



MCCLURE UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 2022

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Looking Back and Journeying Forward – Laura Foughse

Sixteen years ago, I was jumping up and down on our bed in our home in Winnipeg, screaming with joy and excitement. I had just received a telephone call from Tom Kishchuk, Chair of McClure's Joint Search Committee. His first question to me was this: "before we go any further, I need to ask if you are a Rider's or Blue Bombers fan?" The truthful answer was "I'm not a big fan of football" but I knew what the right answer was and exclaimed, "Riders, of course". He then informed me that the Joint Search Committee would like to call me to serve with McClure United Church. I played it super cool and said in my most mature, calm voice, "wonderful... I'm happy to accept". We hung up and the jumping and screaming began.

I was so incredibly grateful for this opportunity to live out my call as a Diaconal Minister. There were (and continue to be) very few "diaconal specific" ministry positions and I believed I had hit the jackpot! I was not wrong! The gratitude I felt then has never left me. Many, many times over the years I have told UCC colleagues from across Canada that I had THE BEST JOB in THE BEST CONGREGATION. I have felt supported, encouraged, cared for and challenged in all the

best ways. You have been incredibly generous in your care for the ministry team. This is probably why your ministers stay for so long.

I hold in my heart many beautiful memories. I can't possibly name them all but there are a few highlights: my first Sunday at McClure and Kent making me wear that silly hat with a lightbulb on top while the children held a second interview to determine if I could stay; travelling to Orlando, FL with Roger and Eleanor Birtles for Stephen Ministry training (and missing the biggest blizzard in recent history); Kent painting Ron's beard green at the end of worship; six high school boys all piled on top of each other on a tiny little loveseat in the youth lounge; all the youth trips to Edmonton; family camp at Camp Christopher (playing Pit); all night Easter vigils.

And, of course, all of the baptisms, weddings, funerals that I have been a part of – each one such an honour. I have laughed with you and cried with you as together we have had our faith challenged and blessed. Ministers have the unique role of stepping into people's lives in their most vulnerable moments – I never felt adequate for the task but God's love and guidance has helped me to be present in what (I hope) was a good way.

As I mentioned in my resignation letter, the primary reason for my departure is that I have discerned that my current job description is no longer one that calls to me. Worship preparation, prayer writing and preaching are elements of ministry I have ever been drawn to. My passion and my joy is in small group leadership, programming and pastoral support and I have less time now to offer these gifts.

Looking Back and Journeying Forward – Laura Fohse (continued)

Making the decision to leave has been very difficult but I also have a clear sense that it is the right thing – for me and for McClure. A new face and fresh perspective may be just thing you need to boost this ministry in the journey of renewal.

Since the news of my resignation has been made public, I have already been approached by ministry people from across Canada inquiring about this congregation and expressing interest in joining the team. It feels wonderful to be able to enthusiastically encourage them in their discernment. I can say with all honesty that McClure is an amazing place and whoever comes here will be very blessed.

It is my hope over the next two months to connect with many of you. If you are interested in having some time together, please let me know. I already have a plan to deliver ice cream to the children and youth this summer but I certainly want to make time for the more “mature” McClure folks who may want to say goodbye.

I wish you many many blessings as you journey forward. I will hold you in prayer as you discern your next steps.

God bless you always,

Laura Fohse

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHIES

Holding you gently in prayer...

All who have experienced grief & loss in its many forms.

We remember the family and friends of Verna Glazier.



this is *my* story: An invitation

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to....” Ecclesiastes 3:1

One of the privileges of ministry here at McClure is that I am blessed to hear your stories; stories of loss and renewal, illness and healing, struggle and release.

I would like to invite you, who are living in a significant season or time to share your story with members of your faith family. I will share one story each month this newsletter is published which gives us an opportunity to connect with one another and to share the journey.

Please contact Debra if you feel you would like to share your story, a page in length. Share your story about the season in which you are living with words about the challenge, the lessons and/or the joy of this time,



Thank You!

Many thanks to everyone who supported the **May 14th Book and Puzzle Sale** through donations, purchases and volunteer work. It was very successful and it is all due to the participation of so many people.

