



SouthWinds

OCTOBER 2022

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Patrick's Words of Wisdom

The second chorus from the song "Who are you?"¹ by the band The Who goes like this:

*Well, who are you?
(Who are you? Who, who, who, who?)*

*I really want to know
(Who are you? Who, who, who, who?)*

*Tell me who are you?
(Who are you? Who, who, who, who?)*

*Because I really want to know
(Who are you? Who, who, who, who?)*

This is a question that we might all want to ask ourselves right now. We have been through a very difficult 2 ½ years. We have been forced to change the way that we do things and in doing so there are many things that many of us have had to let go of in our lives. So today we find ourselves in, somewhat, uncharted territory. What will we bring back in our lives and what are we willing to forego?

The theme of this edition of the Southwinds is "Who Do We Want to Be." So, I believe that the lyrics from the song by The Who are quite appropriate because this is what we would really like to know. We would like to know who you are, both individually and collectively, and who you want us to be in the world. This pandemic time has given us the opportunity to rethink who, and how, we want to be in the world. In reality, it has broken down how we have always done things and it might just be a time for us to start new. It might just be a time for us to ask ourselves what is really

important for us, as a community of faith, and to start fresh. We can change and this might be the time for us to consider what those changes might look like for all of us. So often we get complacent in how things have always been and maybe now we have a chance to do something different, to dream something different. Walter Brueggemann, the theologian, stated in his book "The Prophetic Imagination" the following; "We need to ask not whether it is realistic or practical or viable but whether it is imaginable. We need to ask if our consciousness and imagination have been so assaulted and co-opted by the royal consciousness that we have been robbed of the courage or power to think an alternative thought."

So let us imagine who we might be. Let us think and dream of who we really want to be in this community and in the world. Now let us come together and be who that truly is, so that we might just enliven this community and reenergize our own faith.



Rev. Patrick Woodbeck
Minister, Windsor Park United Church

¹ Song written by Pete Townsend, released by The Who on July 14, 1978.

CAA Member Margaret Larson's new book offers up the best bike rides around Winnipeg and beyond



Though four wheels may get you around town faster, you're missing out on the sights offered by two wheels (not to mention all the health and environmental benefits). Avid cyclist Margaret Larson has mapped out some of the city's best and most beautiful routes in her new book, *Winnipeg Cycling*.

The CAA Member began pushing the pedals almost 20 years ago after meeting her husband, Sanford, who often used his bike for both pleasure and transportation. As her physical stamina grew, Larson started cycling beyond her neighbourhood loops, piecing together longer paths in and around Winnipeg.

"I always wished someone would write a cycling book to string together the city's various bike paths. Then I thought, Why not me?" she laughs, noting that she spent two

summers mapping out routes, including notable stops, and riding them herself several times. "I felt like a proper explorer, with my little pad of paper and pen."

Winnipeg Cycling showcases 30 unique routes—20 of which are within city limits. While each trek is about 30 kilometres, Larson offers shortcuts for new cyclists or those

seeking a leisurely ride. Every route also includes bathroom locations, coffee stops and other points of interest.

"Winnipeg is a very beautiful city, with scenic trails, interesting art installations, picturesque views, wonderful parks and great coffee spots," Larson says, pointing to the Assiniboine Adventure. It's one of her favourite treks, taking bikers through forests, with a pit stop for cinnamon buns, a spin past the murals of Back Alley Arctic and a float down

the Assiniboine on a water taxi.

The two-wheel whiz hopes to inspire Winnipeggers to start their own cycling journeys, no matter how far or fast they go. "Go at a comfortable speed and stop as many times as you like. Just have fun!"

Winnipeg Cycling is available for purchase online at shop.caamanitoba.com and at CAA Stores. It is also available from McNally Robinson.

Rethinking the Pews

Major & Diena Rodd

For some time, Diena and I have been considering the advantage of replacing the pews with chairs so that this area of the Church could accommodate more activities.

Currently the pews are used approximately two hours per week! For the rest of the week this area is very limited for use for other activities.

The main floor of the Church is what might be called “ prime real estate “- sitting empty! An area which could be put to many different uses.

Instead of pews, chairs could be used for the two hours per week and then stacked out of the way. **United Church in Meadowood** uses chairs instead of pews to great advantage.

