

Spring is on its way!



ST. ANDREW'S TIMES

St. Andrews United Church, Chalk River - Newsletter

Almost Spring Edition
2020

A message from Susan DeHaan DLM

In Luke 11 the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, I am sure we have all felt the need to be taught to pray and from that humble beginning we have what we know as The Lord's Prayer. In Matthew 6, Jesus lays out guidance for praying and again we have Matthew's version of The Lord's Prayer which is longer than Luke's and closer to what we say today.

If we learn anything from Luke and Matthew it might be that prayer is personal. Each Gospel writer gives us his version and it is a good place to start but I would encourage you to make it personal as well. We have become so used to saying it one way we barely think of the meaning while we pray. So, carefully read the words, if something doesn't feel right for you, adapt it to your feelings. To that end, I offer you my version of The Lord's Prayer.

My Lord's Prayer

O Great Creator, Great Love, in that place of peace we all seek,

Holy are your Names.

Thy kinship (kindom) come, thy way of love be known on earth as
in your realm.

Thank you for the provisions you provided this day and continue to
provide daily.

Forgive me when I miss the mark you have set towards others and
all creation,

as I forgive those who fall short of my expectations.

Lead me on the straight and narrow path and keep me from going
astray.

For the kindom, the love and grace are yours in every place and
throughout all eternity. Amen

By Susan DeHaan

*If the root is holy,
then the branches
also are holy.*

Romans 11:16

In This Issue

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Statement on the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp and others. Auschwitz was but one of a number of such places of unspeakable inhumanity and horror. However, Auschwitz's size and the fact that over one million Jews, not to mention tens of thousands of other people, were killed there during World War II has made it the symbol of the Nazi effort to exterminate all Jewish people. This 75th anniversary is a time to remember:

- those who died because of their religion, ethnicity, political views, or sexual orientation in Auschwitz and other places like it
- the lifetime suffering of those prisoners who survived the haunted memories of those who liberated Auschwitz and the other concentration camps and saw things beyond their imagining

A 2003 United Church statement mentions that there is “a history of anti-Judaism and antisemitism within Christianity as a whole, including The United Church of Canada.” Many Christians fail to realize that Jesus was born, lived, and died as a Jewish person. Many of the survivors who chose to visit Auschwitz this week, have stated their primary reason to do so is “so that what happened is never forgotten or never repeated.”

As we mark this painful anniversary, perhaps that reason can become a motivation for us all to never forget Auschwitz. The mindset that fuelled the Holocaust—excessive nationalism, religious bigotry, xenophobia—is still with us. We see it in examples of ethnic cleansing, in the targeting of members of religious groups because of their faith, in the attacks on people because of their gender or sexual orientation, and in the increasing hostility to immigrants. May we remember. And may we commit ourselves to confront similar forces in our own time.



Book Review

Rev. Bronwyn Corlett

Learn how to take flight—and land safely! Cameron Trimble combines her love of flying and her love of church renewal in [Piloting Church](#), a straightforward, faithful book. By applying lessons she has learned as a pilot to congregational planning, she challenges the individual and the church to assess their flight plans, learn to read conditions, and practice, practice, practice until bad weather or even engine failure will be manageable for your community of faith.

Cameron Trimble is energetic, faithful, and compassionate. All of these things come through in her book. As a minister, she has led congregations and consulted with many churches in the United States, and her learnings can definitely be applied to our Canadian context.

Piloting Church is a fairly quick read at 136 pages, but is packed with stories, ideas, exercises, and discussion questions. It could be used by an individual minister or church

leader, but could also be studied and engaged with in a community of faith. This is the type of book that could be used as a study resource, or by a board or council looking to renew and revitalize their local ministry.

Trimble is clear that there are no quick fixes or easy solutions to growing a faith community. Faith communities are made up of people with various visions, faith backgrounds, and expectations. With checklists inspired by aviation protocol, a flight route can be mapped, new training can be acquired and practiced, and, through all of this, flight is possible.

It isn't just about individual churches doing well. Trimble is really interested and invested in the success of the Christian movement, often referring to the importance and imperative of creating successful Christian communities. "The stories we tell ourselves about God, the world, and each other are bound in theological wrappings.... Your theology drives the shape of your congregation" (page 80). And it matters that Christian communities of faith are thriving.