\$5455. was raised.

It takes **time and effort** to mount any church event and we thought you might like to know how many hours and how many people were involved.

Pre-planning of sale: approximately **30 hours** (2 coordinators and 2 church staff)

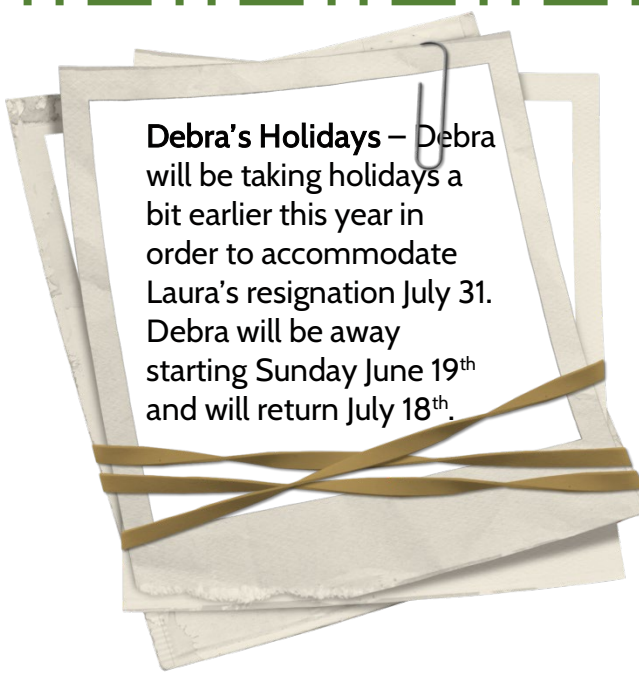

Week of sale - Sunday set-up to Saturday take-down: approximately **220 hours** (39 McClure people plus 3 with family affiliation)

Our guess at the **demographic breakdown:**


Of the 39 McClure volunteers, 1 was under the age of 60, 15 over 60, 21 over 70, and 2 over 80.

Again, thank you to everyone who helped.


Marlene Kells and Sandy Hoenecke



Debra's Holidays – Debra will be taking holidays a bit earlier this year in order to accommodate Laura's resignation July 31. Debra will be away starting Sunday June 19th and will return July 18th.



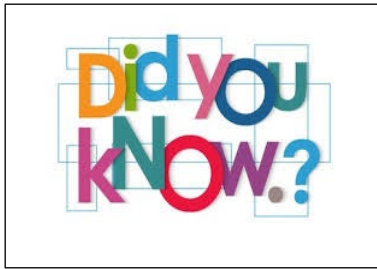
Coffee will be served after church, for the month of June, in the dining room. Please continue to wear your mask until seated with your coffee. Watch for the sign-up sheet for opportunities to help with serving the coffee.



Last of the Season Women and Men's Gathering

The Men's group will meet on June 11 in the Craft Room

The Women's group will meet on June 11 in the Sanctuary



Did You Know? (a few other tidbits from 2021)

