



*We are a welcoming, caring
community, called by Christ, and
enabled
by the Spirit, to share God's love by
living our faith*



Worship Service and Picnic in the Park

June 4
10:00 a.m.

Waterloo Park Picnic Shelter
(enter the park near the old fire
hall off Westmount Road)

Bring your own drinks, cutlery,
plates, food to share and lawn
chairs

Anne could use some help if you
can assist with the set-up, service,
games etc. please contact her at
519-743-2277 or
annewoolner@hotmail.com

The Mountaineer

A Publication of Mount Zion Lutheran Church
www.mzlc.ca

Journeying into relationship through music, listening and building community

By Deacon Scott Knarr

Five years ago, I began a journey that has taken me out of my comfort zone and into authentic relationships that demand I reconsider my privilege as an educated white man. Now, I can sometimes suspend my Western-based ways of knowing and operating in this world, to appreciate and honour ways of being anchored in our environment, rather than in my head.

There is a lot I still have to learn. I'm sometimes bewildered and confused by certain reactions and concerns, but I have nevertheless embraced "not knowing" as part of walking alongside our Indigenous neighbours. This narrow path demands that I walk side-by-side with them, or even follow behind on occasion, for I do not feel equipped to lead out in front; I have to trust others to show me the way.

That vulnerability in trusting others – and being prepared to laugh – is important learning for a supposedly "educated" person. Although I have a Bachelor of Music from a Canadian university, it did not prepare me to coach young men singing Traditional Mohawk chants. I am also an accomplished organist, but it did not prepare me to teach guitar using a colour-coded dot system. I am highly skilled at organizing events, but that did not prepare me to work within a circle of Indigenous knowledge and relationship.

On May 16, 2017 I showed up at St. Peter's Anglican Church in Ohsweken to load up a Mazda 5 with keyboards, guitars, amplifiers, ukuleles, violins



and other musical supplies for transport to the Grand River Employment and Training (GREAT) theatre, our concert venue for the last Tuesday after-school session with young people who've been learning music with us since January. Since you've known me as music director at Mount Zion for the past 10 years, you might think my job in this program has been to teach music. You would be wrong! I am really the band's "roadie,"

carting around stacks of instruments and equipment to ensure that everything needed to make music is on hand.

Another facet of my job is to support the local youth leaders and mentors

who teach guitar and coach our keyboard students. In fact, we're not following the



Western-based “old school” note-reading approach to music instruction, but rather learning by ear from YouTube videos that the students listen to. This do-it-yourself teaching style is well suited to life on the Six Nations



Reserve where access to services is limited.

So how does this youth project address any of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action? We have partnered in a venture where local Indigenous people are determining from within their community what is most important to them. My role has been to support that evolving vision with the resources we can muster. Together, we all bring various people, skills and assets to the table. Along the way, I have become intimate with some hard facts on the ground – the limitations of reserve life, the shortcomings of federal government funding, the

challenge of finding alternate funding opportunities, and chronic short employment cycles.

Even though I drive to Ohsweken from Kitchener-Waterloo on a regular basis, I have achieved a sense of place in this community and located myself within a complex web of relationships; I am not remaining distant to my neighbours. Fortunately, I have successfully invited other settler-folk to enter into similar relationships and to accompany others as they also find places within the Indigenous community. This can be messy unsettling work, but I believe it is what the TRC is truly calling us to do. We cannot simply pray for reconciliation – we must pray that the Spirit moves us into relationship so that reconciliation will become possible!



In a gathering where Lutherans came to receive feedback from the Six Nations Anglican community on my work, my mentor Eva asked: “What do people in Kitchener-Waterloo think of us, anyway?” That question struck me profoundly as I realized how many have come to me, concerned about the reception they might experience from First Nations people. Guilt and embarrassment have paralyzed us for far too long! We must simply grit our teeth and take that bold step forward into unknown relationships, making ourselves vulnerable, accepting where they might lead. In fact, historic privilege and social location mean that the risk to us is actually quite minimal, while the benefit of understanding more about who we are as people sharing this land can be transformational.

