



Session Chronicles

Volume 1 May 2018

St. John's Session met on May 29, 2018 at 7:00 pm. The following items were addressed:

- A security issue was addressed which originated with an early morning group renting one of St. John's rooms. The group was leaving the church front door unlocked, presenting a security concern to church users, especially the St. John's Day Care.
- Discussions are under way with Christmas on the Peninsula organizers regarding the possibility that the Charity Fair, part of the Christmas on the Peninsula event and traditionally held at Star of the Sea Hall, may this year be held at St. John's.
- The minutes of the St. John's AGM 2018 meeting will shortly be finalized and posted in the church main hall.
- Session is reviewing the rental fees St. John's charges to local groups for the use of our church facilities. Elder Jacquie Chartier approached three

other local churches to compare their rental fees to those at St. John's.

Interestingly, some churches are reconsidering the wisdom of rentals, given the wear and tear on church property.

Session members discussed the reality that some St.

John's user groups fail to uphold their rental

responsibilities, presenting more work for our church

volunteers. This matter will be given more consideration.

- There was a cheerful atmosphere on May 25th as the Lunch Hut celebrated its 25 anniversary of providing weekly meals for the community. Our MP Gordie Hogg, and White Rock Councillor Lynne Sinclair presented our church with plaques in recognition of this outreach. Music was provided by Reynhardt's trio, the LH volunteers, singing the LH Volunteer Song, and Joe, who often plays the piano for us on Fridays. Denise Langley baked a delicious cake, and 100 meals

- were served. Donated clothing was greatly appreciated. (By Sheila Jakus)
- Students of the ESL program at St. John's, in response to an appeal to help with church expenses, donated \$300. While ESL attendance has been off this year, it still averaged 45 students each Wednesday. Classes are finished now for the Summer, but resume on September 19th.
 - **The St. John's Mens Club have planned a special event to wish "New Beginnings" to Roy Strang. This will take place on Tuesday, June 12th at the Rocha Christian Farm at 16th Ave. and 192 Street from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Rides from the church depart at 9:30 am. See Ian McLean for tickets.**
 - Plans are under way for another Vacation Bible School at St. John's this summer after a very successful session in 2017. Details to be announced, but see any of the Elders if you would like to help.
 - Plan to attend a church fundraiser **Garden Party on Saturday, June 23rd, 1 pm to 3 pm, at the residence of Barb Petticrew, 1874-136A Street, Surrey.**
 - Larry Eastwood, as our new Treasurer, is now a member of the Finance Committee, replacing the Administrative Assistant who is no longer tasked with financial responsibilities. **Offering Counters**, when doing the Sunday offering will now, in addition to the regular offering, be responsible for processing all monies received during the week (eg. from Lunch Hut, rentals, etc.).
 - And speaking of Sunday offerings, we are now in summer when, due to holiday travel & family outings, Sunday worship attendance drops off. **Please bear in mind that church expenses don't take a holiday during the summer. If you can, please consider providing your offering ahead of your departure if you will be absent.**
 - And finally, on the Presbytery front, the Presbytery Strategic Planning Committee has submitted an interesting report on priorities for congregations within the Presbytery. The report is too long to include, but if you are interested let me know and I will send you an electronic copy.
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