

WESTSIDE'S STORY

Feb. 14, 2023 Newsletter - Pg. 1 of 3

ORDINATION & INDUCTION SERVICE FOR BRIAN JUNG

Sunday, February 26 at 3:00 pm at Westside Church

The time has finally come! Join us Sunday, February 26 at 3:00 pm for a special service of Ordination and Induction for Brian Jung. During this special service of celebration Brian will be ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament within the Presbyterian Church in Canada and will officially be installed as the new minister of Westside. Be sure to mark your calendar and join us for this joyful occasion!





Dear Westside Family, Greetings in God's love!

With God's guidance and your prayers, my family and I are well on our way to becoming part of Westside. We still vividly remember the hospitality we experienced on our first visit to Westside Church. Through your warm smiles and kind words, we could

feel that this is the place God wanted us. It's already been three months since that day, and it's not long until we see you again.

We look forward to the path we will walk together, joyfully and vigorously. Please pray with us for the steps we'll take as we begin together.

The season of Lent is our first step. I hope that as we walk through Lent, we will think again about what we can do for our neighbours and how we can spread the love of Jesus as we remember Jesus' ministry of service and love on earth and put that realization into action. Ukraine is still groaning in war, and countless people in Turkey and Syria are grieving the loss of their families in the earthquake. There are numerous people around us waiting for help too. May God's love and comfort be with all these people. May His love and comfort come to them through our hearts and service in His name.



This Sunday, February 19, after the 10 am service. All are welcome!



Feb. 19 - 10 am service - Rev. Mark Gedcke

Feb. 19 - Annual Meeting right after the 10 am service

Feb. 26 - 8 am - Men's Breakfast at Golden Harvest Diner

Feb. 26 - 10 am service (First Sunday of Lent) **Rev. Barb Molengraaf**

Feb. 26 - Ordination & Induction Service for Brian Jung at 3 pm



27 - Jim O'Connor 30 - Carole Wilson



March 23 Howard & Marg DeBrusk

Peace in Christ, **Brian Jung**

Excerpts from the 2022 Annual Report from Rev. Megan Penfold and Doug Kelly, Co-Clerk, Westside Session Committee

2022 INTERIM MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

There is a song in the PCC hymnbook that I often think of at Annual Report/Annual Meeting time. It's entitled "One More Step Along the World I Go." The first verse goes like this. One more step along the world I go. (x2)/ From the old things to the new/ keep me traveling along with you. / And it's from the old I travel to the new. Keep me traveling along with you.

As I reflect on the life and ministry of Westside in 2022, this seems like an appropriate way to begin my report. It has been a year of transition from one thing to another. For the first part of the year, you continued to be led by Rev. Mark Gaskin. Yet as he led you, both you and he were also preparing for his departure through his retirement May 1. As your Interim Moderator, it was very moving to watch as you went through the process of saying "thank you" and "see you soon" to a dear friend and leader in ministry, while at the same time looking with hope towards the future. From the old traveling to the new, led by God's spirit.

To that end, 2022 saw the formation of a Search Committee who worked tirelessly and at (by PCC standards) almost warp-speed to find an excellent candidate to preach for the call before the end of the year. As a result of their efforts, God's leading, and your willingness to step out in faith, 2023 will be a year of new ministry, new relationships, and new opportunities. Just as God has been present with you in the more familiar seasons of the past, he will continue to be present with you in this new and exciting season of change. Keep on traveling along with Him. 2022 was also a year in which you were able to finally see the dream of a new addition begin to become a reality. After all the red-tape and delays, properties were sold, demolitions took place, and ground was finally broken. More reminders of God's faithfulness and more to look forward to in 2023 as that project continues and the life and ministry of Westside is enhanced.

There is so much more that made up the life and ministry of Westside in 2022. As you read through the various reports, give thanks to God for how vibrant your community of faith is. As my time as your Interim Moderator draws to an end, I want to encourage you. You are a church with a strong commitment to mission, a strong desire to reach out to the community around you, a deep care for one another, and who enjoys each other. While you may assume that is the case everywhere, I can assure you it is not. So, celebrate the life and health of Westside and continue to rely on God as you march into the future together. I look forward to hearing about the wonderful things that God will do in and through Westside as you and Brian partner together in ministry in 2023. May God richly bless your congregation!

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Megan Penfold

The Session was so fortunate to have Megan lead us through the vacancy. She was diligent but also put the energy in to get to know people so she could give good advice and pastoral care. We were able to move ahead with confidence. She was thorough enough with process but shared our impatience for progress, so the results were done right and with minimal delay. Even though this was a temporary assignment the Session is so thankful for her time with us. We benefited from her prayerful guidance and support, encouraging us to look to the future with much hope.

Doug Kelly Co-Clerk, Westside Session



Syria/Turkiye Earthquake Response



TWO WAYS TO DONATE:

- Canadian Red Cross will be matched by the Canadian government, if made by February 22, directly to <u>WeCare@redcross.ca</u>.
- PWS&D, through Westside, being marked for <u>"Syria/Turkiye Relief Efforts".</u>

Presbyterian World Service & Development



Westside Needs Nursery Volunteers

to help look after children ages 0 - 4 years old during the service (with 2 adults per week being the goal). If you can help, please contact the church office at 519-621-3630 or at standrews11@bellnet.ca and we will add you to the Nursery schedule. Thank you!

Westside Congregational Profile

The Westside Congregational Profile, created by the Search Committee, is available to anyone who would like a copy. Please contact Dale O'Connor at <u>dale.o@rogers.com</u> or contact the church office at standrews11@bellnet.ca or call 519-621-3630.

Westside Presbyterian Church Congregational Profile



Westside Church is seeking an inspirational worship leader committed to building strong relationships while working collaboratively as we put our Mission Statement into action.

> "Engaging our Communities, Sharing the Family of God and Modelling the Father's Love"



Please pray for Glen and Jane Christensen, Shawn Hass,

Nadine Mahaffy, Eva Buchaupt, Dale O'Connor, Jean Andrews, Don McLeod, Bob and Sandy Allen and Brian Jung and family. Please forward prayer requests to Mardie Crosby at 519-219-0783 or at rcmk@rogers.com.