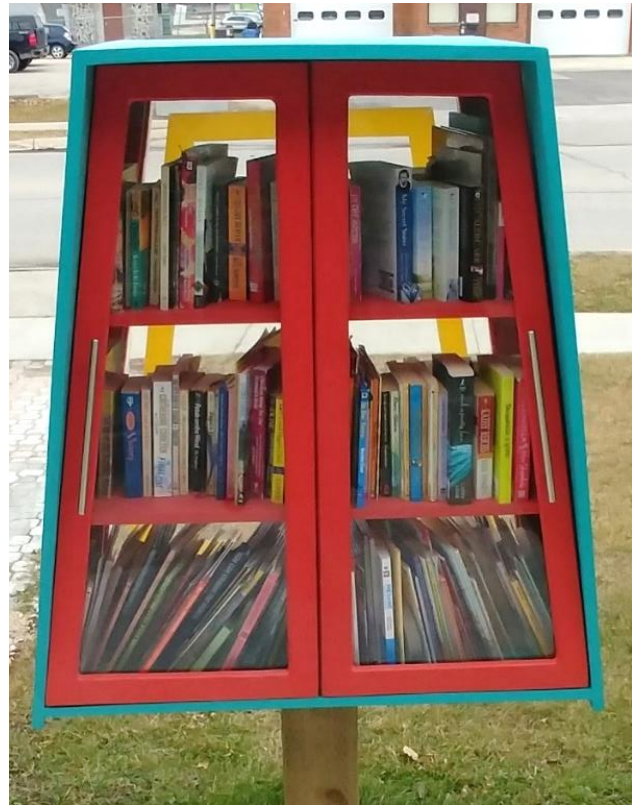
Meadowood should be visited to get an idea of what the cost of purchasing 100 comfortable chairs might be (our estimate is no more than \$200 per chair). Another \$10,000 would probably be needed to repair the floor and some amount to convert the baby fold into a space to store the chairs when not in use. So, for approximately \$30,000 to \$40,000, the main floor could be converted into a very usable space. This amount should not be a problem to raise for a project which would make the building usable for many community events.

When we joined WPUC in 1986, there were two services to accommodate the size of the congregation. Those days are gone and quite probably will not return. Let’s make this building one which can serve many different needs in the community.

Little Free Library

Anne Ononomous

In 2009, **Todd Bol** of Hudson, WI, built a model of a one room schoolhouse. It was a tribute to his mother who was a teacher that loved to read. He filled it with books and put it on a post in his front yard. His neighbours and friends loved it, so he built several more and gave them away.



In 2018, Windsor Park United Church installed a **Little Free Library** in front of the building. The delightful turquoise and red structure was built by **Dana Stockwell** and installed by **Bill Belsham** and **Wayne Baldwin**. Since that time, it has been visited daily by avid readers in our community. Some grab a book and sit on our front porch enjoying **Al Beveridge’s** bench.

We rely on donations and while we have lots of varied reading material for adults, we are short on children’s picture books and chapter books for children and younger readers.

We ask that books be in relatively good shape and do not accept donations of textbooks, catalogues, business cards, political statements, religious tracts and brochures (yes-religious books are okay), videos, DVDs, etc.

Thanks for making this such a treasured community spot.

NEW!

Singing starts
October 2022

A South Winnipeg Children's Choir

serving the communities of:

St. Vital, Southdale, Windsor Park, Royalwood, Southland
Park, Island Lakes, Bonavista, Sage Creek + more!

HIGH FREQUENCY



Now accepting registrations for singers in
grades 2, 3 and 4

**REHEARSALS AT 1062 AUTUMNWOOD DR
TUESDAYS AT 6:15 - 7:15PM**

For more information or to save your spot:

Email: highfrequencychoir@gmail.com

Find us on **Instagram** @highfrequencychildren's choir

“Who do we want to be” ?

Doug Waldron

“Who do we want to be”

I found this Southwind’s theme to be very thought provoking. I believe we can draw guidance from our Mission Statement:

Windsor Park United Church seeks to be a welcoming community based on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. We nurture our faith and spiritual life by worshipping and learning together, caring for each other, embracing our diversity, reaching out to those who live around us, and working together in service to Creation.

The Mission Statement answers the question “Who do we want to be” with the answer “Windsor Park United Church seeks to be a welcoming community”

This raises more questions - like “can we do a better job at seeking?” and “how do we know we are on the path to being a welcoming community?”

Fortunately, others have thought about this as well:

<https://practicaltheologytoday.com/tag/golden-circle/>

The short version is, it is better to do the right thing rather than do things right. Doing things right can get you into a rut of relying on old rules to address new problems. Doing the right thing means trying to understand the current situation and use compassion to make the situation better if needed.

The **Holy Grounds Café** that runs most **WEDNESDAYS FROM 1 - 3 PM** is a perfect example of seeking to be a welcoming community. It is growing in popularity and has attracted gifts of better chairs, tables, and games. If you get

a chance, please attend, and join the conversations. Actively listen for community needs that we may respond to. With a Hub Coordinator in place, we will have more resources available to respond or initiate community engagement. We have a newsletter distribution box attached to the very popular Little Free Library to share what is happening at WPUC either as a congregation or one of the rental groups. It just takes somebody with the passion and time to produce it.

