



SouthWinds



FEBRUARY 2021

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Patrick's Words of Wisdom!

I have been thinking about what I wanted to write for this edition of the Southwinds and my mind has been coming back, time and again, to this idea of who we are called to be in the world. Many of us know what we are called to do as Christians. We can speak to the prophet Micah who tells us that we are to be humble, seek justice, to be kind. Or many of us might go to Jesus who calls us to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. Some might even go to the Ten Commandments, or to the Beatitudes and say that is how we are to guide our lives as Christians in the world. And as much as I believe that these are important to each of us in our own personal lives I do believe that there is more and I also believe that these past number of months have highlighted the importance of what this just might be.

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1 Peter 2:9-10

It is in community that we are called to fulfill our calling from God. It is in community that we are nourished, that we are sustained, that we are encouraged, and challenged. We have worked really hard these past 10 months to continue to connect with you each week. We have continued as a community to offer our gifts of hospitality to West Broadway each month, even in the midst of a global

pandemic. We have endeavored to connect with each of you in a variety of ways. But this community does not exist without each one of you. We, along with every community of faith, have been challenged by this time. We have been challenged with being church when we can't gather. We have been challenged to continue to forge connection and community in the midst of separation. We have been challenged. Yet for all the challenge I believe that there is great value in this place, in this community, in our mission, in our ministry. As difficult as this time has been we still need you. We need your energy, your passion, your commitment, your presence, even if that is online for now.

In this edition of the Southwinds, I invite you to read some of the stories from the past about the importance of this community in the lives of people and the importance of faith, especially during times of struggle. As well as offering to you some new stories. The hands and feet of Christ is what we are called to be in the world. I invite you to continue to journey along with us, continuing to be those hands and feet, as we continue to be community, albeit in a different way.

I wish you peace and blessing of Christ during this time.



Rev. Patrick Woodbeck
Minister
Windsor Park United Church

Know Thy Neighbour

The Finance and Stewardship Committee was seeking testimonials from willing congregants on what they value most in respect to being part of the Windsor Park United Church community.

Certain testimonials may be used in public materials as part of the 'Know Thy Neighbour' initiative. Our objective is to further engage our community both near and far, and to help further expand our congregation to ensure it remains a pillar of our community and a support to you and your family in the years to come.

The Stewardship Committee is grateful to the following contributors for sharing with us what Windsor Park United Church has meant to their families over the years.

Our Legacy – Melissa Davidson

I was introduced to WPUC through basketball. True story - the previous minister, Sharon Wilson, and I met playing adult basketball together. I thought she was the coolest person and being on the sidelines or after playing we had some really great conversations. When I was getting married she was my obvious choice for a minister. After that life, baptisms and death happens and WPUC was always there to turn to.

My faith and kids have grown with WPUC. I began coming occasionally driving a good distance to attend. I had small children and admittedly came for the service where I could find some peace and my kids were being cared for and learning. I also started attending the Mom and Tot time to meet other women and socialize but it was a Mom break. My kids call the church volunteers that cared for them by Grandpa and care for them.

Our Legacy – Bob Harrison

John 3:16: this verse has been with me ever since I learned it at summer Sunday school when I was about eight years old.

At age 18 on leaving the farm for the big city, Winnipeg, I was befriended by a couple on the train. They took me to their home for supper, helped me find a room to rent, and invited me to go with them to a Sunday church service at Elim Chapel. This was only one of the many times when people of the faith had a direct involvement in the direction my life was taking. In some very troubling times in my life, the Ministers were always there to talk to, and provide helpful counseling.

Some of the most memorable times at WPUC were the years I served on the Worship Council. Up to that point, I knew little of the complexity of the makeup of the worship service. I will always remember the wonderful people who served with me on this council. If only all of the world's activities could be organized with such a cooperative spirit.

As a member of WPUC AOTS (As One That Serves) men's club, I remember taking children from group homes on sleigh rides or to the Shrine Circus. The thrust of our group still is the serving of our youth, while enjoying fellowship at regular supper and other social events. Having been raised on a Saskatchewan farm in the 1930s, money was in very short supply, but it was always instilled in us to return a portion of our "pennies," for God's work.

