

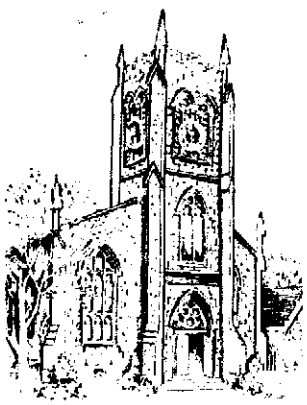
MacNab Street Presbyterian Church

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CONNECTING

with GOD ~ with EACH OTHER ~ with OTHERS STILL TO COME



You can NOT "NOT COMMUNICATE"

By Steve Baldry

The title is not a typo! It means that it is virtually impossible not to communicate - ALWAYS!. Whether it be enthusiasm, disgust or even indifference, we are *always* communicating. What should the church, (and especially, the MacNab community) communicate?

The apostle Paul put it this way to the Corinthian church: "Your very lives are a letter that anyone can read by just looking at you. Christ himself wrote it—not with ink, but with God's living Spirit; not chiseled into stone, but carved into human lives—and we publish it" (2 Corinthians 3:2-3, The Message).

For me, at least 3 things are clear. We ought to be communicating:

Jesus - If he wrote the letter which is our "very lives," we ought to be making it clear to others who He is. Picture something you've read about Jesus and ask how you can communicate it in the way you live. For me, one of the most powerful pictures of Jesus is washing his disciples feet in John 13 (servant leader). How can we serve one another and others coming into the MacNab community?

Love - My personal definition of love is this: a commitment to act in the best interests of others regardless of what I get back. My favorite translation of 1 Cor. 13:4-8a (Paul's description of love) is by J. B. Phillips. He

translates it this way: "This love of which I speak is slow to lose patience—it looks for a way of being constructive. It is not possessive: it is neither anxious to impress nor does it cherish inflated ideas of its own importance. Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage. It is not touchy. It does not keep account of evil or gloat over the wickedness of other people. On the contrary, it is glad with all good men when truth prevails." Do we love others with the actions and attitudes described in this passage?

Community - You can't express love apart from community. The community of the church is described as the "body of Christ" (1 Cor. 12), and as a body, "when one part suffers, every part suffers." Think of it this way: you wouldn't take a hammer and smash one of your toes, would you? Of course not! In fact, you take care of your body because it is all part of you! In the same spirit, we are all part of the body of Christ (church community) and have a responsibility to care for each part of it—just as if like it is part of us.

If you put those three together they can form one unified idea.

Jesus' love in community.

I hope this is what we are committed to communicating at MacNab, because You can NOT "NOT COMMUNICATE!"

PARKING AT MACNAB

A very important drawing card for newcomers to a church is adequate parking. We are so fortunate at MacNab to have so many available parking spots on Sunday mornings. Both the Go lot (most spots) on MacNab Street and City Hall (through the underpass beside Whitehern) offer free parking spots that are 2-3 minutes from our front door! We have made this a priority to communicate on our website.

How can you help? First, if you ever hear someone say that they are reluctant to visit MacNab because they are concerned about parking, assure them that we have access to lots of parking. Second, if you are able to walk a little extra, park at City Hall and walk over to MacNab on Sunday mornings. It might take 1-2 minutes extra (maximum) but will free up more spots at the Go lot right across the street for first time attenders. It's a very simple way to say to newcomers: Welcome to MacNab! Ever since Steve, (our new minister, arrived), he has made it his practice to park at City Hall on Sundays. Maybe you've noticed that both his and Kevin's (Clerk of Session) reserved parking spot is available to first time attenders every Sunday.

Maps are readily available in the Narthex if you want to see how easy it is to walk over from City Hall.

SOUND MATTERS A second important drawing card is sound. Please continue to bear with us as we seek to address and improve the sound system on Sundays in the sanctuary!



CHOIR NOTES—by Jack Brown

In preparation for these notes, I had a look at those for September 2015, particularly of Interim Monderator Bob Geddes as he was preparing to welcome Rev. Steve Baldry at the latter's Induction Service on September 13th, 2015. New spiritual leader Steve was of course, warmly welcomed and his meeting with various members will further enhance his already excellent memory as he met with all his membership.

