.



Dinner Theatre Is a Success!

A huge thank-you to Kristie Elliot and her team for bringing Dinner Theatre back to McClure. It was wonderful to have the church packed with members and non-members of our congregation, as over 500 people attended the production. A job well done goes out to the everyone involved



Our dinner theater, Anne of Green Gables the Musical, was a great success. Not only did everyone enjoy putting on and watching the show, but we had the opportunity to bring people back into our building to build community, which was so very important to us. We would like to thank everyone who helped us in our success: the audience for purchasing tickets and attending, the volunteers, the church office staff, the building maintenance staff, Terry Linsley and the caterers, the cast and crew and everyone who came and helped build the set, paint, fold programs, etc. We would like to personally thank Rosemary and Gord Cobb who took care of all the ticket sales, as they were accidentally left off the program. A special thank you also goes to St Joseph's High School who donated much of the pieces of the new stage extensions. McClure family members who were in the cast of the show included Kristie Elliott, Amelia Elliott, Elaine Reinhart, Lee Reinhart, Annalise Reinhart, and Rosemary Cobb. Other volunteers from the McClure church family who put in a great deal of work with building and painting included Gord Cobb, Cal Campbell, Don Sather, and Quinten Smith and Ernie Barber.

Stay tuned to see what the new McClure Players group might dream up for next year!

Elaine Reinhart

Photos used with permission



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Worship Tech Team

Our team is fantastic! Our team is still learning and growing. We have folks for the hard stuff but we need people to take care of the routine Sunday morning operation. Stop by the tech booth after church on Sunday and say hi.

We need two or three more volunteers so sound management will come around only once a month for each volunteer. Call Debra if you can help

Please contact
Adam Brookman (inventadam@gmail.com),
Jim Bugg (jim.bugg@usask.ca),

Breakfast at Amy's House

We need a few more volunteers.

Your job would be to put on a happy face and greet residence as they begin their day. You would then provide breakfast service, get the cereal, prepare the toast, pour the juice and coffee.

If you are a bit unsure if this job is for you, Carol our coordinator will arrange for you to give it a try before you commit.

Please Contact Carol if you are interested in participating in this ministry 306-664-2285.

Volunteer Painting

The property committee is looking for someone who would be interested in helping to organize some volunteer painting sessions this spring.

For more information, please contact Bryan @ (306) 220-1530 or bryanhamp@gmail.com



Prayer Shawls – Still Needed

We are running low.

ONLY 4 LEFT

3-4 shawls are given away each month to Church friends who are in hospital or experiencing a difficult diagnosis.

A shawl is also offered to new residence of Amy McClure House to help them feel at home. There is a pattern available for the shawls or you can create your own. Thank you in advance for contributing to this important ministry

Women and Men's Gathering

A fine group of men and a good group of women are gathering for conversation and connection. Men meet in the Craft Room and Women meet in the Sanctuary; both spaces allow for good spacing and comfort.

The two groups will gather on the **third Saturday of the month at 8am.**

Everyone is welcome.

NEXT GATHERING: April 15

NOTE CHANGE OF DATE DUE TO BOOK SALE

Other dates: May 20

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Church Donation Envelopes

Just a gentle reminder that, if you have ordered donation envelopes from the church office, **they are ready to be picked up.**

If you haven't and wish to order envelopes please drop into the office during the week or on Sunday before or after the service. You also have an opportunity to sign up for PAR if you wish.

Office hours are Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 noon and 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. You can also place your order by email at mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca. It is helpful if you have your envelope number when you order.

To support of the Life and Work of the Church financially:

- **Pre-Authorized Remittance PAR** can be set up by calling the office 306-373-1753.
- **E- transfers** are welcome by contacting donations@mcclureunitedchurch.org
- Donations can be made through the website using Canada Help -go to the webpage and click on the donate button. (Note: Canada Help takes a fee and therefore McClure does not get 100% of your donation if you use this method)

Envelopes are available through the Church office 306-373-1753

OUTREACH COMMITTEE



THANKS

Another Huge McClure Thank You

Thank You McClure!!