"Unto Us is Given" a heritage of Faith in our God, to be nourished, used, expanded, experienced, enjoyed, and then passed on to the next generation. While these are memories from my past, I feel that the most important program right now is to ensure that WPUC will always be here for our children and grandchildren.

Our Legacy – Ruth Klein

At a Thursday morning study group, a discussion took place regarding the needs of mothers within the community. A committee of three continued the conversation that morning, the Moms and Tots group had its beginning. Soon, invitations were made and a group of about 10 mothers and their children began to arrive at Windsor Park United Church each Wednesday morning from October to May.

Volunteers were needed to look after the children. Members of the congregation rose to the challenge and a group of women enthusiastically volunteered to become the weekly caregivers. Their mornings were busy as they entertained the children with stories, games, music, toys, and crafts for the older children. Often it seemed as if the tables were turned and it was the children who entertained the caregivers. Babies were greeted with enthusiasm as the volunteers held and rocked them. Throughout the year, there was a growing sense of caring and trust between the children and the caregivers.

For the moms, the hour and a half program which they planned for each week became a time to meet new people, renew acquaintances, and make some lasting friendships while enjoying crafts, guest speakers, and films, along with plenty of time to chat.

We have been truly blessed with so many wonderful people from our congregation as well as from the community who have brought their talents and expertise to share with the moms and the children.

Being a volunteer with the Moms and Tots program has given me a new insight into what it means to see God's love at work within us. It has been a very rewarding experience in which I feel that I have received a great deal more than I have given. It is in Acts 20, verse 35 that Paul quotes Jesus as saying, "There is more happiness in giving than receiving." Working with Moms and Tots has given this verse new meaning to me.

Our Legacy – Maxine Pattle

I was baptized and raised in the United Church; singing in the choir of our rural church and attending Sunday school and, later, confirmation classes. We were married in the United Church, and when our children were born, had them baptized, attend Sunday school (which I taught), and seek confirmation. But it was always as though something was missing.

In 1983, I ran into some personal problems and sought the answers in my faith. It was only when all else failed that I could cry out to God for a miracle. He heard my cry and granted me my miracle.

From that day on, I was able to believe that I was God's temple and his spirit lived inside me, that he would always be with me and together, we could overcome any situation.

In 1987, my father-in-law came to live with us. He had Alzheimer's. I would bring him to church with me as I took part in crafts, Bible study, etc. We were part of the family and I got renewed energy there. I believed God would give me the courage and the strength to meet each new challenge, and he always did. I would start my days by turning them over to God's care, and talk to him all day, and then thank him each night for getting me through the day. Father passed away in 1989. I had a period to renew myself. Then my friend got cancer and I was privileged to walk eight months with her to death's door. I saw the miracles God did in restoring her faith and her family relationships before she died.

I believe all experiences can be used to the glory of God, if we are open to the opportunities and willing to step out in faith.

Our Legacy – Joan Rusnak

I was raised in a conservative denomination of the Christian church, when I reached my mid-teens, I began to feel constricted. I wasn't happy with the responses given to my many questions. As a result, when I left home at 19, I stayed away from the church for several years.

After I married and became a parent, I began to feel drawn back to the church. Nick and I moved to Windsor Park in 1970 and felt that we should take our young children to church. We first attended Windsor Park United that spring. I immediately felt that I had found a place where my faith could grow, where others were also asking questions, and where we could search for answers together. It didn't even matter if we came up with different answers. Nick joined me in taking confirmation classes with the Rev. Glen Thompson and we became members in 1971. I have been an active member of Windsor Park United ever since.

“Unto us is Given.” To me, this means that I must daily count the blessings that I have been given. I live in the best country in the world, where I don't have to worry about where I'm going to get my next meal, where I feel safe, and I'm free to believe what I choose and worship as I choose. It also means that I, as a Christian, have been given a great responsibility. In Luke 12:48, following the story of the faithful and unfaithful service, I read: “From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required.” For me, this means that I must care about all people who are suffering and in need. The United Church gives me ample opportunity to respond to this calling - opportunities as diverse as helping feed Habitat workers here in Winnipeg, to sending financial help to earthquake victims on the other side of the planet.

