St. Matthew's Matters!



Our 45th General Council

From August 7th to 11th, Rev. David and Rev. HyeRan went to Calgary for the 45th General Council of the United Church of Canada. The Council actually began online with two meetings, one on June 22 and the next on June 28th. These were followed by a hybrid event August 7th thru 11th in Calgary, HyeRan had a special responsibility at this General Council. She was on the Wayforward team — a part of a new process at the General Council meetings. Starting at the 43rd General Council in Oshawa this new process was introduced to help the council work more efficiently, eliminate bickering about small wording issues with such things as motions, and engage more people in the decision-making process.



Revs. HyeRan and David out and about while at the 45th General Council meeting in Calgary.

Rev. David was there to support HyeRan; but had another job as well and that was to set up a table and represent Emmanuel College to any potential new students. What he found was that in addition to potential students, many people who needed a break from the business of the General Council would

come and talk with him. One person said he was like a chaplain.



One of the highlights was that a new moderator was elected. The moderator is the spiritual leader of the United Church nationally. They are elected at each General Council and serve from the period between councils. There were many good moderator candidates this year. In the end, it was the Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath who was selected. Rev. Kimnerley (aka Kim) is the minister of Wall St. United Church in Brockville, a church that she has served now for about two decades and that her father had served before her. She has a deep and grounded commitment to ministry. Kim and Rev. David went to school together at Emmanuel, and he was delighted to see his classmate honoured in this way.

Rev. David magically took these photos. Doreen based the write-up on his Nov.17th sermon.

Links to recent services:

- July 27. <u>Video replay</u>. The sermon focused on the importance and the qualities of cedar trees in the Bible.
- Aug. 03. Video replay. This week's sermon was on the Fig Tree.
- Aug. 10. This service was led by Karen Jarvis and was on Humility.
- Aug. 17. <u>Video replay</u>. This service was on the Olive Tree. Yesori performed for us. The
 group sang and played a Korean Traditional ensemble of string instruments (kayagum) and a
 drum (janggu).
- Aug. 24. Video replay. This service was all about the Oak Tree.
- Aug. 31. <u>Video replay.</u> We celebrated a new member, a baptism, as well as a "have a great sabbatical" send-off to Rev. David. A potluck luncheon followed. Lots to celebrate so after service, join us for a potluck luncheon complete with cake! Please bring something to share at the potluck. Finger foods are preferred. You can eat indoors or outside.

Upcoming Events, services:

- ♦ Sept. 7. We welcome Rev. Hoon Kim to our pulpit as he starts his ministry with us during Rev. David's three month absence. Please welcome both Hoon and his wife, Insook as Hoon takes on this new role for us.
- ♦ Sept. 14. Celebration Sunday. We'll likely to have Sundaes after service.
- ◆ A special article on unusual plants will be posted in next month's newsletter. Send me your photos with the plants' names by mid—Sept to be included in this fun feature article.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE—SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

Thank you again for your support donating school supplies for our Back To School Program with the Salvation Army and to YRES. Val took all of the donated backpacks and school supplies to the Salvation Army a week ago. If more come in, we'll get them to these charities. We were pleased to provide York Region Educational Services (YRES) with many goods plus a \$300 donation by the UCW. One member donated art supplies to the YRES which they picked up for their children's camps.

• From August to early November, we'll run the "Fill a Purse for a Sister" program by collecting new and gently used purses for that program. If you prefer you can donate items that would be placed into the purses for distribution to women in crisis and in

shelters. Items most needed include shampoo, conditioner, body wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, tampons/pads, deodorant. Other suggested items include hair brushes, combs, tissues, lip balm, hats, scarves, gloves, and gift cards. We need to have our donations packed to drive over to the group by mid— November. Use this link for more details.



Thank you for your support.

The Outreach team appreciates and needs your support to help these groups this year.