- At the January 2021 Board Meeting Ruth Mireau, led a conversation about our “renewal” journey. We talked about what we learned by having to do things differently during a Pandemic. We talked about growth, engagement, change and new opportunities to be church. That conversation set the tone for the year...
- Ernie, Michael and Terry met with a group from Grosvenor Park United Church. We had a great conversation and came away with a sense of the importance of connecting with our partners in the Saskatoon Cluster of United Churches.
- Sheila Krueger began her Newsletter Editor duties last fall. Thank you, Sheila!
- Congratulations to Leslie Schweitzer and Sheila Krueger who received approval for their Voluntary Associate Minister applications.
- Thank you to Eden Polischuk and Brooke Barber, who were the Coordinators of the Summer Program in 2021. This work would have been especially challenging, as much of the programming was virtual. On-line yoga, interviews with various Saskatoon non-profit organizations, deliveries of activity kits, and outdoor ice cream visits were on the summer agenda!
- Last August the Board began learning about Rural Connect. We had a zoom presentation by Randy Boyd, from the United Church of Canada Rural Connect Program.
- According to our Structure Document that allows for the Board to appoint members as needed, Bryan Hamp joined the Board as Chair of the Property Committee.
- You might be wondering why we are using the term “Property Committee” again. As part of renewal and as a support during the past 2 years of the Pandemic, the Church Resources Subcommittee was formed. We have come back to a place where that subcommittee can rest and the former Support Services Committee be renamed the Property Committee. As the year evolved, Capital Planning now sits under the umbrella of the Property Committee.
- Thank you to Janet and Bill Caldwell for their gift of a piano, which is now used in the Music Room.
- Thank you to the Committee volunteers. All along they have just kept going...painting walls, fixing doors, managing our income and expenses, taking treats to Amy's, guiding us in many forms of worship and encouraging us to donate money for refugees so paper hearts could be planted in the snow bank! This place is really quite amazing!
- We face challenges. We hope we can once again feel comfortable worshipping together and being in the building. We hope we can work towards furthering relationships with other Saskatoon churches. We will address our volunteer needs and capital and financial plans for the future. We will relook at the Community of Faith Profile because of the up-coming change in our pastoral relationship.
- And may we, in this McClure community, continue to reflect God's love in all that we do.

Terry Clark (On behalf of the Board)



Ministry with children,
youth and young
adults.

Jesus said,
“let the children
come to me.
And he took the
children in his
arms, placed his
hands on them
and blessed
them.”

~Mark 10:13~

For more info about our
ministry with children,
youth and young adults,

please contact:

Rev. Laura Fuhse

(306) 373-1753

(306) 291-5838

laura@mcclureunitedchurch.org

phone, text or email

Summer at Rainbow Village...

Our children's program officially wrapped up on the May long weekend, however we continue to offer a place for children to hang out and have some fun throughout the summer. Eden, along with youth volunteers will be available on Sunday for children who would like to come. **I ask that parents please let me know by end of day on Friday, if their children will be present.** This way, I can be sure to make appropriate arrangements. If you do not let me know before Friday, there will not be someone here to be with the children BUT **activity bags will be available** in the sanctuary for anyone who shows up.

Ice Cream Visits

I am putting together Faith-at-Home kits again this summer. I would like to deliver these kits during the month of July. If you would like a kit and a visit with me (and ice cream) please let me know.

Summer Day Camp

There is space available at both of our summer camps. The first camp runs the week of **July 11-15** and the second camp is **August 8-12**. These are full day camps. We are limiting each camp to 20 participants. Cost is \$75 for the week. See Laura or our website for registration details.

Other Summer Programs

We have once again hired Eden Polischuk as our Summer Program Co-ordinator. Please watch our Facebook page and website for updates on summer programs for kids and people of all ages.

Save the date!!
for
McCLURE UNITED CHURCH

**Summer
Day Camp**

Choose your week:
July 11-15 or August 8-12

Camp runs 9am - 3pm
Before and after care available

\$100 for first child
\$75 for each additional child

limited to 20
children per camp!

**COMPASSION
CAMP**

CHANGING THE WORLD WITH LOVING KINDNESS

watch our Facebook Page and website
for registration information

Summer Reading List 2022

Sandy Hoenecke

Here are the books I have really enjoyed over the past year. All of these I have rated at least 4/5. Check a summary on Amazon or Google to see if any might appeal to you.

General Fiction

The Company We Keep- Frances Itani
The Book of Lost Friends- Lisa Wingate
Big Lies in a Small Town- Diane Chamberlain
New Girl in Little Cove- Danhnait Monaghan
The Lost Apothecary- Sarah Penner
One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot- Marianne Cronin
The Orchardist- Amanda Coplin
The Invisible Husband of Frick Island- Colleen Oakley
The Perfect Couple- Elin Hilderbrand
The Giver of Stars- Jojo Moyes
Dear Emmie Blue- Lia Louis
The Opposite of Fate- Alison McGhee
Tiny Imperfections- Alli Frank
Grey Eyes- Frank Busch
The Last Thing He Told Me- Laura Dave
Lockdown on London Lane- Beth Reekles