As we approach a new millennium, I still ask a lot of questions. At the moment, I'm wrestling with the whole subject of consumerism and what it means to our society and to me as a Christian. There are no quick fixes, but I plan to keep searching for answers along with the rest of my faith family at Windsor Park United Church.

Our Legacy – Debbie Ashdown

For as long as I can remember, the Church has been a varying part of my life. There have been times when I have been very distant, and other times very close. As a youth, my father made it well known that the Church was the place we

prayed, also for soul-sorting and help at any time. This held true at 13 when my world fell apart.

My dad died, and I learned the true meaning of hate in my heart. I questioned ‘God’ on why he hated me, to take the one person that meant everything to me. At 13, I was very selfish and was full of rage. Thank goodness for time, as it would teach me to be stronger and more independent. Many of my father's words have returned over and over again.

All I can hope is that with dad's guidance, and God's help, I have done well by both.

Now that I am grown and have my own family, I have tried to instill the same values in my children. My oldest daughter is now confirmed, and her father along with her. They now need to find their own ways.

The older I get, I find my roots to the Church getting stronger and I understand the words of my father more clearly. The hands we need to guide us growing up are there all the time. We just can't seem to see them.



Thank You from WPUC Members and Adherents

Our appreciation to the staff: Patrick, Laura, Myrna, Sue, Gina.

Also, thankfulness to the volunteers: Gloria and Sarah, who we see each and every Sunday: to the music helpers: Praise Singers, John, and Heather.

You have kept our ties to our church alive.

There are so many more volunteers who we do not see—we thank you as well. We thank you too. Only you know who you are!

**Sincerely,
Your Church Friends**

Craft and Storytime Fun

Leanne, Derrick, Mark, and Grant Proctor

We just wanted to say thanks for the Christmas Card and craft package from Bible Adventures. Mark and Grant were excited to see more gem stones and other new craft supplies. It's been a strange holiday season but we are getting in a bunch of fun at home and outside. We watched Santa reading books online and watched Patrick tell the Christmas story for children (nice job Patrick!).



My girls even bought a “flashing” OPEN sign to hang when café is operating and made a sign “Le Garage Café” to make it official. We insisted on reservations for Brekkie, Lunch, Dinner, or Coffee Break so as our large families wouldn't overlap while trying to stay safe. It was fantastic to have short visits with family members. When Code Red was announced we had to sadly close our café but the heater might not have kept us cozy much longer as the temperatures were feeling more like winter.

If pandemic continues into early spring we plan to open up café when possible...

We had our neighbors on our Bay join us to bang pots together on Saturday nights at 7:00 p.m. in appreciation of our front-line workers which was one way of us keeping in touch with neighbors “at a distance.”

We wish our church friends...good health and keep safe from virus.

Down to Earth

Edna Erickson

Who wants to be an Armchair Traveller since that is the only really safe way to travel in this COVID-19 era?

For those with access to NetFlix, there is an eight-episode series very worth watching. It is called **Down to Earth** and stars Zac Efron (actor) and Darin Olien (wellness expert).

Together they travel around the World to find healthy, sustainable ways to live. Their travels take us to Iceland, Costa Rica, France, Sardinia, Lima, London, Puerto Rico, and Iquitos.

This series will make one look at our lives in a whole new way. It may be the foods we eat, the water we drink or what we purchase.

Hope you enjoy it as much as I did!



“Le Garage Café”

Joan Beveridge and Bert Johnson

First of all a thank you to Rev. Patrick and all the busy folks that keep our virtual Sunday services complete for us...very much appreciated.

When we returned on September 5 from our lake cabin in Ignace, Ontario we wanted to make changes so we could still see our families so we decided to remodel our attached garage into a cozy decorated café seeing visitors couldn't come into our condo. We covered up rakes, shovels, hoses etc. by hanging curtains and my adult granddaughter Shayne bought and hung yards of wallpaper on the uncovered sections of garage wall...and being artistic she painted scenery and constructed a window on the wallpaper.

