



SouthWinds

SUMMER 2020

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Patrick's Words of Wisdom!

As I sit in the office at the church, looking out the window, I am greeted by a beautiful blue sky, sun shining, and fluffy clouds floating by, way up in the sky. I am also greeted by the silence. I think that for me, it is the silence that is the most profound and telling.

This is the time of the year when things would be wrapping up in preparation for the summer. There would be people coming in and out of the church building making arrangements for any summer activities, and yet that is not the reality.

We are still living in the midst of this different time. We are still living in the midst of a different world. I have been wondering if we might also be living in a time of rebirth and renewal.

There are many things that have happened over the course of these last few months. We have gone online and that has allowed us to reconnect with many different people that we might have lost touch with in the past. We have a brand new basement, well, not new but definitely new looking. I hope that we have also connected with each other in a new way.

All of this brings me to thinking about what does the future hold for us here at Windsor Park United Church? What do we want to hold on to as the world returns to some semblance of normality?

We have an opportunity here, in this time, to bring to life a new vision for Windsor Park United Church. We have the opportunity to

continue to expand our ministry in new and innovative ways, to continue to reach out to those with whom we might have lost touch. We also have the opportunity to look at how we want our physical space to be used and how might that live into our ministry and mission as a community of faith. It can all be so exciting.

We have entered into summer, a season of growth in the world. Let us, as Windsor Park United Church, look at this time as a time that we too can grow, in our work as the church, in our mission as followers of Christ, and in our sense of community, as the world begins to open up again. It can be an exciting time for us, if we make the choice to do this work together, for it will take all of us. All of us saying yes to the movement of the Spirit in this time, calling us to new life in the midst of the growth of summertime.

I wish you all a peaceful, restful, growth-filled summer season.

Peace and blessings,



Rev. Patrick Woodbeck

Minister

Windsor Park United Church



Virtual Worship Services (An Outsider Looking In)

Gloria Saindon

Do you ever wonder how the service gets delivered to you each and every Sunday morning? I know that Laura has submitted a piece on how this works, but what about an outsider looking in?

I had the honour and privilege to be asked to be liturgist on two occasions, okay make that three. The first time I was asked to do a reading for the Good Friday service – wow that seems so long ago! That particular service involved taking the reading and recording it in a video and sending it to Laura to be edited into the service at the appropriate place. I must say, I failed on this part as my phone wouldn't allow me to send it to her in an email as it was too large a file. After several attempts and finally calling on my daughter – who is a little more techno savvy than me – I got it sent. I joked with Laura that they would never ask me to do this again! Boy was I wrong.

The past two Sundays (or rather Saturdays), I have been at the church recording the service. Now it's not all done at once, like some may think, but rather it is done in segments. First, the time for all ages is recorded, followed by Myrna playing the interlude and she is timed on this! Then we get all the devices set up in various locations using music stands and hymn books to hold them in the correct spot. Did you know at any one time there are up to four devices recording the service? Then music stands are set up six feet apart for each of us to hold our necessary papers. We then “walk through” the service with each of us in our places at varying times. We move seamlessly through the service – with maybe a few retakes. We have all been in some situation where we have had to speak in front of a large crowd, but it sure is different speaking to an empty church and having to look at the right camera/device to capture everything. I have learnt that you need to speak loud and clear (no mikes for this) in order to be heard. At the end of the “service” Laura records the anthem and then we are done! Nope, wait not yet, then

all the recordings are sent to one device and we have to make sure that it all goes and is accepted correctly. If not, we may have to retake from a specific point and try again. Once that is complete, Laura then takes them and splices them all and puts it into order according to the bulletin. It is then uploaded to YouTube and sent to all of you via the link!

Did you know that Sunday June 21 was the first time since they have been recording the service that the fire trucks siren had gone off? We also had thunder that service as we recorded during one of the sudden downpours!

I have to say, this team, **Laura, Myrna** and **Patrick** has put a lot of work into delivering the service to you each and every week and I was very happy to be a part of it. I am truly thankful and appreciate all that they have done to continue this service for all of us. The services will continue from June 28 - September 6 (every 2nd week) until we are - hopefully - back worshipping together in the church itself.