In closing, we will be better seekers and be considered a welcoming community by, reaching out to those who live around us, and working together in service to Creation.

Have you ever thought that you were meant for something more ?

Patrick Woodbeck

WORKING GIRL, 1988

Tess in the movie “Working Girl” thinks exactly that about her life. The 1988 Mike Nichols film stars **MELANIE GRIFFITH AS TESS, SIGOURNEY WEAVER AS KATHERINE, AND HARRISON FORD AS JACK.** Tess believes that she is meant for more than just being an administrative assistant (secretary) to corporate bosses. But Tess comes from a working-class neighbourhood on Staten Island and because of the way that she talks, dresses, and the fact that she only went to college at night school, people don’t see her as having a future as an executive. She eventually finds herself working for Katherine, a wealthy socialite and executive, who ends up breaking a leg in a skiing accident. Tess takes this opportunity to begin to live into who she thinks she should be. Tess, with the help of Jack, orchestrates a corporate buy out of a chain of radio stations. At the last-minute Katherine, who has returned to New York, catches wind of this impending deal and enters at the last-minute unmasking Tess as a

fraud, not the executive that she claimed to be but only a lowly assistant. In the end Tess makes an impression on one of the business owners and he gives her the opportunity that she had dreamed of all her life. Of course, she and Jack fall in love along the way.

Tess believed that she was meant for something more and in the movie, she chooses to live into that belief. Do we believe that we are meant for something more, here at Windsor Park United Church? If we do, maybe it is time that we began to live into who we think we need to be in the world. Maybe it is our chance to grab hold of the dream of who we think that we can be and live into it now, instead of waiting for it to happen. Tess took a chance, and she made her dream come true. We can take that chance too and maybe our dreams, the dreams of who we really want to be in the world, will also come true. It is our dream to enliven!

CGIT....Canadian Girls in Training.....Do you remember?

Eleanor Lwiwski

I grew up going to Oxford United Church, which at the time had a vibrant active congregation, as so many churches were in the 60s and 70s. I enrolled in the United Church's version of Girl Guides which was Messengers, Explorers, and CGIT.

There was a core group of 5 friends that did the whole program as well as attended Sunday School (whether we wanted to or not). I think that was probably the glue....we were there because we had to be.


When we finished CGIT in Grade 11 at school, we thought we would be friends forever. But life had a way of changing that....University, then careers, and finally family scattered us for many years. Because we all grew up in Winnipeg, our paths crossed occasionally when the out-of-towners came back to visit parents. It was always only two

or three of us getting together for a quick coffee during a visit home to catch up. One Christmas, as three of us were gathering for a visit, we realized that it had be almost 15 years since CGIT. We played a bit of "Do you remember" and realized we really did have a great time together. We wondered out loud if it would even be possible for all of us to get together for a reunion. With lots of letters and phone calls from Winnipeg to BC, we set a date of July 5,6 and 7, 1991. Let's just see how many can make it.....should we have the families join in? How about our fearless leader? Most of us were married with children. We planned a weekend with young children in mind. We thought we would try it in Victoria first. Three of the five girls lived in BC, two of us still in Winnipeg along with our leader. She was just as excited about the prospect of seeing all of us again. After planning for what seemed like a year, John and I headed for Victoria, kids in tow, a tent in the trunk.

What a weekend!! It could have been a disaster, only the girls knowing each other, spouses not knowing each other, kids never having met. It was a huge success! The kids hit it off, the men were real troopers, (we left them in charge so we could go out for dinner and the evening).

With the positive comments from the families, we vowed we would try to get together again. So we did! We have been getting together in July every 5 years since then alternating between Winnipeg and BC until COVID kept us apart. We were one year later, in 2022 rather than 2021 in BC. So again, this past July, John and I packed up the car (no kids though) and with the tent in the trunk, we headed for BC. We had a superb time reminiscing about the years we were together with the families without the kids, always with our spouses.

We are planning our next one in 2026.... in Winnipeg. YAY!



Windsor Park Community Hub Invites you to

COME ON DOWN TO OUR

Trunk Party

Vendors will be selling items from their trunks!

&

Book Exchange

WINDSOR PARK UNITED CHURCH - 1062 AUTUMNWOOD DR.
SATURDAY OCTOBER 15TH, 2022 - 11AM - 2PM

**To register as a vendor or for more information
please contact: thehubewindsorparkunitedchurch.com**

Hotdogs and Refreshments will be available

Editor's Corner

John Lwiwski

Here are a few cartoons to put a smile on your face.

Watch for the December edition of Southwinds. Available late November.



"God never takes a vacation 'cause He can't find anybody good enough to fill in."



"Wireless communication is nothing new. I've been praying for 75 years!"



"It makes baptisms a lot more fun for everyone."