Mystery/Thriller

For Your Own Good- Samantha Downing
Raven Black- Ann Cleeves #1 in the series
The Unwelcome Guest- Amanda Robson
The Lost Man- Jane Harper
Seven Lies- Elizabeth Kay
Close to Home- Cara Hunter
Maisie Dobbs- Jacqueline Winspear
Finlay Donovan Knocks 'En Dead- Elle Cosimano
Moonflower Murders- Anthony Horowitz
Term Limits- Steve Powell
A Thousand Cuts- Simon Lelic
Six Weeks to Live- Catherine MacKenzie

Different or Fantasy or Young Adult

The Echo Wife- Sarah Gailey
The Upside of Falling Down- Rebekah Crane (YA)
Sweet Sorrow- David Nicholls (YA)
Dreamland Burning- Jennifer Latham (YA)
Game Changer- Neal Shusterman
Ten Thousand Doors of January- Alix Harrow
A Traveler at the Gates of Wisdom- John Boyne
Faye, Faraway- Helen Fisher

Non-Fiction

The Erratics- Vicki Laveau-Harvie
Braiding Sweetgrass- Robin Wall Kimmerer
Bread, Wine & Salt- Alden Nowlan (poetry)
Stoned- Aja Raden



How is McClure's Outreach Money assigned?

The Outreach Committee would like to keep the congregation informed of how and where the funds in our budget are assigned. We plan to present 2 or 3 agencies per newsletter.

We consider agencies in these categories: In the World, In the Community and In the Congregation. For each potential agency we also consider their other funding, such as government funding, major sponsors, or fundraising efforts. We also look at emerging issues and needs in society.

The agencies presented this month:

1. Change for Children (world): with the struggles in Central America on the rise, this agency focuses on children and youth in extreme poverty. (In Feb. 2013, a group from McClure visited a village in the jungles of Nicaragua.)
2. Integrated Community Ministry (community): a variety of groups and organizations providing support to the challenges of the inner city. McClure has been particularly involved in the Chop and Chat program.
3. Saskatchewan Environmental Society (community): promotes sustainability of ecosystems, livelihoods, and communities. We are called to live with respect in creation; this is our only direct environmental donation.

From Outreach Committee member Diane Higgins

Cans for Cosmo is Back



Back by popular demand, the Cosmo Industries truck will be parked in the McClure parking lot for a **giant size pick up of all beverage recyclables.**

The date is **tentatively** set for **Friday Sept 9**, but this will be confirmed in the next newsletter.

All your donations of cans, bottles, juice containers will be accepted at that time and the proceeds will go to Cosmo Industries towards their programs for adults with intellectual disabilities in Saskatoon and area.

So, start saving all your summer time beverage containers and help out a local organization.

Watch for updates in the summer newsletter.



A Double McClure Thank you

A terrific thank you goes out to approximately 55 people who joined us to hear the refugee story of Daniel from Honduras, as translated by Cooper Muirhead on the evening of May 4.

And of course, another thank you goes out to Daniel and Cooper for sharing this amazing story of courage and perseverance. Daniel was so thankful for all the support from McClure and was so humbled by folks coming out to hear him tell his story. Well done McClure!!

McClure Place Happenings -May 2022

"To enrich the lives of McClure Place Residents by providing support and service"

McClure Place Residents enjoyed a Pajama Day brunch prepared by the kitchen staff. Many people came wearing nighttime attire which added to the fun. Prizes were given to a lady with curlers in her hair and a man wearing pajamas. Thank you to the kitchen staff for organizing this happy event. The movie, Fisherman's Friend was shown in the Hospitality Lounge.

An education session on MAID (Medical Assistance in Dying) was presented by Linda Smallwood. Linda spoke on how to ask for assistance and what happens in the process of choosing MAID. The information was very informative and carefully told regarding what is important during the time leading up to the day of provision.

Residents responded to a survey given by our Executive director in which eighty seven and a half percent (87.5%) of respondents agreed to the statement: "I support making masking in the common areas optional, but strongly encouraged". Masks are now a personal choice in the common areas of McClure Place and remain mandatory in all areas of the church and Amy McClure House. Eighty percent (80%) of residents responded to the survey.

