



Cochrane Street United Church

Honouring the Past ♦ Celebrating the Present ♦ Dreaming for the Future
1916 – 2016

Minister: Rev. Miriam Bowlby, BA (hons), M.Div



Tidings from the Collection Plate

June 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to my June 2021 edition. It appears that our society is slowly reopening as more of us get our 2nd vaccine and start to feel a bit more comfortable out in the community. It was great going back to church earlier this spring and seeing and talking with more of our church family. Each week there are more and hopefully the rest of you will soon feel safe enough to come back and worship together with us.

We are almost halfway through the year now and our overall financial position is looking better than it has for the last couple of years. Our regular givings are down slightly, so if you haven't sent in your regular donation lately please remember to do so. This drop in regular givings has been offset with our Easter and Memorial Fund donations, so our overall donation revenue is up slightly over the last couple of years. That's great but we still need to keep our regular donation givings strong in order to have a consistent and reliable revenue base to support our ministries.

Late in the spring we held a successful food collection campaign for Bridges to Hope. Many of you brought in food items while others donated cash. We raised \$575.00 for their pantry and the Church Council approved an additional \$100.00 donation so that we gave Bridges to Hope a cheque for \$675.00. We will be running this event again later in the summer.

As many of you are aware over the past month we have been busy organizing events to help raise funds for the church's ministries. Our Spring Flower Service in late May raised almost \$1,000.00. After the service, I personally delivered vases of flowers to five of our senior homes and I know that each one of them were very surprised and appreciative of receiving the beautiful carnations. This will become an annual event for us as it is a way for us to remember our loved ones while at the same time sharing our ministry of caring and the joys of spring with others.

We also held our pancake supper and raised over \$200.00. This was not as high as we hoped it would be. Obviously selling pancakes and sausages on what has been the hottest day of the year so far just didn't work out. Next, we held our annual spring garden plant sale which raised over \$1,700.00. Thanks to everyone who donated and or purchased plants. Our move to holding this event outdoors on our Cochrane Street patio was very successful as it attracted buyers from the neighbourhood who would not have known of our sale if they hadn't seen it in progress. Finally, we have just completed our first auction where we raised almost \$1,400.00. Your fundraising committee of Bill Evans, Rev. Miriam and myself were very pleased with this first effort and we will be back with another auction. Thanks to those who donated items and/or purchased something. I also want to express a special thank you to those of you who didn't purchase anything, either with the auction or the plant sale, but still made a donation in support of the events. Several of you did this and your support of our initiatives is very much appreciated.

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Traditionally, at this time of the year I ask you for a special donation to support our cemetery board. These funds help the board maintain our cemeteries. We need to support our cemeteries and pay tribute to our forebearers who worked so hard building our church and community. Donations to the church marked cemetery will help us meet our annual \$1,000.00 commitment to the cemetery board.

Finally, it is usually in this June newsletter that I remind everyone of our commitment to support Cochrane Centre. Even though the building has been closed and is now slowly starting to reopen we are still striving to meet our commitment of \$1,500.00 per month and your contributions help us to continue to meet this goal. So, please try to give.

As always if you have any questions about church finances or would like to talk to me about your individual donation, please don't hesitate to give me a call at 709-325-4661, send me an email at csuctreasurer@gmail.com or talk to me at church. Have a great summer.

Tim Reynolds, Treasurer