

## CHURCH LIBRARY NEWS

We're happy to announce that the library will be open again for business beginning February 15, 2019. You may have noticed that the Church Library has been receiving a "Face Lift" which includes:

\*New book shelves.

\*New books donated since May 2016 are now entered in a new Database. This database will be available on Good Shepherd's website for anyone interested in seeing what is available from home.

\*All books are catalogued according to subject and author's last name.

\*Some books in the Library are now for use as "Reference" only and may not be taken outside the church building.

\*Donating Books: If you would like to donate a book to the Library please leave it in the Box in the Church Office labeled "Book Donations".

Books may be checked out using a card system which you will see on one of the Library book shelves. Instructions will be displayed there. Heartfelt thanks to Betty Southerland for her generous donation of time and energy creating the database for the Library.



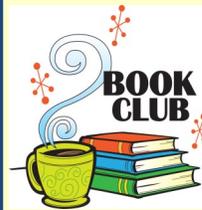
Good Shepherd Senior Social  
Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm  
**Entertainment by the  
Calgary Burns Club Singers**  
Wear something plaid!

For further information contact the  
church office at 403-274-4888

### Men's Fellowship February 16, 9:30 AM

Sometimes life's challenges are our greatest blessings. We just need time to honor and celebrate them. This month we'll discuss what we've learned and how we've grown through the challenges we've faced. Make Men's Fellowship a regular part of your faith experience. Join your brothers for a time of heart-warming friendship.

### Book Club



Book Club selection for February is "Full Disclosure" by Beverley McLaughlan.

We will meet in the Fellowship room at 10:30am on February 27.

### Joint Board



Our next meeting will be held on  
**Tuesday February 12th** in the  
Board Room at **7:00pm**



### Shepherd Group

The next Shepherd meeting will meet  
on Wednesday February 20th at 1:00  
PM in the Fellowship Rm.

This month I have invited Brother Jeff Coppage to write. Now serving as a pastor in the Southern Province, where he is a member of the Provincial Elders' Conference, Jeff has also served in the Northern Province. He reports here on a semi-annual meeting of what is, roughly, in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) the equivalent of the Provincial Elders' Conference. There he represented both Northern and Southern Provinces. Moravian representation there is one result of the full-communion agreement between the Moravian Church and the ELCA.

"It was a great privilege to represent Moravians at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's (ELCA) semi-annual Church Council held in Chicago this past November. Their Church Council is the governing board for the ELCA. It is made up of over 50 representatives and bishops, along with about a dozen non-voting staff. Having been elected to the PEC of the Southern Province for the first time just six months before, it was quite a bit to take in. I was struck by how committed the ELCA is to their ecumenical partnerships and how committed the participants are to their faith. There were also Episcopal and Reformed Church of America ecumenical partners present. All three of us were not just welcomed, but treated as valued participants in committee work as well as selected involvement in the business sessions of the full Council.

"Presiding Bishop Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton has led the ELCA to focus on five denominational-wide goals: 1. A thriving church, 2. An equipping church, 3. A welcoming church, 4. A visible church, and 5. A well-governed, connected, and sustainable church. The various components of the denomination made reference to these goals in their deliberations and reports. One such report pertained to plans to conclude the ELCA's successful \$198 million capital campaign, which generated support for selected high priority mission and ministry endeavors.

"Their requirement to include a given number of Council members who are young adults and persons of color bore fruit in creative discussions rooted in diverse perspectives. One full evening was devoted to an extensive exercise in racial understanding which was greatly enhanced by the diverse ethnicities included.

"I particularly enjoyed the worship over the course of the weekend. The most poignant service was a Veterans Day service held on the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day, led by a former Air Force chaplain. Throughout the schedule were times when delegates gave reflections about their personal faith journeys. Even though we heard from only 10 percent of the delegates, the effect was to deepen the identity of the Church Council as a community of faith. I was baptized in a Lutheran church outside Baltimore, MD. The spiritual connectedness felt a bit like a homecoming."

Hermann Weinlick  
Ecumenical Officer  
Moravian Church, Northern Province

## **Finance Committee Response to 2018 Income Statement**

### **Regarding the \$29,900 loss for 2018:**

Each month expenses exceeded income by \$2,500, and the trend is continuing into 2019.

The loss must be addressed in 2019.

The loss was covered by the Bank balance in 2018 because of several one-time large donations in 2017 which resulted in an opening Bank balance for 2018 of \$67,254, by year end 2018 the Bank balance is \$34,463.

### **Reasons for drop in income:**

decline in membership, (new members not replacing the seniors who have passed on or moved to Senior residences and are not attending).

Rental income down from previous years.

Snowbirds and travelling members are gone for several months.

Congregation not aware of the financial situation.

Stewardship may not have been all that successful.

### **Solution**

Break down the amount of debt into a weekly increase for members.

$\$29,900/\text{yr.}/12 = \$2,500/\text{mo.}/4 \text{ weeks} = \$623$  divided by estimated 50 members = \$12.45 per week increase.

$\$12 \text{ per week} \times 50 \text{ members} \times 52 \text{ weeks} = \$31,200.$

We are asking the members of the congregation to give this a prayer-full consideration for 2019.

We can do this.

Garry Campbell  
Finance Committee