A heartfelt thanks to June Kaan

Part 2



In the last issue, we had announced that June resigned as Chair of the Trustees. Since then she has rescinded that decision considering the COVID-19 pandemic.

The provincial health directives are not allowing us to gather and hold a proper congregational meeting to validate any organizational changes.

It is with a heartfelt thanks that we welcome and recognize June's decision to extend her term as Chair.

Ponderings from Diena

Diena Rodd

During this time of isolation I have been spending a lot of time in my garden. Not just weeding and watering but reflecting on why I just like to sit and look and listen to what makes it so special to me.



It is so full of stories, current and past, and many of these relate to my church family. One of the biggest is the “rummage sale.” One advantage of working there as many of you know is getting first picks. And I, being a cheapskate was always on the look out for garden art.

Lil’s parrot has a place of honour as super guardian. My joy of finding a milk can. Major shares memories with the grandchildren of when he had to cart them down the lane in his youth. Sue’s lovely shells gathered in her travels surround the pond. Coral, sand dollars, conch and many others.

The fence has some unique carved plaques and a sun bird feeder that I wish I knew where they were from. Surrounding Carol’s “circle of friends” are the Snowdrop Anemones she shared with me. Happy white faces dancing in the wind. Margo’s duck befriends our resident chipmunk at the back door. They never thought to put these guys outside.

All these of course make me think of all the stories shared at these rummage sales as we unpacked boxes and came up with many treasures.

The experimental water bowls that Grace and I made one year out of rhubarb leaves and cement, what fun that was (the rhubarb leaves came from a plant given to me by Ruth C. many years earlier.) Cam’s super bird houses and feeders bring the chattering wrens back every year. Lucky me. Rocks weekly brought by Derek and Jody from cottage country now form part of the rock garden, with additions from Judy. There is a wonderful set of crock pots that have become planters and hold some gazing balls that were looking for a home. Shirleys’ grandsons goldfish summering in the pond were welcome guests entertaining my children. Frogs, turtles and a giant feather, thoughtful gifts from my children.



So many plants that have their stories. Every spring David and June’s Prairie Crocus is some of the first color to appear and I think of them fondly for sharing these. Walter and June’s Bugle Weed and Pulmonaria soon follow. There are some patches of Lil R.’s Irises that she gifted me when our family washed her windows after a church auction. Judy’s Hostas continue to spread around the neighbourhood as they multiply their beauty. Oh, and then there is George’s pretty, giant yellow Clematis that hides our garbage corner. The many plants “smuggled” from my parents’ home. Almost every plant has its’ story.

I think back to fun AOTS BBQ’s here and the year it rained and there were 45 people eating in our basement (after that the men used the church as they did get very wet BBQing). Yes, we all sat around one table (folding tables, card tables and the pool table all lined up). Can you imagine passing the salt?

And there is the spot where the “park bench” sat. The one I fell in love with on an Ontario trip. My wonderful husband surprised me on my birthday and had managed to get it to Winnipeg.



As I drift off to dreamland, sitting in the shade I can hear the giggles of our children and grandchildren as they played in sand boxes, built forts, learnt to ride bikes and skip ropes, and conjured up dragons and other tales.

Yes, it truly is my reflective garden and my happy place.



Television Reviews

Patrick Woodbeck

THE GREAT CANADIAN BAKING SHOW ON CBC

I usually do a movie review but, in all honesty, I have not been watching a whole lot of movies and so I thought that I would do a review of a television show.



I think that many of us have seen our fair share of reality television and much of what we see comes from south of the border. These shows are quite often full of competition, extreme challenges, and in some ways some smack talk. As much as there was a sense of comradery between the contestants there is always an undercurrent of competition, striving to be the best and the others being less than best.