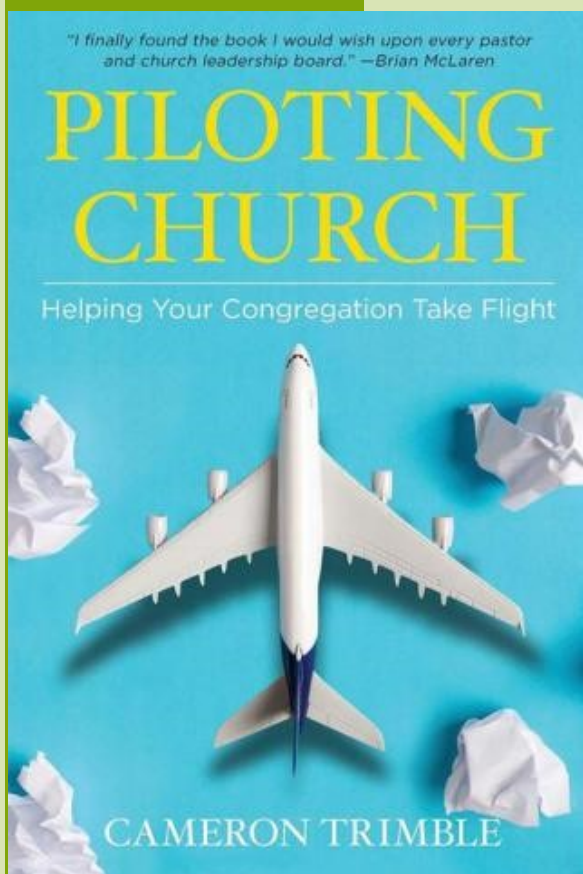
The real goal is living out the gospel within your context. Trimble acknowledges that she doesn't have all the answers, but she has been trained by other pilots. They have taught her to understand the basics and to always improve her skills and increase her experience. The practice of flight is what makes a good pilot. After each flight, pilots debrief and recognize the things they will do better next time.

"It would be a shame if you allowed yourself to get away with merely existing, coasting along through life with no focus or vision for making a positive difference." (Trimble, 64)

This is a helpful and accessible book. No, it will not solve all the challenges your community of faith is facing. But it will offer hope, direction, and inspiration to imagine what might be possible if we're able to learn from mistakes, learn from others, and be open to taking flight.

The Rev. Bronwyn Corlett is Program Coordinator, Ministry Recruitment, at General Council Office.

There are no quick fixes or easy solutions to growing a faith community, but flight is possible.



Pulpit Supply Schedule - 2020*

February 16	Harriette Davies
February 23	Paul Reynolds
February 26 Ash Wed	Larry Wiegand
March 1	Doug Tennant
March 8	Doug Tennant
March 15	Doug Tennant
March 22	
March 29	Harriette Davies
April 5	Doug Tennant
April 12 Communion/Easter	Doug Tennant/Larry Wiegand
April 19	
April 26	Harriette Davies



* Subject to change

United Church Moderator Right Rev. Richard Bott

Urges Prime Minister to Oppose US Middle East Plan

We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. (2 Corinthians 4:8–9, NIV)

The Moderator of The United Church of Canada, the Right Rev. Richard Bott, has written a [letter](#) to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau urging Canada to maintain a principled policy position in accordance with international law, and to strongly oppose the United States' Middle East "peace plan." The Moderator also asked that Prime Minister Trudeau urge other world leaders to denounce the idea that the US's plan could offer a framework for negotiating peace, lamenting that "it is far from being a 'win-win' in advancing peace for Israelis and Palestinians." "They tell us that this plan offers nothing to Palestinians but a perpetual state of occupation," says Bott.

The Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, has also [called on the international community](#) not to support the proposal agreed to by US President Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu, saying, "It constitutes an ultimatum, rather than a real, sustainable, or just solution." To hear more from the voices of local and ecumenical partners, click the link below. For more on how you can add your voice to this call, see [Call on Canada to Oppose the US Middle East Plan](#). <https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/resources/>



Praying through the Tears

The tears we shed are holy tears, Loving God. You are the compassionate source of our crying, and you weep with us.

You weep with us as we come to the realization that the illness that is ours may not find a cure.

You weep with us as family and friends join their tears with ours in disbelief and shock around this illness that will end in death.

You shed tears of joy with us at the time of remission, and tears of sadness when our illness returns.

Our tears mingle with yours in the frustration that comes when this stubborn illness will not respond to medical treatment.

You join us with family and with friends, and our tears flow freely as we resolve to support and encourage each other. When life is at an end, we will know the tears that come at the time of parting.

And as we remember and look back with warmth and joy, your tears join with ours as loved ones are recalled and our time with them remembered. Amen

—By David Sparks, United Church of Canada minister, and Sheila Noyes, former co-president of Dying with Dignity Canada



Church & Community Events

Sunday Worship Services 10:30—11:30

Fellowship over coffee & tea after the service

Communion

February 16, 2020 10:30 am

Community Soup & Sandwich

Wednesdays 11:30 -12:30 \$5.00/person



Bob Semple—Celebration of Life

Saturday February 22 11:00 am
Chalk River Legion — upper hall

Ash Wednesday Service

February 26 07:00 pm at St. Andrews Church

Indoor Walking - Lions Hall

Monday & Wednesday 10:00 am - 11:00am
Inside the Lions Hall—fun, safe & free

Community Café - Lions Hall

Mon to Sat 08:00—10:30 am
Coffee/tea/hot chocolate \$2.00 (refills 1.00)

Saturday Bible Study - St. Andrews Church

10:00 am—12:00 pm

Pastoral Care Visits

If you desire to have a pastoral care visit, for whatever reason, please contact Gayle Barks (613.401.1465) who will arrange for one of the lay worship team members to call you and set up a visit. All aspects of a pastoral care visit are held in confidence and are between you and the pastoral care provider only.



St. Andrew's United Church—serving North Renfrew from Petawawa through to Deux Rivieres.

Our services are at 10:30 on Sunday mornings at 40 Joseph Street in Chalk River ON

Call us at 613.589.2312

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Contact Us

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God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!