Your choir had a very pleasant surprise recently as Steve and Andrea's daughter Ruth Anne joined the ranks of our sopranos. Hopefully we made her as welcome as she certainly is in MacNab's Senior Choir. We are in the middle of special music such as Handel's "Messiah" Sing-A-Long etc. If people express an interest in joining the choir, please ask them to see Chris.

Please mark your calendars for the annual Carols by Candlelight on December 21st.

At a recent Executive meeting we decided to take a year off and not hold the Dickens of A Christmas this year.

We understand that Steve has agreed to dedicate the choir chairs at an upcoming service. These chairs were recently purchased and are great for holding music books and us of course!

Joyce and I met with Steve and Andrea at the home of the Repchuck's for dinner. I sang a few short songs accompanied by John Repchuck. Joyce and I were driven home by Marguerite and Marilyn. I guess I am just a "clumsy clot" but I managed to "fall out" outside our apartment entrance much to the consternation of our hosts. Joyce is still applying band-aids to my hands, but I think I'll live!

Jack: "Boy—when I was young we were so poor."

Mark: "How poor were you?"

Jack: We were so poor that when the wolf came to the door, he brought his own sandwiches."

Obstetrician: one who specializes in labour management.



GHANA SCHOOLS OF DREAMS

We, the members of the Board of Ghana Schools of Dreams extend our warm THANKS to all of you for your LOVE & SUPPORT over the years.

In October, Dora and Ann-Marie travelled to Ghana to visit our three schools to see what more needs to be done. The nursery and the two kindergartens at Mepom were finished and opened in 2007. Enrollment in that school has increased enormously, and the students from 2007 are now in Grade 6 in middle school. It was very exciting to see how we have changed some of these children's lives. One might ask how? You helped move them from unsuitable and unsafe "classrooms" to better and safe ones. We were providing uniforms for the ones whose parents couldn't afford them and we are sending school supplies for those in need. In talking to students and teachers we realized that some of those students would have dropped out of school due to lack of these resources—Thank you for making a difference in their lives.

Due to lack of time and the distance, we were unable to visit Nzulezu where our second school is located. We can't give any report on that school this time, but will follow up at a later date.

Akuffokrom is our third school and it is still under construction with about \$30,00.00 needed for completion. Children, parents and teachers are all optimistic about the children's future. An indication of that was the huge increase in enrollment and the joy we saw in everyone.

Even though you don't know, and may never know any of these children, they know that without your support, all these things we've been sending to them wouldn't be possible—they're right, and we always keep stressing that to them.

Ann-Marie and I came back with joy, pride and humbled by what we learned from the parents, teachers and the children themselves as to what education means to them.

Thanks again to you MacNab congregation for your continued support and for being our cheer leaders.

Dora Anie,
President, Ghana Schools of Dreams

... "Education helps us to communicate with one another. It improve our lives. It helps us to be responsible in future. It gives us faith in lives.

Education makes us good leaders in future. It helps us to live peaceful in life..."

(Excerpt from letter of 15 year old Patricia Dede Lartey, Akuffokrom M/A Basic School)

DONATIONS FOR SYRIA RESPONSE

The Federal Government will match all donations received by December 31st.

You can make a donation through the church or by mailing directly to Presbyterian World Service & Development.

Please mark your donation PWS&D—SYRIA

PWS&D offering envelopes area available in the Narthex .



CHRISTMAS OFFERING 2015 for MISSION 2016

The Mission & Service Committee will have two major, mission-focused offerings at Christmas and Easter instead of multiple requests through the year. Through these offerings the congregation itself will be providing and determining the committee's ability to respond in your name to the many requests for assistance MacNab receives through the year.

Please use the Christmas Offering Envelope included in this newsletter to give generously. (Christmas Offering Envelopes are also available in the Narthex)

Your offering may be placed on the offering plate on any Sunday in Advent, or returned by mail to the Church Office Please return your offering no later than Christmas Eve to be sure of receiving credit in your 2015 income tax receipt.

Thank you for your generosity!