The partnership that our Two Rivers Ministry Area has developed with the Six Nations Anglican Parish has truly evolved over time and the anchor of this work continues to be our Music for the Spirit project. Music for the Spirit is guided by a working group which functions as a circle; there is no chair or hierarchical structure. This means that we occasionally trip over each other. But it also means that we listen carefully among ourselves to fully understand why certain decisions are made. We make room for each participant to work within his/her skill set and resources. We do, however, have an appointed treasurer, community network facilitator,



Photos: John White

music resource person and food/nutrition resource person. At times it feels like a dance where we all have more than one partner, and need to be alert as hand-offs happen in all directions. Yet the beauty of this model is that the circle is always complete – we have everything needed to ensure that Music for the Spirit works today, tomorrow, and into the future.

We can enter into this circle with our Indigenous sisters and brothers, confident that our Lutheran ways have gifts of grace and mercy to bring into it. With humble listening, we can come to understand our place in a shared community and how we might receive the gifts of First Nations neighbours who know the Grand River watershed to be their ancestral home. We acknowledge that the Silver Covenant Chain is rusty, but that our relationship still exists. Through intentional time spent together, we can once again journey down the river of life in peace, friendship and respect.

Acknowledgement of Territory

What does it mean to “acknowledge territory”? In the first instance, we are acknowledging the nations who traditionally lived on this land and have a continuing relationship with it. We acknowledge that settler-newcomers have been in relationship with both the original peoples and the land. We acknowledge that this relationship is lived out in treaty. The concept of treaty mutually promises that the land provides for all, and should be cared for out of respect for the generations to come after us.

There are two main acknowledgements: acknowledgement of traditional territory and acknowledgement of treaty territory. These acknowledgements are further complicated when several groups of people are identified with the same territory, at different times or together.

Acknowledging the history of who has been living on any given land often requires both education and teaching.

Rather than simply speaking one sentence summarizing those identified with a particular location, an acknowledgement should be seen as speaking out

of respect for the Indigenous peoples and traditions which the land itself – made and “owned” by our Creator – has welcomed and sustained. Because the scope of this endeavour is so wide-ranging, one acknowledgement cannot be sized to “fit all” in conveying every aspect of this vital work. Therefore, we would do well to invite several voices to acknowledge territory in different ways and thus broaden our collective understanding.



Partnership with Music for the Spirit

By Mary Thompson

In each of 2015 and 2016, the Music for the Spirit camp at Six Nations was one of the Adopt-a-Cause projects put forward by the Service Committee. The people of Mount Zion were generous in donating both money and musical instruments, and several congregation members attended or participated in the final concerts. The fourth annual summer camp will take place from July 31 to August 4, 2017, and Deacon Scott will continue his work with the program, under the auspices of the Eastern Synod Mission Committee grant.

The Adopt-a-Cause support was very helpful to Music for the Spirit in its initial period. Now it seems appropriate to move to other projects for Adopt-a-Cause, but at the same time to recognize Music for the Spirit as an ongoing interest of the congregation. Accordingly, the Service Committee suggests that we consider the relationship to be a kind of continuing partnership. Donations and assistance to Music for the Spirit will be sought from time to time, and will be welcomed at any time!

How far we've all come!

Reflections on the family sponsorship journey

Terry Wood, Ecumenical Welcoming Partnership

On a Friday night early in May volunteers and committee members of the Ecumenical Welcoming Partnership were invited to the Waterloo home of Shinga, Esperance and their family for a celebration of Shinga and Esperance's wedding anniversary, as well as the birthdays of Esperance and Yves.

And what a great party it was! Not only were we celebrating marriage and birthday milestones, but also how far this family has come since they arrived in Canada. Just nine months ago, they knew nothing about us or the community they would come to be part of.

But they took that great leap of faith, for indeed that is exactly what it was. Esperance has often said that while they were in the refugee camp, they prayed and kept their faith, knowing that God would provide.

Volunteers from the four churches involved in our sponsorship group (Church of the Good Shepherd, Our Lady of Lourdes, Mount Zion and St. Stephen) also relied on faith, for although many of us had worked with refugees before, most of us had not experienced a blended venture such as this – one where we would be responsible for supporting the family financially for six months, as well as guiding them through the tricky and often frustrating process of settlement.

