

WESTLOCK GOSPEL CHAPEL
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – May 22, 2020



This Sunday: We will be having two identical services at 9:30am & 11:30am
Maximum capacity will be 50 people per service, if you would like to attend and haven't registered by 1pm Friday, you can still register by phoning or texting Tim Wilson at 780-206-7885. You must pre-register to attend.

Note: The elders have reconsidered having communion for the time being.

Weekly Message Recording: (Recordings are time-released on our YouTube channel-this will be the final week that the message will be recorded on video. We resume audio only May 31.)

- For the Sunday Video go to our Youtube channel at: [WGC YouTube Channel](#)

Friday, May 22 – Online Youth Group

The youth are meeting online via Zoom. If you would like to join, contact Tim Gurnett, timnliz@telus.net



Online Wedding Shower:



Because of COVID-19, there will be not be a Chapel shower for you to attend for Joel & Kimberly, but you are invited to participate in the one we are putting together. On Sun, May 24 at 7pm, you can go directly to the WGC YouTube Channel to watch the video of the shower: [WGC YouTube Channel](#)

Wednesday Morning Prayer:

Wednesday morning prayer at 7am at the Chapel.



Thursday & Friday

Registration for the Sunday services will begin Thursday and close on Friday at 1pm. You must register in order to attend.

Pastoral Contact Info:

If you need to speak to the Pastors of Westlock Gospel Chapel please give them a call at:

Tim Gurnett – 780-349-6092, email: timnliz@telus.net

Tim Wilson – 780-206-7885, email: timwwgc@gmail.com

Chapel Office – 780-349-4555, email: wgchapel@telusplanet.net

Our Office Hours are: Monday-Friday 9am-1pm



Prayer Focus:

- Continue to pray for the government to have wisdom in the decisions they are making in regard to Covid-19.
- Pray for peace for those who are at higher health risk and continue in isolation to stay safe. Consider giving someone a call to lift their spirits and give them encouragement.



Condolences

- Be praying for the family and close friends of Sophie Hough, who went to be with her Lord Tuesday morning. There will be a family interment happening, with a memorial service at a time yet to be determined.



Missions: The Engler's

We continue to support Garry & Connie Engler, who are currently living in Barrhead to be near family. For many years Garry worked with overseas students at a university in Saskatchewan. Garry's Parkinson's has progressed to the point that he is in the Shepherd's Care facility in Barrhead. Recently, Connie and her daughter have been able to have an outside visit with Garry at the facility. They have been on lockdown up until now, but were able to have a couple of "Zoom" visits including the whole family. Please be in prayer for Garry and Connie as they navigate life during this season. If you would like to be in touch with them, they would love to hear from you! You can mail letters to: 5404-54 Avenue, Barrhead, AB, T7N 1C4



A Message from the Gurnett's

Greetings! Liz and I shared a video message this week ([This is the video link](#)), over email to our church community, but in case you didn't get the chance to see/hear it, here is a copy of what we said; some news from our family:

Liz and I would like to share something with you.

In my late teens and early 20s, I used to be part of a College and Career retreat weekend at MeadowLodge Bible Camp, just east of Edmonton, a sister camp to our Bethel Bible Camp, here in Westlock.

One year, when I was 20, at the retreat we were playing a game – it was either soccer or football, I don't remember. Anyways, somehow the 2 teams ended up being Westlock vs. Edmonton. Westlock didn't have quite enough players, and as I knew a number of people from Westlock because of my involvement with Bethel, I ended up being on the Westlock team.

Little did I know then that 10 years later, I'd become a real part of the Westlock team, when I moved here to be the pastoral worker in 1990. And Liz, the next year, when we married. Westlock has been home for almost 30 years now, which is hard to believe.

That time is coming to an end, however.

There's never a good time to say such a thing, and we certainly didn't want to do this via a video message, but the times have dictated that for us. It has been a journey to come to what we have to say today, but at the end of June I will be stepping aside from duties here at the Westlock Gospel Chapel, as our family grows and transitions and we haven't been there nearly enough for them, which we deeply desire to do.

We don't know exactly what God has in store, and we know that we will miss you all so much; yet still, now is the time. We will still be around, through the end of June and some in the summer – give us a call, or drop by. We'll be glad to see you. Or, once we're settled (interim) in the city, drop by and see us there.

At the Chapel, we trust that God will continue to do a great work here. He has provided in the past, and will continue to do so.

We are so thankful for all you have come to mean to us over the years.

We appreciate your prayers as we go from here that God will continue to guide us. Though we've lived a life of faith, this is a big step. At the same time, we will pray that God will continue to guide you, as well.