The Friendly Circle
MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON
Saturday, Nov 21st
12-2pm
Come & enjoy MacNab's exciting beginning to the Season!
Bake table Jewelry
Crafts Attic Treasures
Free admission.
Lunch room \$10.00.

In the New Year
Jan 19th 12 Noon
Guest: Bob Williamson

Feb 16th 12 Noon
32nd Anniversary with
Pot Luck Luncheon

FINANCIAL INFORMATION-OCT 2015

Year to Date	Year to Date	Budget
2014	2015	

Weekly offerings:

\$76,902	\$87,217	\$91,665
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Expenses

\$214,599	\$246,847	\$173,955
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Transferred from Trust Accounts

To meet shortfall:

Manse Fund		
\$7,199	\$55,544	\$5,835
\$100,000	\$20,000	41,665

Presbyterians Sharing

\$13,681	\$12,800	\$13,750
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat Nov 21 12-2pm
 Magic of Christmas Luncheon
 Bake Table, Jewelry, Crafts

Sun Nov 29 10:30am
 Advent 1

Sat Dec 5 8:00pm
 Redeemer U. C. presents
 Handel's Messiah

Sun Dec 6 10:30am
 Advent 2—Communion
 Sing-A-Long Messiah 3:00pm

Tues Dec 8 12 Noon
 Friendly Circle lunch at the
 Mandarin Rest. Upper James

Sun Dec 13 -10:30am
 Advent 3
 Christmas Fun for Kids!
 Help promote this event by
 1. Attending
 2. Sharing a ticket with a friend
 3. If you are able, deliver flyers.

Sun Dec 21 10:30am
 Advent 4
 Candlelight Service 7:00pm

Christmas Eve 7:00pm
 Worship with Steve Baldry

Sun Dec 28 10:30am
 Christmas 1



LEADING WITH CARE... AT MACNAB!

By Rhonda Moore



"Leading with Care" is a Policy of the Presbyterian Church in Canada – to insure the safety of all children, youth and vulnerable adults involved in the programs of our churches. It is the responsibility of all churches to implement and comply with LWC Guidelines. MacNab's LWC Committee is working to fully implement this policy as soon as possible. The present committee consists of Steve Baldry, David Milmine, Rhonda Moore (convenor), Kevin Russell, and Rebecca Teeuwesen. The full policy can be viewed on the PCC website and a Leading With Care Manual, specifically for MacNab, is nearly completed.

We trust that everyone in the MacNab community will appreciate and embrace the implementation of this policy as it rolls out in the near future. These necessary steps will insure the safety and protection of our children, youth and vulnerable adults, as well as, the MacNab volunteers who teach and care and care for them.

**GREETINGS FRIENDS**

Since approximately last January a small group from Session have been acting as the Board of Management for the INNER CITY MINISTRIES of Don and Carol MacVicar. Circumstances brought the care of their ministry under the MacNab Banner while they pursued their Charitable Tax Status with the Canadian Government. It has been a real honor to serve in this way, and now it is with great excitement that we have the following announcement from Don and Carol

We are pleased to announce that The Inner City Outreach Ministry has been granted full registered charity status.

We would like to Thank MacNab Presbyterian Church for overseeing this transition this past year. We are grateful to the Session, Missions Committee and Church members along with a special thank-you to Dave Milmine, Rick Rutherford and Marilyn Repchuck for their work this past year with the many meetings and sponsoring our Winter Retreat and Summer Camping program.

We also would like to thank-you for the daily prayers for the Outreach Ministry and the wonderful support with your many gifts of financial resources, clothing, food, toys, mittens, dinners, volunteers and the joy that you continue to share in the ministry.

It was a special blessing this summer to have a number of young children give their life to Jesus, it was a major transformation in their lives.

With our registered charity now in place the children can return to the weekly programs that they call Church. Blessings to each one of you for continuing to be a part of the Miracle on Wentworth Street.

Don and Carole MacVicar.

This is GREAT news and we know that Don and Carol are now going to be able to continue on with the great work that they have been called to in the Keith Neighbourhood.

Please be sure to congratulate Don and Carol, please continue to support the Missions Committee here at MacNab as they connect with Don and Carol to establish how best we at MacNab can contribute to furthering the ministry that Don and Carol have with the families. David Milmine