Once again, **the Plant a Heart for Refugees** was a wonderful success. Not only did our decorated church property tell the story of our outreach commitment to Refugees over 43 years, we also raised over \$3700.00 for refugee projects!!!

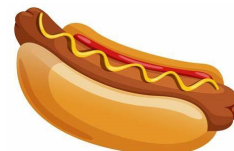
Joel Reid, our Refugee committee chair, is so thankful for all these donations. He reports that the United Church Refugee office has contacted him a few days ago to begin the paper work to bring a family of 5 to our community. Several other applications have also been made and unfortunately then we just wait to see what happens as these people make their way through the many, many challenges to get to Canada.

If you are moved by these and other refugee issues and would like to join our Refugee committee, please contact joelwreid@gmail.com or leave your name at the church office.

Camp Sunday Returns

Sunday April 23 is Camp Sunday and we are going to celebrate! Do you remember the valuable life lessons you may have learned at a church camp, or through your enjoyment of the great outdoors??? Well come and enjoy some camp songs, and stories led by some of the folks from Tapawingo United Church camp, located on Candle Lake. McClure member, Terry Linsley is the board chair there and daughter Mya, is a past camper and volunteer counsellor. After the church service, we will host a good old fashioned hot dog lunch with donations going to support the camp

Hope to see you there!!!
Pass the Mustard!!



MCCLURE PLACE

"THE BIG SHRED"

Confidentially shred your Papers that are taking up space,



MAY
6th

The Big Shred! It's so simple!

- A. Mark **Saturday, May 6** from 9 am - 12 noon on your calendar!
- B. Set out a cardboard box and fill it with: old bank and utility statements, tax returns, files, notes, outdated documents, books, magazines, etc.
- C. Bring it to the McClure Church parking lot on May 6 and our team will promptly shred your documents in the *Shred-it* company truck's shredders! The service is by donation (suggested \$10 per box, or \$5 per shopping bag) to assist the McClure Place Foundation in upgrading health services and well-being at Amy McClure House. Help yourself and your family by getting rid of that unwanted yet personal material! If you wish to volunteer three fun hours that morning, please call Les Ferguson at 373-1717. Please note that *Shred-it* donates this service to this project.

McClure Place Happenings

"To enrich the lives of McClure Place Residents by providing support and service"

Welcome to SPRING! Here at McClure Place, we have been looking forward to spring. The Gardeners are all ready to go and all we need is some nice weather with lots of sunshine. We have been having a busy month with lots of activities. Folks have been floor curling, having coffee time each weekday morning, exercising, playing Bingo on Wednesday nights, Line Dancing and Bridge.

A wonderful time was had by all at a presentation of the Musical "Anne of Green Gables" put on at the church. We went for the Dinner Theatre and we couldn't say enough about this presentation and the talented actors who gave us laughter and tears. Thank you to Kristie Elliot and all the actors, technical people and builders who bought the stage to life and gave us such an amazing evening.

We had a presentation from Bonnie Decker about living with kidney disease which was well attended. The Saskatoon Police Service was to give a presentation on Fraud and Scams but were unable to come and that presentation will be rescheduled for a later time. We are all very wary of all the telephone calls and emails we receive. I was home all day one Monday and received 8 phone calls during the day and received a "Gramma" call from my supposed adult grandson which was easy to deal with as both grandsons are under 14. Please do be careful and watch out for any of these scams. For St. Patrick's Day the Choristers led by Shirley Blackburn hosted a morning of Song, Coffee and Green Cookies to mark the day. The highlight was a skit starring Claudia and Marshall to the song "Who put the Overalls in Mrs. Murphy's Chowder". It was totally HILARIOUS. I don't know how we will ever top it next year.