The lack of this sense of beating out all the

others was one of the first things that I noticed in regards to this competition baking show. It is a quintessential Canada show, in that the contestants all seem to be humble, concerned for their fellow contestants, and there were times in all three of the seasons, that are currently on Netflix, when one contestant or more would help out, in a large way, another contestant. Not only would they help but there were numerous times when the contestants who were staying would be in tears at the elimination of another contestant. There was also a great range in ages, genders, careers, and experiences of the contestants. It showed, quite well, the diversity of this wonderful country. There was an authenticity about the contestants and it showed through in each of the challenges in which they competed.

As a non-baker, I can't even imagine some of the items that they were challenged to bake. The challenges included many baked goods from across the world and it was fascinating to learn about each of these and how they were to be made. The resulting baked good ran the gambit from wonderful expressions of the required baking, to epic failures. Yes, even during the judging of these competitions the judges always found something that was good in each of the goods brought forward, but they also suggested ways in which the baked goods could be improved.

If you are a baker, or like competition shows, I invite you to try this show. The first three seasons are available on Netflix and I enjoyed watching this show for the personalities, as well as the challenges.

Bon appetite.



Know Thy Neighbour

Doug Waldron

As I mentioned to others this new step sign was inspired by one of Patrick's sermons. A little research on the saying - not found in the Bible - reveals this quote:

“Know thy neighbor as thyself. That is, comprehend his hardships and understand his position, deal with his faults as gently as with your own. Do not judge him where you do not judge yourself...this is the meaning of the word LOVE.”

— Pearl S. Buck, Pavilion of Women



The stencil was procured from a local supplier at a low price. I had to insist the neighbour was spelt with a “u”. While I was painting the sign, a lady approached me to ask what I was doing. She introduced herself as Val and said she lives on Echo Bay. She was already aware of WPUC since she donated some knitting to the Mitten Tree.

I guess the sign works - we now know a neighbour.

Property Management

Bill Belsham & Wayne Baldwin

After seven months since the basement flooding in November, the basement restoration is now completed. Hurrah!! Additional painting not due to flooding is now in progress.

A big thank you to Don and Wilma Hunnie for sanding and staining the benches in the Memorial Garden. Come and have a look. They look great!!



Begonias have been planted in the Memorial Garden and thanks to volunteers, watering has been scheduled for the entire summer.

A couple of perennials did not survive the winter and may be replaced. This garden is looking good!

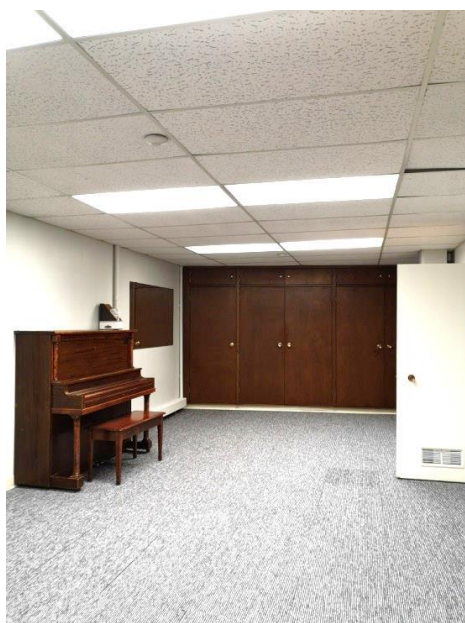
Thanks to everyone.

Basement Update

Gloria Saindon

It has been a long three weeks from the original date that we were told that the basement would be completed. In fact it's been seven months and we can say that we are almost complete and are just waiting for signatures on the claim.

What have we been up to? Well, the choir room is complete with new carpet tile, paint and will have newly painted doors and locks installed before too long (see photos below).



The orange/yellow cupboards are now grey- that is the new orange! The floors are going to be cleaned and waxed by Gina in early July and the cupboards are all going to be purged and ready to go once we are ready to open up again.

What's left to complete? There is still some painting of cupboards in the North and South rooms and the kitchen.



There will be some changes come the fall as to where things will be, but we will update everyone once that has been completed. There are many people to thank for helping get the basement to where we are but that will have to come later as my list is long and keeps changing! It is truly amazing what a team we have putting this all back in order.

In the meantime, stay safe and healthy!