And now here we were, invited to a party in their home and marvelling at just how far they, and we, have come.

The five children are all excelling in school, while Mom and Dad are doing well in English classes and are able to navigate their way through our complicated society, from banking, to grocery shopping, to medical appointments, etc. I didn't realize what a strange language we speak, until I tried to explain some of our odd English expressions, short-forms and jargon to Esperance. The family has also found a church within walking distance that meets their spiritual needs.

Now they are looking ahead. Shinga and Esperance are anxious to find work to support themselves; they have applied for and are doing some small part-time jobs, as well as some volunteer work. At the same time, we encourage them to stay in classes to improve their English as we support them in their efforts toward independence.

How time flies! We are now less than three months away from the formal end of our sponsorship commitment and are working on how we will handle the separation. We are not as fearful for them as for ourselves. How will we let them go? We have come to love them and feel like part of their family.

But of course we will not really be letting them go – we will just be changing our relationship from sponsors and teachers, to friends and advisers.

A huge benefit of this endeavour is that we have made so many new friends from the churches that came together in this amazing venture; different denominations, but people of one mind. A mind that says "take that leap of faith and reach out to those who desperately need our help."

With God – and Jan Ardon from CLWR – on our side, how could we fail?



Summer Announcements

The Food Trucks are coming!



Yes, Mount Zion will play host weekly to a gathering of Food Trucks. Plans are still underway, but it is likely that we will see them every Tuesday for the summer

maybe as early as this week. It is an exciting way to increase our visibility in our community. We could use some help with some small chores or providing a little entertainment. If having a fun night out with fellow food enthusiasts, helping out a few Tuesday nights would make for a fun summer. Email Karen at gastmeier@rogers.com for more info.

Summer Office Hours



Starting July 1, the office will be closed on Mondays until the end of August.

Welcome our New Tenants



Real Programming 4 Kids

Real Programming for Kids, a summer camp and after

school program which teaches kids coding computer skills will be renting the auditorium every weekday for the summer months. About 20 kids between 7 and 16 will be participating. It is likely that will also run their afterschool program at Mount Zion in the fall.

Tech Town Pastries will be renting our kitchen a few hours a week to bake their wonderful cream puff creations. You might remember their baking from our Dessert Social last fall.



Be sure to attend our annual **Worship in the Park and Sunday School Picnic** being held on June 4 this year. June 4 is Pentecost Sunday which will make our service even more of a celebration.



Our building will be alive with the voices of children as **Bridges Summer**

Vacation Bible School, a new collaborative area-wide Vacation Bible School, moves in for the week of July 10 – 14 from 9 am – 4 pm. 100 children are expected to take over the building for crafty crafts, epic music and fantastic Bible stories. Bridges VBS is a new collaborative area-wide program of area ELCIC churches. Organizers are looking for volunteers and craft supplies. (see page 10 for details)

Many thanks to Barb Barnes who has permanently donated her cross stitch study of symbols of the church year. The framed pieces are hung in the stair well.

Music for the Spirit Summer Camp



Deacon Scott will be organizing and running the Music for the Spirit summer camp July 31 to August 4. The camp is held at Six Nations Community Hall. Contact Scott if you would like to be involved.

Pastor Philip and Joy will spend their vacation touring Nova Scotia with Inshallah the last week of July.



September Notes



Soup'r Sunday is Back! The Health Committee will be signing up folks to make soup. The big day is September 10.

Exercise Classes Coming This Fall

The Health Committee has made arrangements for the City of Waterloo to offer exercise classes in the auditorium on Monday and Thursday afternoons starting in September. Talk to Marg Tuppling for more info.



Inshallah's East Coast Adventure

Karen Gastmeier

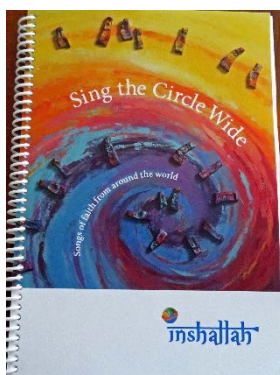


Inshallah, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary's global music choir will be touring Nova Scotia this summer. Plans include lectures workshops and concerts in Halifax, Lunenburg and Mahone Bay pictured above

More than 85 friends and members of Inshallah, Waterloo Lutheran's 130 voice choir is packing their bags, music and instruments and heading to Canada's idyllic east coast this summer. The trip is part of their 10th year anniversary celebrations.