We are looking for volunteers to work on our new residents' book **McClure is our Home** scheduled to be published in 2026. There is a lot of work to be done to publish one of these books which tells the stories of our residents and there has been a lot of changes over the years so we look forward to a new one.

We held our Easter Banquet March 22 and it was followed by entertainment by the "Deboyz" from Grace-Westminster United Church.

A number of people have been attending the Lenten Lunches being held by the church and have enjoyed them very much. We plan to have a Craft Table at the Book, Puzzle and Craft in the church on April 21 and 22. Donations for that table are welcome.

Darlene Goodwillie

BACK PAGE

***Got important info for the
McClure UC Newsletter?
Feedback? Ideas?***

Please e-mail any newsletter
submissions, suggestions &
feedback to

Sheila Krueger – Editor
eskrueger@sasktel.net

**May Newsletter Deadline:
Sunday, April 23, 2023**

Newsletter Format Options:

Our monthly newsletter is available at the church website & it's
also e-mailed directly to everyone on the e-mail list.

But, if you prefer to receive a paper copy **or** you need to update
your e-mail/contact info, please contact the office at:

306-373-1753 or mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca

Passionate about the work, ministry & mission of the wider
United Church of Canada?

Please check out these links for news & updates:
UCC National Newsletters:

<https://united-church.ca/e-newsletters>

UCC Mission & Service: <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/generosity-through-mission-and-service>

Happy Easter!



Did you know?

All Worship services are available at McClure's YouTube
Channel:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCTKNODhUdibWig5etzkMv8w

Printed copies of sermons are available at:

<http://mcclureunitedchurch.org/sermons>



MCCLURE UNITED CHURCH

www.mcclureunitedchurch.org

www.facebook.com/McClureUnitedChurchSktn/



4025 Taylor Street East
Saskatoon, SK S7H 5N7

Phone: (306) 373-1753

Fax: (306) 373-3450

Email: mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca

Ministry Personnel

Rev. Debra Berg

debra.b@shaw.ca

Office Administrator

Irene Lacoursiere

Administrative Assistant

Claudia Manning

Data Entry Clerk

Pam Turner

Music Coordinator

Shirley Blackburn



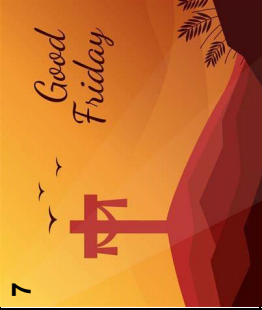



Pianist

Elin Sletmoen

April 2023

McCLURE

McCLURE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 PALM SUNDAY 10am Worship & Rainbow Village 	3 4pm Forever in Motion	4 7pm Outreach		6 MAUNDY THURSDAY 10:30am MP Choristers 12pm Lenten Lunch 1:30pm Quilting Group 4pm Forever in Motion 7pm Sacred Sounds 7pm Maundy Thursday Service	7 	8
9 EASTER SUNDAY 6:15am Wildwood Hill Sunrise Service 10am Worship & Rainbow Village 	10 4pm Forever in Motion	11	12 7:30pm The Choir	13 10:30am MP Choristers 1:30pm Quilting Group 4pm Forever in Motion 7pm Sacred Sounds	14	15 8am Women's Gathering 8am Men's Gathering
16 10am Worship & Rainbow Village	17 4pm Forever in Motion	18 7pm Worship Cmte	19 7:00pm M & P Comm 7:30pm The Choir	20 10:30am MP Choristers 1:30pm Quilting Group 4pm Forever in Motion 7pm Faith Development 7pm Sacred Sounds	21	22 BOOK SALE! 8AM TO 2PM 
23 10am Worship & Rainbow Village Camp Sunday 	24 4pm Forever in Motion	25	26 7:30pm The Choir	27 10:30am MP Choristers 1:30pm Quilting Group 4pm Forever in Motion 7pm Sacred Sounds	28	29
30 10am Worship & Rainbow Village						