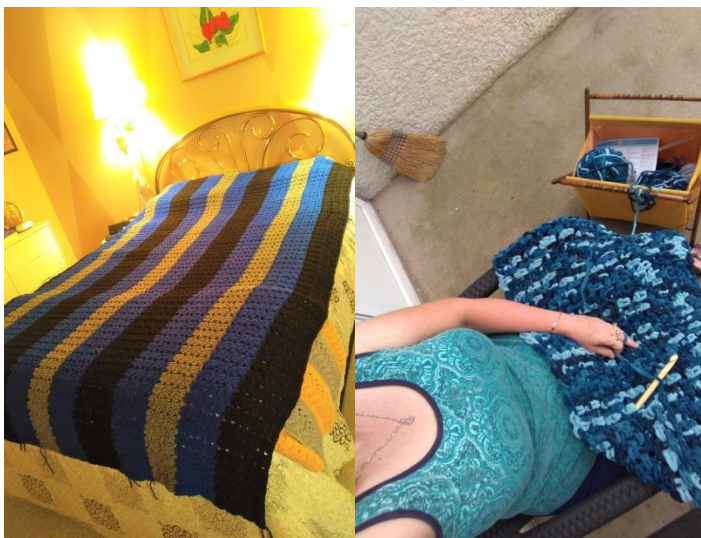
Ponderings from Delores

Delores Maertens

Since the call went out for the submissions to this month's Southwinds, I have been trying to put together an article reflecting one of the options Patrick put forward.

Have any summer plans? Planning a staycation? Trying your hand at being a gardener? Working on any new crafts? Binge watching new shows? I realized why I could not pick a topic...I oddly fit in to each category, but it took a while to get involved with anything.

At one point, our family did not think they would have any time to themselves. Days, weeks and months went by spent cleaning, painting, organizing and donating years' worth of household property. Due to a move and a death in the family, properties belonging to in-laws were now in our hands to be prepared for sale. Life got so busy, when the Covid virus arrived, it did not even slow anyone down. Eventually work was completed and properties were put on the market. Ironically, possession dates for the two homes ended up being six days apart. When they were put on the market, that was when I decided to finally take advantage of the limitations Covid presented.



Some of the fondest memories I have are those of the days I spent with my Grandmother, Marion Will. She taught me my favourite way to spend my free time - crochet. With the first afghan finished (thanks to Covid) a second one has been started.

We also spent a lot of time in her garden, so this year I decided to go all out. Corn, pumpkin, beans, radishes, carrots, potatoes, tomatoes, kale, zucchini and onions have all been planted. I can only imagine what she would think if she could see it now! I cannot wait to eat my first carrot right out of the garden, just like all the grandkids did at grandma's house during the summer. After all, as my cousins would remember Grandma saying...

"to be healthy, you have to eat a pound of dirt."

Thanks to the amount of carrots and radishes we often stole from her garden, I am sure we all grew up VERY healthy.



Six ethics of life

Before you Pray - Believe
Before you Speak - Listen
Before you Spend - Earn
Before you Write - Think
Before you Quit - Try
Before you Die - Live

-William Arthur Ward

Book Reviews by June

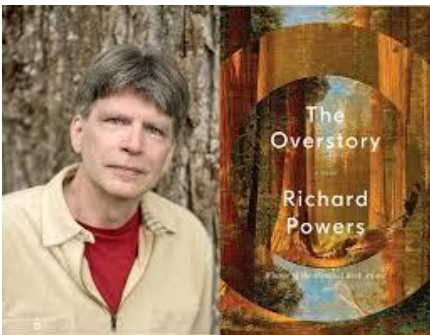
June Kaan

THE MIRROR AND THE LIGHT BY HILARY MANTEL



Mantel's book is the third in her trilogy about Thomas Cromwell, another fascinating read about Cromwell, his close relationship with Henry VIII and the Tudor court. It is full of schemes, both local and international, regarding the church in Rome and Henry's separation from it with the dismantling of the great abbeys, the maintaining of quasi-peace with France and Belgium and the search for yet another wife for the king. The sword hanging over all is the possibility of retention in the Tower of London and the swordsman called by the king and his anti-Cromwell advisors. Even if you have not read the first two books, but perhaps saw the Wolf Hall series on TV, there is enough back history to make this a worthwhile read, with an amazing sense of being in place.