During the last week of July, they will present workshops, give concerts, lead worship and participate in a Music Festival. They will travel to Halifax, Peggy's Cove and the home of Lutheranism in Canada, Lunenburg county.

Among the musical travellers are Pastor Philip and Joy and Bill and Karen Gastmeier. Pastor and Joy have been members since they arrived in Canada. Part of the appeal for Pastor Philip is that he loves to sing, but it is the focus on global music that keeps him engaged.



Bill Gastmeier has been a member of the choir's band for nine years. *Look out Hope and Dennis Eaton, you just might have a house full of company.*

Sing the Circle Wide

As well as travelling to the East Coast, Inshallah also published *Sing the Circle Wide*, a

songbook of 70 local and global songs as a 10-year anniversary project. These are the songs and stories that have 'widened our circle', says director Debbie Lou Ludolph. "They are songs of joy, and prayers for peace." Mount Zion's choir has been using the book since its release last November. A few months ago, church council voted to buy 100 copies for use on Sunday mornings. You will find it in your pews in the very near future.

Ten Years Ago

The choir had its beginnings when on a seminary study tour of Palestine and Israel in 2007, Debbie Lou Ludolph was given a book of Palestinian worship songs by a local woman. She said to Debbie Lou, "Go home and sing our songs, this is one way that our story will be told."

And so they did. With a grant from the Global Hunger



Singing and signing at a recent Inshallah concert

and Development fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, 20 singers gathered once a week in the fall of 2007 to continue to sing the songs they had begun singing in Palestine. Led by Debbie Lou Ludolph, the group included community members, seminary professors, and students from the seminary and Wilfrid Laurier University. Most of them were Lutheran. In their first season, Inshallah sang at Eastern Synod

gatherings and held special events focused on telling the story of our brothers and sisters in Palestine.

Now ten years later, 130 singers pack the seminary chapel for a uniquely Inshallah practice. More than a practice, and not quite a worship service, the practices contain elements of both. "Singing and praying songs of the world, becomes a step forward to meaningful and thoughtful action, says Debbie Lou.

Finding Our Songs

In Inshallah's first year, Pablo Sosa, a renowned Argentine theologian, musician, and composer, was invited to the seminary to work with the new Inshallah choir and teach the broader community about global song. Enlivening and inspiring, Sosa pushed members of Inshallah by asking, "What is your song?"

Challenged by Sosa, the choir began searching out songs of faith written by Canadian composers. When the need arose, Inshallah members and friends began composing music that would speak to their own



New to Inshallah this year, Cherub Philip led the group during a recent concert. His talents are usually employed as a drummer

longings for peace and justice. Deacon Scott has been asked to compose and arrange on several occasions. Three of those arrangements are included in *Singing the Circle Wide*. Another part of that search was to understand our relationship with our First Nation neighbours and as a result they now often sing with the First Nations singers and drummers, Mino Ode Kwewak N'gamowak

It all started with the gift of a song book. Who could have foreseen what an impact that simple gift would make?



Inshallah meets for signing together on Tuesday nights at 5 p.m. New members are always welcome at the beginning of the term. Because the seminary building is under construction, practice will be held at St Michaels Church, on University Avenue directly across the street from the WLU Campus in September.

Inshallah Photos: Mirco Petricevic, WLS.



Mount Zion Café
Now Serving Lunch

June 14

from 10 am,

with lunch at 11:30 am – 12 noon.

Café will reopen after Summer
break in September.

Bring a friend or meet a new friend. Transportation will be available to those who need a ride. Please call the church office with a request for a ride. (519 886 5820)

Meet Tim and Ginny Ehrlich:

Happy at Mount Zion with lives “too busy for words”

It may be true for some that “opposites attract” but for others, like Tim and Ginny Ehrlich, all it takes to forge a lasting and dynamic relationship is going a little off the beaten path and embracing the slightly unconventional.



