Thursday News – September 16

Hello everyone,

September Birthdays



Hope you all had a great birthday! best wishes for the coming year -

September: 3 - Ken J 14 - Gail 14- Ellen 16- Stavros

People news:

Gail had her knee surgery last week. Please remember her in your prayers, and we hope to see her up and running soon!

Lois J is leaving the North Shore and moving to Kerrisdale to be closer to family. She will still be a member here, and will hopefully be able to come to our services once in a while.



Keep them in your prayers: Estelle, Miriam, Lois N, Gerry, Aud, Don, and Tilly

COVID SIGN-IN BOOK

There is now a sign-in book on the table outside the church office for you to sign if you visit the church during the week. We need to track everyone just in case we need to contact you about an outbreak.



TURNING POINT WELCOME BASKETS

I was at Turning Point today delivering produce, and I asked them if they had any welcome baskets left. It has been over six months since we gave them any, so of course, they are out of them. If I do the baskets right now, I will need you to donate money and I will do all the shopping. You can give me cash on Sunday, send money via e-transfer, mail a cheque to me or the church, or ? Thank you for your support. I will send a picture when they are done.



Living Our Faith – Bible Book Club

It's not too late to sign up for the Bible Book Club! Each month we will focus together on a different book of the Bible. For the first month, September, we will read the book of Genesis. If you are interested, let Pastor Vida know and she will

send you the material. First meet date will be September 30th at 2pm.



This Sunday, September 20th we will be having an outdoor service to celebrate the Season of Creation.

Note the change of location to outside the church at the North Parking Lot.

Time: 10:00AM

Please park in the East Parking Lot and walk over to the North Parking Lot.

Bring your own chairs and snack/refreshment. Chairs will be provided for those who need them.

Outdoors has proven to be a much safer environment than indoors – with very few reported cases of transmission from outdoor events – especially when social distancing is in place. We hope to welcome many of you as we celebrate the Season of Creation and give thanks for forests and trees.

KERFOOT'S KOMMENTS

SEPTEMBER 2020

At the time of this writing, I realize that over the last six months our world has become much smaller than it once was due to the pandemic. Restrictions in social distancing, isolation, quarantining, travel and border restrictions have all been factors in reducing the size of our "bubble". A new restriction has arrived on the horizon this week with smoke from the U.S. fires causing many of us to stay inside and reduce activities due to lung and breathing issues.

However, due to feedback from some members, the church council and I thought that it was time to give you an update on Gloria Dei's financial situation. I realize that the monthly results are posted on the church bulletin board, but not everyone has been able to attend services. Without going into too much detail here follows a summary of our activities.

FALL FINANCIAL UPDATE:

In April, the government announced several benefit programs to help businesses and non-profits to survive the downturn in revenues during the pandemic. Gloria Dei applied for the TWS (Temporary Wage Subsidy) grant of \$ 2,061.00 which collected over several months. We did not qualify for the CERB (Canada Emergency Relief Benefit) grant based on current and prior year's revenue calculations However, in June, we received a forgivable grant of \$ 10,000.00 from the B.C. Synod and this amount helped us over the quiet summer months. Our Parish members have continued to support the church over the past months and our finance area thanks you for your continued contributions. If you are not already a member of PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittances), please consider joining up as it helps our regular monthly revenue stream. Shelley has the details in the office if you are interested.

In August we reduced our mortgage principal by \$ 5,200.00 due to member contributions and our present balance stands at \$ 34,554.57. As approved at our March 2020 AGM, we agreed to continue to reduce this balance within 2 years, which would save \$ 13,440.00 per annum in mortgage payments.

The August financial summary follows:

- Our revenues are off budget by \$(3,877.00) which is excellent considering no rental revenues are coming in
- Our total year to date cash flow deficit is \$ (5,256.00) which is ½ of our projected deficit of \$ (10,473.00)
- Our LOC (Line of Credit) balance now stands at over \$ (50,000.00) which is almost one half of our approved balance of \$ 105,000.00 with Blueshore Financial. This balance will continue to rise if we have monthly cash flow (deficits) from operations.

We still need the congregation's continued financial support for the remainder of the year and onwards to meet the Parish's challenges and mission.

On a brighter note, in July the Music Conservatory commenced operations under our stated Covid19 pandemic protocols. Facilities rental inquiries for the fall and spring are now being received and are being reviewed on an individual basis. Hopefully, the fall will bring a more open and increased use of our facilities.

We look forward to 2021 and a brighter non-pandemic future.

Al Kerfoot

Chair Investments and Finance

Have a safe and pleasant week

Peace,

Lin

Today's "funny"



No. Becky I won't turn water into Starbucks. Pastor Vida found this article on new frauds that have started since the beginning of COVID and wanted to share it with you. It's hard to believe that there are people who take advantage of any situation to steal our trust.



COVID-19 Fraud Alert! for more information https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/featuresvedette/2020/covid-19-eng.htm

As COVID-19 continues to spread globally, <u>The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre</u> is urging us to watch out for associated scams. Fraudsters want to profit from consumers' fears, uncertainties and misinformation, and are exploiting the crisis to facilitate fraud and cyber crime.

Fraudsters are posing as:

- Cleaning or heating companies
 - o offering duct cleaning services or air filters to protect from COVID-19
- Local and provincial hydro/electrical power companies
 - threatening to disconnect your power for non-payment
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the World Health Organization
- offering fake lists for sale of COVID-19 infected people in your neighbourhood
- Public Health Agency of Canada
 - o giving false results saying you have been tested positive for COVID-19
 - o tricking you into confirming your health card and credit card numbers for a prescription
- Red Cross and other known charities
 - o offering free medical products (e.g. masks) for a donation
- Door-to-door sales people
 - o selling household decontamination services
- Private companies
 - offering fast COVID-19 tests for sale
 - Only health care providers can perform the tests
 - No other tests are genuine or guaranteed to provide accurate results

To protect yourself:

- Make sure you have anti-virus software installed on your computer and keep your operating system up to date
- Never respond or click on suspicious links and attachments
- Never give out your personal or financial details
- Contact your insurance provider to answer any health insurance questions
- Report any unauthorized credit applications to the associated financial institution and the credit bureaus: Equifax and TransUnion
- Verify that a charity is registered and never be pressured into making a donation. <u>https://apps.cra-arc.gc.ca/ebci/hacc/srch/pub/dsplyBscSrch?request_locale=en</u>
- Only rely on trusted resources for latest health information on COVID-19:
 - Public Health Agency of Canada <u>https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html</u>
 - o BC Centre for Disease Control <u>http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19</u>
 - o Word Health Organization https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019