Bible Adventures

Bible Adventures leader, Melissa Davidson and crew (Tessa, Nolan and Reese), set out to deliver 11 packages to the children on December 18.

The packages, made up of Christmas craft supplies and special paintable edible cookies, along with a personalized note from Patrick, Gloria, and Melissa were well received!

Below are some pictures of some of the crafting and "painting" done by the children. We had such a positive response we want the children to watch for something special coming your way for Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day!



Seine River Greenway

Anne Thoroughgood

From the mouth of the Seine River at the Red River, the Seine River winds its way through this city—St. Boniface on the east shore, St. Vital on the west shore.

There are many walking/hiking trails along most of the east side—the high trail is mostly groomed with the trail closer to the shore being natural. The lower trail is considered the bike path.

Any season one can enjoy the walk—choose the length of the trail as to the time that you have at your disposal—whether it be minutes or hours. Be prepared for open fields, bush (I call it a forest), carvings on trees, miniature villages, wildlife (birds, animals), and walkers who are happy people.

Last year, *Save Our Seine* celebrated 30 years of building and maintaining the many miles of trails. At the John Bruce Road Bridge they are presently building a canoe/kayak launch pad (first in Canada) into the Seine—which will enable people of all abilities to sail down the Seine River.

During this pandemic, walking especially along the Seine River is my form of meditation. Come with me and enjoy nature within our city.

Winnipeg Soup Fairies

Paulette Côté and Peter Czehryn

Hello from the **Winnipeg Soup Fairies** a.k.a. Paulette Côté and Peter Czehryn. We are sad to be saying goodbye to Windsor Park United Church as we transfer our membership to St. Mary's Road United Church. Many of you are aware that we have been heavily involved through Paulette's work with the Foodbank and now preparing soups out of their kitchen for the Fairies Project. With Paulette's retirement, we find ourselves at SMRUC as many as three times per week and so it is a natural transition for us to make the move at this time. We will remember our time spent at WPUC with fondness for all the generous and kind members we have had the good fortune to get to know. We are not moving physically so would like folks to know to please feel free to call on us if you or someone you know could benefit from a visit from the Soup Fairies with a gift of soup, homemade bread and chocolate chip cookies. Just send us an email at peterpaulette92@gmail.com and we'll be happy to pay them a visit. Be well everyone and we will carry with us forever in our hearts the motto of "Go make a difference in the world" heard so often at WPUC.



Books and Films

June Kaan

So many books! And now, since I finally gave in and subscribed to **Netflix**, so much to watch there. While considering these offerings, I realized they all center on family and community, perhaps as we recognize the missing of both now.

Recently I watched two great films set in Africa.

LE MARIAGE DE VERIDA FROM MAURITANIA



Le Mariage de Verida from Mauritania, is the story of a young woman about to be married, but the wedding cannot take place until she puts on quite a bit of weight. Her mother cooks fatty meals for her and the fiancé comes weekly with scales to weigh his prospective wife. The practice of gavage is apparently still a practice in Mauritania, but with increasing pressure to stop it. In Wolof with French subtitles.

ATLANTICS



The second film is **Atlantics**, set in Senegal. Again somewhat of a love story, but centred on a teen pressured into an arranged marriage while in love with someone else.

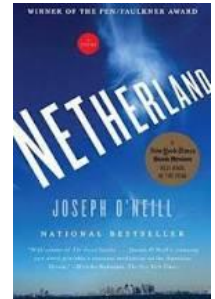
There are issues of unemployment, class, migration, crime - and ghosts! The latter was a surprise - a bit of a complicated story but fascinating stuff. In Wolof, Arabic, and French with English subtitles.



Now, 4 recommended books:

NETHERLAND BY JOSEPH O'NEILL

Netherland is set primarily in New York, but also in London and the Hague. Beautifully written story involving the game of cricket, the players, the cities, family, and being an outsider. Great book.