Blessings on you all,

-Tim and Liz Gurnett

Mount Carmel News

Good news! In response to the Alberta government relaunch strategy Mount Carmel anticipates being able to run their program in person come September. Due to smaller class sizes and the flexibility of programming, they expect they can make any adjustments that are required as the relaunch continues. Go to their website for further information: www.mountcarmelbiblecollege.com

Deacons Financial Report:

April Income: \$27,811, Expenses: \$25,042

Thank you to all who donated electronically through e-transfer, and those who have dropped off or mailed cheques to the Chapel. Praise the Lord for His continued provision!

We would like to encourage you to continue the use of etransfer giving once we return to having services again, to reduce the handling of paper money.

A Pastoral Reflection and Devotion - (May 22, 2020)

Finding Purpose in Everything

I started reading a book this week that describes the life of a monk from the 17th century who was crippled during war and spent the rest of his life in chronic pain. However, the life of this monk was not remarkable because of his physical disability and constant pain, but because he sought to be in constant communication with the Lord. In everything he did, he attempted to be communing with the Father, talking to Him and enjoying Him.

I find such a lifestyle challenging because I don't have the same continued focus on the Lord and an ongoing, never-ending conversation with Him. God knows everything I am thinking, doing and saying (He knew it before the world was created), yet often He doesn't hear it from my lips.

I'll be honest, this isn't a reflection on God, it is a reflection of my own relationship with the Lord. It should be the utmost desire of my heart to worship the Lord without stopping for breath, to pray without ceasing, and to read His Word with pure devotion and focus. I don't say this because I'm a pastor or because it's an external goal to reach, but rather, given all the Lord has done and who He is, this is just what He deserves!

The verses that come to mind as I think about this idea are 1 Cor 10:31 and Col 3:17. Both of these verses speak about the act of glorifying God in whatever we do. When we genuinely practice these verses we begin to find purpose in everything, because everything becomes an opportunity to glorify God. This means doing the dishes, eating a meal, spending time with your children/grandchildren, spending time in prayer, studying the Bible and whatever else we do.

Coming back to the idea of constant communication with the Lord, I think if I am in ongoing conversation with God it will become natural to do all things to glorify Him, because He's already on my lips and the centre of my attention. Such a lifestyle will also form a resistance to temptation, because when the Lord is the focus of our thoughts, sin is further from us.

Furthermore, focusing on the Lord takes away the constant battle of thinking about oneself. What joy we should have when we think about the Lord, what peace we should experience when we trust in Him, and what love we should demonstrate when we recognize His love for us.

How is your communication with the Lord? How focused are you on glorifying God in everything you do? If it's lacking, know that you're not alone. However, after admitting this we should also consider how to grow in this area.

So, how am I trying and would suggest we all grow? 1) Repent; 2) Seek the Lord to increase your desire for Him and to glorify Him; 3) Remove obstacles that may interfere with time constraints or distract your focus (e.g. excess technology time, too much sleep) and 4) Just do it, start conversation with the Lord this very minute and focus on glorifying Him in all you do.

For Christ and His glory!

Tim Wilson

Awana:

- Here are the links for some Awana online resources. Awana adds new videos every week, so you can go to these links weekly for new resources.

[LINK TO CONVERSATION STARTERS FOLDER](#)
[LINK TO SPARKS FOLDER](#)

[LINK TO CUBBIE FOLDER](#)
[LINK TO T&T FOLDER](#)



Electronic Giving (Interac E-transfer):

1. Go to your internet banking.
2. Select "Send money using Interac E-transfer"
3. Register if you have never completed an E-transfer before. Follow the steps given.
4. Use the e-mail wgchapel@telusplanet.net to send the E-transfer to.
5. **Auto Deposit is now set up. You will no longer need a security question & answer.**



***Note:** If electronic giving is not an option for you, you can still write cheques and send via snail mail or drop off your tithes and offerings in the offering box under the mailboxes in the Chapel foyer.*

Devotional Booklets:

The Chapel has the current weekly Power for Living devotionals and new June, July, August Our Daily Bread and The Word for You Today devotionals available for pick up. Please use hand sanitizer upon entering the building before you take any resources.



Guidelines for Using the Chapel Library:

There are wonderful resources, books, audio & DVD's to inspire you in your Christian walk available in the Chapel's library. The library is open during office hours.



In light of how the coronavirus can spread, please take all necessary precautions to keep the items safe for the next persons who handle them, ie. by washing your hands and refraining from coughing or sneezing on the books and resources. If that should happen, please immediately disinfect with an antibacterial wipe.

Your carefulness and consideration of each other is appreciated by all when using the library.

Note: There will be no access to the library during the Sunday morning services. A drop-off box will be available for returning items only.

Prayer Chain:

We would like to encourage joining the prayer chain to stay connected and be in prayer for the needs of the congregation and beyond. If you would like to join, contact Tim/Liz Gurnett, 780-349-6092, or Judi Bidne, 780-349-7079.