“We came, we saw, we conquered,” Tim and Ginny Ehrlich during a recent trip to Rome.

Ginny was born and raised in Waterloo, then attended the University of Guelph where she earned a degree in Child Studies. A “side journey” into a brief retail management career took her to Calgary, where two life-changing things happened – she met and married Tim, and realized that “I was ‘called’ to be a teacher,” which resulted in a BA in Education from the University of Calgary.

Tim was born in Edmonton, but grew up in rural Saskatchewan and then moved to Saskatoon, where he attended high school. After graduation, he worked for a major hardware wholesaler and was transferred to Calgary, where he met Ginny – who would soon be his “forever” bride.

As a newly-wed couple, they moved to Waterloo in 1983. Ginny worked for the Waterloo Region District School Board as a Special Education Teacher and

Consultant, while Tim was a senior buyer for Bauer Skates.

But when their two sons were born, Tim took the unconventional step (at that time) of resigning from his career to be a stay-at-home parent. Once the boys were older, he returned to the work force as a full-time administrator for Luther Manor Apartments at St. John’s Lutheran. Today, Daniel (partner Shaylene) and Ryan (partner Neha) all live in the K-W area.

Both the Ehrlichs have had quite different faith journeys. Ginny was raised Lutheran, first attending Redeemer, then St. John’s in Waterloo. Tim grew up with no church affiliation at all. He recalls, “I had never set foot inside a church until a friend’s wedding at age 20. Yet I always had an academic interest in religion.”

When they moved back to Ginny’s home town of Waterloo, they attended St. John’s Lutheran at first, but the experience wasn’t quite what they were looking for. As Tim explained, “I came to understand that simply belonging to a congregation wasn’t fulfilling enough. I wanted to feel connected.”

So in 1998, they moved to Mount Zion “because we felt the need to be a part of a congregation that was welcoming and had a vision of service to others. It was evident then, as it still is today, that Mount Zion members value connections with each other.”

It turned out to be the right move: Mount Zion offered both comfort and challenge that motivated Tim and Ginny to jump in and get involved.

Their years here have included a wide range of activities. Among them are multiple terms on Church Council, call committees, task forces, Property, Tech Support, Communion assisting, Lectionary reading, Mountaineer writing / editing, Worship & Music, Service, Mutual Ministry/Staff Support, Chinese rental groups liaison, community rental group administration ... and many other individual projects and tasks. Both have participated in Mount Zion’s choir for many

years. Currently, Tim is our Bookkeeper and Ginny is a versatile fill-in Secretary / Office administrator.

Both Tim and Ginny greatly appreciate the “subtle diversity” of Mount Zion. As Ginny put it: “At first glance one might not think of the congregation as being particularly diverse, but as we have come to know more and more people, their experiences, personalities and gifts are endlessly intriguing and enriching.”

They both feel that our church family takes the concept of being welcoming and in service for others to heart; our outward-focused ministries, our collective sensitivity to social justice, and being inclusive are among Mount Zion’s strongest values. Most importantly, “Mount Zion has one tremendous asset that we all share – each other.”

As we move toward future change and new challenges, Tim and Ginny hope that we “never lose the principles that guided those who established our congregation,” like risking things outside our comfort zone, embracing new ideas, and working to make a difference in the world.

These days, Tim continues to work part-time, while Ginny is mostly “retired.” They both love reading, music, sports, biking, walking, swimming, travel adventures and volunteering. Ginny’s understatement is that life is “too busy for words!”



Mount Zion Receives \$25,000 Donation from the estate of Dr. Edwin Buder

It is with thanksgiving that Church Council, on behalf of the Mount Zion Congregation, acknowledges the gift of \$25,000 from the estate of the late Edwin Buder.

In accordance to his wishes, the donation will be added to our Congregational Mission Endowment Fund.

Ed, who died last September, was a long-time and faithful member of our congregation.

Congratulations Cheryl

Pastor Philip was delighted to tell us that their daughter, Cheryl, was elected to the council of the Lutheran World Federation at the 12th assembly held at Windhoek, Namibia, from May 10 to 16. The LWF is the global communion of churches of the Lutheran tradition, and represents 74 million members in 145 Lutheran churches from 98 countries. The 12th assembly also elected as its new president Archbishop Musa Panti Filibus, from Nigeria, to succeed Bishop Munib Younan, from Palestine.