THE GERMAN HEIRESS BY ANIKA SCOTT

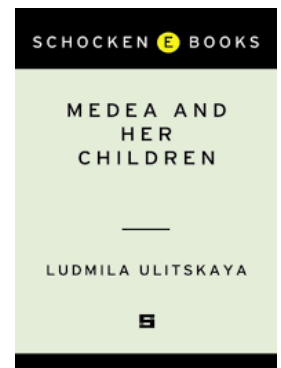


The German Heiress is set in Germany immediately following WW II. As a reviewer writes: the story offers “a captivating tour through the reckoning

years that followed”, involving the heiress to an iron-works empire. The perspective is from the point of view of the German people.

MEDEA AND HER CHILDREN BY LUDMILA ULITSKAYA

Medea and Her Children tells the story of Medea who is the last remaining pure-blooded Greek in a family that has lived on the Crimean coast for centuries. It is set in the 20th century, and follows the relationships of her large extended family. A lovely book.



THE VANISHING HALF BY BRIT BENNETT

The Vanishing Half tells the story of twins growing up in a small black community in the southern USA. Their separation and eventual reuniting covers many issues regarding racism, self-understanding, and, again, family.

Windsor Park Architectural Tour

Kathryn Wilson

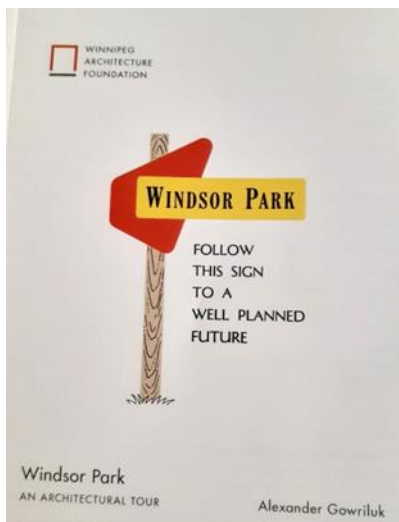
I don't know if anyone would be interested, however the following link is to an architectural tour of Windsor Park, from the beginning of the development. If you follow the article, you will find a section on our lovely church, as well as other landmarks. It is very interesting to anyone who currently resides in the neighbourhood, has grown up in the neighbourhood, or at any time, resided in Windsor Park. Even though I now live in Island Lakes, I still feel a strong attachment to the area and am still, at heart, a Windsor Park girl.

Check out this architecture tour from the Winnipeg Architecture Foundation: Windsor Park: An Architectural Tour:

<https://www.winnipegarchitecture.ca/digital-tours/windsor-park/>

Windsor Park: Follow This Sign to a Well Planned Future

Sue Turley



While Kathryn Wilson was watching the online video tour, I was reading the companion book by Alexander Gowriluk. The Winnipeg Architecture Foundation conducted walking tours of the

Windsor Park area during the summer and this book features some of the notable buildings in the area.

Did you know that **Pratt Lindgren and Associates, Architects** not only designed Windsor Park United Church but also designed St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church?

Did you know that **3 Cherry Crescent** was built (with the exception of the foundation) in 19 hours

and 10 minutes, with another 20 minutes to furnish the home? Did you know that in November 1957, the Canadian Housing Design Council Award was given to **6 Cherry Crescent**, which was built by Glendale Construction?

For anyone who has lived in Windsor Park, this is an enjoyable and fun read.

#2021donationdozen charity event Paulette Côté and Peter Czehryn

If you recall, last year we were successful in raising \$3,800.00 for St. Mary's Road United Church Foodbank with Peter's first #donationdozen of pysanky. We are pleased to offer a sneak peek at the first six of the #2021donationdozen for this year's auction beginning **March 16th and ending March 27th**. If you are interested in bidding in the auction, you can go to the Facebook page @eggartbypeter or send us an email at peterpaulette92@gmail.com and we will keep you apprised of which eggs are being auctioned off each day.



This year's proceeds will be donated to the *Canadian Hemophilia Society - MB Chapter*. We had so much fun last year with this event and look forward to benefitting another worthy organization this year. Which egg are you interested in bidding on? Bidding can be public or confidential as preferred. We hope you can join us in March!