Swap or Swish Day was a fun morning. Residents were encouraged to bring their good condition, unwanted items to the Hospitality Lounge. At the sound of the bell, we allowed anyone and everyone to shop! No money was exchanged, and left-over items were taken to the YWCA Opportunity shop. Thanks to everyone for joining this event.

2022 SCOA Globe Walk Year-end Celebration was held at McClure United Church. Participants were welcomed and Mayor Charlie Clark gave encouraging words about the Globe Walk, which encourages seniors to stay active during the winter months.

Prior to Covid, McClure Place had one hundred people participating, this year about half that many participated in keeping track of their steps. Hopefully by 2023, more residents will join the team.

Our General Meeting was held this month to discuss matters of concern. We were pleased to have Terry Clark (Chair of McClure United Church Board) and Jim Kells (Chair of McClure Place Association Inc. Board) bring greetings. Bouquets to staff and volunteers were voiced. Our Executive Director, Lisa White answered questions and concerns.

We look forward to blossom time, gathering for hot dog lunches and ice cream parlours in the coming summer months.

Elaine Tall

McClure 4th Annual Potato Bake

May 31st at 5:30 pm.

A complete meal + Entertainment

For \$10.00

**Any profits go to support the
McClure Van**

For more information call

Ebba Eggleston at 306-373-0525

The "Big Shred"

Inquiries come forth as to the date of another "Big Shred". (The last event was in 2019.)

It appears that a Big Shred can be held this summer. However, an exact date is unclear.

Keep watching for updates in church bulletins, social media, signs, and community notices!

Please continue collecting items for shredding (old personal, private or confidential documents).

Newsletter Format Options:

Our monthly newsletter is available at the church website & it's also e-mailed directly to everyone on the e-mail list.

But, if you prefer to receive a paper copy or you need to update your e-mail/contact info, please contact the office at:

306-373-1753 or

mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca

Passionate about the work, ministry & mission of the wider **United Church of Canada?**

Please check out these links for news & updates
UCC National Newsletters:

<https://united-church.ca/e-newsletters>

UCC Mission & Service: <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/generosity-through-mission-and-service>



Did you know?



All Worship services are available at McClure's YouTube Channel:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCTKNODhUdibWig5etzKmv8w

Printed copies of sermons are available at:
<http://mcclureunitedchurch.org/sermons>

Got important info for the McClure UC Newsletter? Feedback? Ideas?

Please e-mail any newsletter submissions, suggestions & feedback to

Sheila Krueger – Editor

newsletter@mcclureunitedchurch.org

Summer Newsletter Deadline:
Sunday, June 26, 2022

MCCLURE UNITED CHURCH

306-373-1753

www.mcclureunitedchurch.org
www.facebook.com/McClureUnitedChurchSktn/



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Claudia Manning

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Pam Turner

Music Coordinator

Shirley Blackburn

Pianist

Elin Sletmoen

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:30pm Choir Practice	2 10am Congregational Care Committee 7pm Sacred Sounds 7pm M & P Committee	3	4
5 10:00am Worship Service & Rainbow Village Baptism	6 Mask Friendly Begins*	7 7pm Outreach Committee	8 7:30pm Choir Practice	9 7pm Sacred Sounds	10	11 8am Women's and Men's Group Gathering (zoom and in person) Bring own beverage
12 10:00am Worship Service & Rainbow Village	13	14 10:30am Joint Facilities Cmte 7pm Property Committee	15 7:30pm Choir Practice	16 7pm Sacred Sounds 1:30pm Worship Committee	17 Amy's Worship	18
19 10:00am Worship Service & Rainbow Village	20  First Day of Summer	21 7pm Board Meeting  National Indigenous Peoples Day	22 7:30pm Choir Practice	23 7pm Sacred Sounds	24	25
26 10:00am Worship Service & Rainbow Village **Deadline for Newsletter **	27	28	29 7:30pm Choir Practice	30 7pm Sacred Sounds		

***Mask Friendly = masks are recommended but no longer mandatory**