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gastmeier@rogers.com
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If you would like to receive your copy of the Mountaineer by email, please contact the office.



There’s lots more reading and photos on Mount Zion Facebook page.....just click this Facebook logo or use the address <https://www.facebook.com/groups/165042693557044/> lots of interesting reading and pictures....

Bridges VBS 2017

Discover Your Strength in God!

Plans for VBS are underway! We hope you can help by donating or lending some supplies or by volunteering. Check out our website at bridgesvbs.weebly.com or contact Stephanie at bridgesvbs.volunteer@gmail.com for more information.



Craft and Decorating Supplies:

- Bristol board (red/yellow/blue)
- Washable markers (such as Crayola)
- Construction paper (primary/secondary/black)
- Rolls of solid color wrapping paper (red/yellow/blue)
- Large cardboard boxes or flat cardboard
- Solid coloured plastic party tablecloths (red/yellow/blue)
- Used men's dress or sport shirts for paint smocks
- Acrylic craft paint (primary/secondary colours)
- Bright coloured pom-poms (small) for crafts
- Duct tape - solid colours (red/yellow/blue)
- Provide photocopying for activity handouts
- Felt Squares in red/yellow/blue
- Colourful fabric for sewing bags
- Large white cotton fabric for banners
- Washable white craft glue
- Larger sized craft paint brushes
- Pool Noodles - (red/yellow/blue)
- Old salad spinners for paint craft
- Old Superhero comic books (for crafts)
- Superhero costumes (can be returned)

Snacks:

- Peanut free granola bars
- Large boxes Pepperidge Farms Gold fish crackers – not individual packs
- President's Choice Penguin soft cookies – individually wrapped
- Kisko or No Name Freezies – small (not jumbo)

Adult Volunteer Opportunities:

Help for one day or multiple days of the week!

- Decoration Prep (in advance)
- Decorating Setup (July 8 and 9)
- Music Site Leader or Helper
- Bible Story Leader or Helper
- Science Site Leader or Helper
- Community Site Leader or Helper
- Game Site Leader or Helper
- Craft Site Leader or Helper
- Nurse / First Aid
- Kitchen Supervisor
- Kitchen Help
- Afternoon activity supervision
- Sew Camper Bags
- Provide freezer space for food storage

Youth Volunteer Opportunities - Grades 7 - 10

Youth are a valuable part of our ministry. They work hard while having fun and making friends. The hours you help out can be used towards your community service hours for high school.

- Team Leaders
- Photographer
- Kitchen Helpers
- Site Helpers
- Worship/Drama
- Tech Helpers

Happening this summer at Mount Zion

A note from Finance

Financial Update – April 2017

Our financial status for the first four months in 2017 reflects a deficit of \$4,516 in the “Ministry & Mission (current) Account”. For this period of time, results are favourable to plan due to some unbudgeted one-time items. Overall, receipts are \$7,135 better, and disbursements are \$3,640 below plan resulting in a favourable variance of \$10,775.

	Actual	Budget	Better/ (Worse)
Receipts	\$88,329	\$81,194	\$ 7,135
Disbursements	<u>92,845</u>	<u>96,485</u>	<u>3,640</u>
Deficit	(4,516)	(15,291)	10,775

Comments:

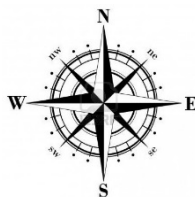
- Member regular envelope contributions were \$5,084 below plan
- Facility and parking income was \$3,638 higher
- Endowment fund income of \$4,815 was applied to Ministry & Mission account
- Grants of \$2,500 from Synod in support of Mt Zion Café were received
- Disbursements were below plan by \$3,640

Your support of Synod Benevolence and other designated needs including our Adopt A Causes was \$28,814. Member support was \$17,314 which compares to \$23,082 in the prior year. The additional \$11,500 was contributed as grants of \$9,000 to Open Sesame, and \$2,500 to Refugee support.

