

*Our Vision is to be Christ to each other
and our community— doing
justice, loving mercy and
walking humbly with our God.*



NEWS...

Our new church year has begun, and the Ministry Council is already hard at work using the new Ministry Council diagram. We are delighted to welcome Cinda Ginn. At our first meeting of the new church year we heard reports from our pastor, the standing committees, and ministry teams.

Listed below are some of the highlights:

1. Drive by Trick or Treat described in the newsletter
2. Plans from Family Life and Recreation Team for an outside event on October 11
3. Plans from Worship Team for Advent
4. Report from Missions Team that we continue to serve meals to Hope Center for Children
5. Encouragement from Discipleship Team to participate in Zoom Book Study led by Gerald Keown on Tuesdays at 7
6. Brainstorming more ways to reach those in our congregation who do not have access to our online services

Thank you for the confidence you have placed in me to chair the Ministry Council. It is my pleasure to serve Fernwood.

Sara Gardner
Ministry Council Chair

A Thank You Note...

From the family of Eric Guest

Words cannot express how much our family thanks you for the many, many prayers, cards and rememberances you sent during Eric's brief illness and at his passing. He (along with his sisters) grew up in Fernwood from elementary to high school graduation and loved being part of this special church, as I did. Many of you were a part of Eric's life while we were there and for that I thank you. This has been and continues to be a hard time for us, so please continue to keep us in your prayers. Thank you for being such a caring Church.

Elaine Crosland

IMPORTANT INFO from the CALL List Team

We are continuing the calls and contact with our members.
We will be doing them every other week.

From the Pastor's Desk...

As we approach 6 months of worshipping online (an anniversary none of us anticipated), I want to express my deep appreciation for the people of this church. So many of my colleagues in ministry are facing deep divisions in their churches. People threatening to leave if they don't come back to in-person worship; people threatening to leave if they do come back to in-person worship. While I am sure we have a variety of opinions about what to do going forward, none has (that I am aware of) risen to the level of ultimatums or other unhealthy behavior. That is a testament to your faithfulness and Christ-like character.

Honestly, I'm sick of doing things this way. I'm sure you are, too. I miss being with you, seeing you, talking to you. But we can't control what happens to us. We can only control how we respond. You have responded with grace, understanding, and love. I am eternally grateful.

In particular, I am grateful for the outpouring of notes and cards that our worship team has received over the last few weeks. We all deeply appreciate your support. I am grateful to everyone who makes these services and videos possible: Angie, Gerald, Stafford, Becky, Marcia, Sherami, Lloyd, Lee Anne, everyone who has been interviewed, everyone who has read scripture, passed the peace, recorded a children's lesson, offered a prayer, watched a service...this is truly a church wide effort.

The church calls the structure and content of what we do in worship each week "liturgy." Literally, liturgy means "the work of the people." That's truly what worship is here at Fernwood. It is the work of the people bringing our gifts to God in praise. No matter how much longer we worship online only, let us never forget our collective work of worship, prayer, and thanksgiving to the God who walks with us and sees us through every difficulty of life.

Matt

Drive thru Trick-or-Treat

Please save the date for Saturday, October 31 from 5:00-6:00 pm. Ministry Council has planned a safe trick-or-treat community event. We will have persons stationed in front of the church wearing their Halloween costumes along with masks and gloves to pass out candy to families who drive by in their cars. We need your help. Please email me(saragardner70@gmail.com) if you are willing to help with any of the following needs:



- Someone to mark off stations in front of the church 10-12 feet apart
- Volunteers to guide traffic in front of the church
- Lots of our Fernwood family to dress up and hand out candy to families who drive by in cars
- Runners to keep candy supplied to those members who are at the stations

Everyone, please bring candy by the church during office hours. There will be a bin inside the door for your candy donations.

The Choral Corner

As we focus this Sunday on the window in our series that recalls Christ washing the feet of his disciples, we are reminded of our call to service and to be Christ to all those around us. This week's selection is no doubt well-known to many of you, for it appears in our hymnal and has been sung by our Sanctuary Choir. It is called The Servant Song, written by Richard Gillard, and can be heard in the link below. Richard Gillard was born in England in 1953, but his family emigrated to New Zealand when he was three years old. By his own admission, he had almost no musical training and was a self-taught guitarist. His music has a strong folk nature. This song's simple but poignant message could stand as a daily prayer for all of us as we strive to walk closer to God. The texts are as follows:

Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I might have the grace
To let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on the journey,
We are brothers on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ light for you
In the night time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping,
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony;
Born to all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-Pk2NHKg_o

Stafford Turner

Family Night Supper Support - Will You Help?

We are supporting a local mission with meals. The Hope Center for Children are excited and pleased to be receiving these meals. Tina will be preparing larger casserole type meals along with sides. They have 3 residential homes that she will be preparing for. These meals will be hot and fresh and delivered on Wednesday afternoon at 5:30pm at each location.

Are you willing to continue to pay for your meal, but allow it to be served to your neighbors? If you would like to help pay for some meals, you can write "Family Supper" on your check or choose "Family Supper" when you give online. Please give generously and help spread the word to others. Thank you to those of you who continue to support this important ministry!

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OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Wed: 9am to 1pm
Please call ahead for availability.
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Publication Notice

The next bi-weekly e-blast newsletter publication will be **Wednesday, September 23, 2020**. Deadline for all articles is **Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at Noon**.

PLEASE NOTE: You may submit your information via email (angie@fernwoodchurch.org) or through the church office. Please do not submit any information over the phone. Information submitted after the deadline will not be published until the following issue (no exceptions).
Thank you for your understanding!

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Facebook Live

Bible study every Wednesday Night at 6pm.

Adult Sunday School Time

every Sunday at 10am online taught by Dr. Gerald Keown.

Children's Sunday School Time

every Sunday at 10am online taught by Lee Anne Bailie

Sunday Morning Worship Time

every Sunday at 11am online
We will be uploading the video on our [website](#) each Sunday and also will be on our Facebook page.