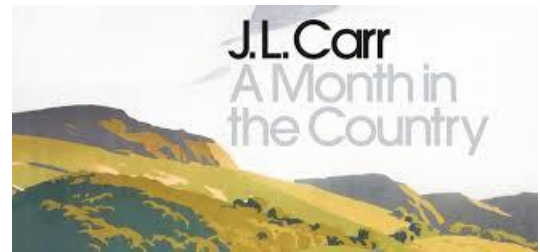
THE OVERSTORY BY RICHARD POWERS



Powers' book is also about relationships, but between humans and trees. There is an astounding amount of information about trees, forests and their communication with one another and the various living beings around them. The stories of several people, strangers at first, and their

growing fight to save forests takes them from their usual lives to working in concert as, in the eyes of the law, domestic terrorists. This is not an uplifting book, but, as one reviewer writes, "you will never look at a tree the same way again".

A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY BY J.L. CARR



Carr's small book is lovely, only 135 pages, centred around a young man recovering from the horrors experienced during WW1. It is set in the early 1920s, in a village in rural England. The local church has a medieval mural hidden beneath whitewash and there is money left in a will to have it restored. The power of the art, living amidst the countryside and the relationships with the villagers are restorative.



A film has been made of this story, starring Colin Firth, Kenneth Branagh and Natasha Richardson – such a great cast.

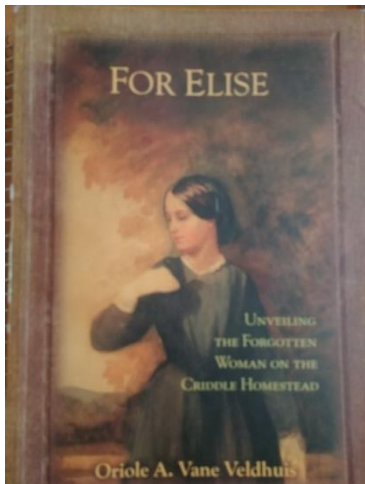


Book Review by Sue

Sue Turley

FOR ELISE: UNVEILING THE FORGOTTEN WOMAN ON THE CRIDDLE HOMESTEAD

AUTHOR: ORIOLE A. VANE VELDHUIS



The surname Veldhuis may be familiar to some in the United Church of Canada. The author, Oriole Veldhuis, and her husband, Art Veldhuis, served as ministers in God's Lake Narrows, Holland, and Winnipeg, Manitoba and Elmira, Ontario.

The book grew from a promise made by the author to her father to find out more about his grandmother. Not only does this book fulfill that promise but it provides the reader with a detailed description of what life was like for those immigrating to the unsettled prairies of Western Manitoba.

Veldhuis shares the trials and tribulations of Elise Vane (1841-1903) as she attempted to build a life for herself and her children in an environment not particularly forgiving to most human beings but especially difficult for women.

As we celebrate the sesquicentennial year of Manitoba, this book provides an eye-opening account of some of the province's very early days.

Thank you to Ruth Klein for sharing this book with me.



WPUC Website



Come visit our website and follow our summer events. windsorparkunitedchurch.com.

Upcoming Events

JUL
01

Canada Day

All day

JUL
09

Finance & Stewardship Meeting

7:00pm - 8:00pm

JUL
10

West Broadway Community Ministry Lunch Preparations

9:00am - 10:00am

JUL
12

Join us on-line for Worship & Communion!

10:30am - 11:15am

JUL
26

Join us on-line for Worship!

10:30am - 11:15am

AUG
09

Join us on-line for Worship & Communion!

10:30am - 11:15am

Inspiration Corner

Editor's Note

John Lwiwski

A big thank you to this edition's contributors.

Have a safe and wonderful summer !

See you in the fall.

*Watch for the
Fall edition of
Southwinds.
Available late
September.*