Council and Committee Potluck and Discussion Night

Council is once again inviting all committee chairs and any other interested folks to attend Council’s September Potluck and Discussion night.

This is a part of our ongoing work, **Charting our Course**. Mark your calendars for **September 26**. More info to come!



Council Notes...Cream Puffs and Food Trucks

Cupcakes and food trucks were both on the agenda at council’s May meeting. Our usual agendas are not usually that yummy.

- Council decided to jump on the opportunity to have food trucks gather here once a week for the summer. This opportunity came up quickly and so we are still looking for a few folks to help make this a fun weekly event. We need a few folks to set up but we are also looking for musicians, face painters etc.
- We learned that cream puff bakers, Tech Town Pastries will be renting our kitchen for a few hours every week. Unfortunately there were no samples.
- Still on a culinary note, Council approved the purchase of two gas **stoves to replace the stove** in the big kitchen.
- Council is investigating purchasing smaller lighter tables for the Glebe Room.
- Property is proceeding with **upper washrooms** refresh. Lighting, sinks and taps, baseboards will be replaced, floors will be repaired and the rooms will be painted. Work started this week.
- Approved the purchase of parking signage
- Reviewed attendance records and noted that average monthly attendance has been tracking up since January.
- Scott shared his experiences with the Music for the Spirit After School Music Program and the challenges of acting as roadie delivering guitars, violins, keyboards and ukuleles to the weekly classes.
- Council executive met this month with Ginny Ehrlich, Jackie Nunns and Pauline Finch, three members who have taken on staff roles as volunteers. We are thankful for the expertise and dedication they bring to Mount Zion.

Financial Update – 4 months ended April 30, 2017

By Richard Brubacher – Treasurer & Chair, Finance Committee

The summaries below reflect the actual cash flows for the four months ending April 30, 2017, and the position of our bank accounts. Comparative data is displayed for our budget commitment and the prior year.

Current Account - Cash Flow Basis

Cash Inflow	4 Months - 2017		Comments re: Differences to plan	4 Months
	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Receipts from Members	64,638	69,722	- worse than plan (\$5,084)	63,908
Receipts from Facility Rentals & Parking	14,698	11,080		11,966
Other Receipts - (Plate, Endow. Int., grant)	8,073	392	- incl. \$4,815 Endow. Int., \$2,500 grant	2,219
Deficit Reduction Response	920	-		310
Total inflow	88,329	81,194		78,403
Cash Outflow				
Disbursements - Staff & operating costs	92,845	96,485		88,967
Total outflow	92,845	96,485		88,967
Net Cash (Outflow)/inflow	(4,516)	(15,291)		(10,564)
Cash balance (overdraft)	21,681	(1,758)		22,699

Benevolence Accounts - Cash Flow Basis

Cash Inflow	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Receipts from Members - General Benev.	8,505	10,000		9,048
Receipts for designated appeals	20,309	-	- Incl. SynodGrants \$9,500	19,034
Total inflow	28,814	10,000		28,082
Cash Outflow				
Payments to Synod	8,505	9,350		9,048
Payments to other designated appeals	20,309	650		19,034
Total outflow	28,814	10,000		28,082

Capital Accounts - Cash Flow Basis

Cash Inflow:	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Receipts from Members	6,940	3,017		2,178
Transfers from Memorial Funds	-	-		-
Total inflow	6,940	3,017		2,178
Cash Outflow				
Capital Expenditures	405	2,200		-
Funds lent to other accounts	-	-		-
Total outflow	405	2,200		-
Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow	6,535	817		2,178
Cash Balances	40,641	34,924		51,054

Rental Property Account - Cash Flow Basis

Cash Inflow:	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Rental Income from Tenants	12,300	5,980	Increase due to delinquent rent paid & now up to date (budget assumed not)	5,876
Transfers from Capital Account	-	-		-
Total inflow	12,300	5,980		5,876
Cash Outflow				
Current Expenditures - Properties	4,321	6,035		5,534
Capital Improvements to Properties	-	10,330	upgrades deferred	224
Total outflow	4,321	16,365		5,758
Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow	7,979	(10,385)		118
Cash Balances (overdraft)	(17,086)	(35,450)		(38,502)