LifeKeys Workshop

A guide to discovering your talents, spiritual gifts, passions and values

Linda Moir
Seminar Leader

Friday, February 13th - 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 14th - 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Limited to 20 people
Fee $25.00 per person
LifeKeys Discovery Workbook - Snack - Lunch - Included

Somewhere deep inside you is a person designed by God
- Uncover your gifts -

Register in the Lobby
Details in your mail.
Pastoral Care & Worship
Submitted by: Donna Soper

Christmas is the most beautiful and meaningful time in the Christian church and we are so blessed to be able to celebrate it with our church family at the many opportunities offered at Banwell over the season. It is the only time we sing all the familiar Christmas Carols that were so beautifully written many years ago. The words to those Carols ring true even today. We hope that Pastor Alex's meaningful sermons not only filled your souls but also challenged you to go forth and share the good news of Jesus Christ.

A large group of people attended membership classes facilitated by Pastor Alex. Our Committee had the honour of interviewing several people for church membership. On January 11th Shirley Brill, Debbie Dion, Andrew Gallant, Randy and Coleen Martin and Nikki Wright were welcomed in as members. This interview process is one of the more enjoyable duties of being on this Committee. The joy of speaking one-on-one and hearing their faith journey can sometimes move us to tears. How blessed are we that they not only found their way into our church but into our hearts.

Our guest speaker for our Anniversary Sunday, Rev. Craig Rumble, Senior Pastor of Markham Baptist Church gave us a message of hope for God’s future church. He asked what our "alternative story" will be. A very timely message considering that our Vision Team is spearheading congregational meetings to inspire us to look at our plan for the future of Banwell. Pastors Craig and Deborah and their daughter Braelyn told me they were overwhelmed by the warm reception they received when entering our church. They said it was wonderful to connect with old friends and to meet new ones. They were so happy to be invited for our Anniversary celebration. Thank you to all who made them feel so welcome.

We celebrated our 13th Anniversary with a delicious pot luck luncheon and as usual we had a wonderful variety of foods and desserts. Isn't it special when you can share lunch with about 160 of your closest friends? Thank you so much to everyone who helped set-up and especially those who stayed to clean-up. It seems lack of space does not deter us from great fellowship.

A new banner hung in the sanctuary for Anniversary Sunday made and designed by Linda Stevenson. How fortunate we are that she shares her God-given talent to beautify our sanctuary.

We are a Committee that works so well together and we are in the process of seeking two new members. We hope if you are asked to serve you will speak to our Chair or one of our members if you have any questions.

Each of us feels called to serve on this Committee and blessed by the experience.

Chair: Dennis Dick
Members: Marsha Campbell, Deborah Martel, Heather Heuston, Donna Soper
Worship Notes

We definitely find ourselves in the throes of winter but will keep warm by gathering together in worship in February. The pastor will begin a new series of messages this month entitled “Bad Boys and Girls of the Bible”. Of course we look forward to the participation of our musicians in worship under the leadership of our Minister of Music, Ian McGregor Smith. May the Lord continue to bless us as continue to gather together in worship!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Message Title</th>
<th>Genesis References</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 1st</td>
<td>“Bad Boys and Girls of the Bible...Will These Kids Ever Grow Up?”</td>
<td>3:8-19</td>
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<td>February 8th</td>
<td>“Bad Boys and Girls of the Bible...Jacob and His Mother”</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>February 15th</td>
<td>“Bad Boys and Girls of the Bible...Lot, His Wife and Choices”</td>
<td>13:1-13</td>
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<td>February 22nd</td>
<td>“Bad Boys and Girls of the Bible...Rahab and Dealing with One’s Past”</td>
<td>2:1-18</td>
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Faces in the Crowd

- The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the Herzog family upon the passing of Hal’s mother, Ilonka Herzog, on November 21st, 2014.
- Many thanks to our team of decorator’s, led by Donna Soper, who worked so hard to beautify our sanctuary and building this Christmas.
- Congratulations to Erika Pizzuti and Damon Miles upon the birth of their second child, De’mai Amelia Talia Miles on December 30th, 2014 - a little sister for De’yani.
- Congratulations to Braeden Braccio who was a member of the Newman - Wilson East High School All-Star football team. Braeden plays for St. Anne's as a defensive back and running back.
For those of you who don’t know I started taking courses at Moody Bible College in Chicago last fall in their Distance Learning Program. I completed Old Testament II in December and have just begun New Testament I.

My first assignment for this course was to write a letter to a friend or spouse pretending to be from Israel in Jesus’ time. The professor wanted us to show and share the knowledge we had gathered about the first century world, keeping in mind aspects of religious and cultural context, historical knowledge, religious hopes and social concepts. We were to write this letter as someone who had come into contact with Jesus in some part of his ministry and had been witness to his teachings or miracles. We were to share how this affected us, did it make us ask more questions about Him, our lives, our hopes, our dreams and our convictions?

This assignment actually scared me at first and I thought how would I ever write a letter from this view or take into account all that needs to be remembered? Then I slowed down and reviewed the text on First century lives and cultures and then a picture started to appear. Here’s my letter:

My dearest friend,

I am writing to share with you the most amazing scene that I witnessed yesterday. I was near the temple, when I noticed some commotion. Have you heard of the Rabbi, named Jesus, who travels around teaching in various cities? He has a group of disciples that follow him as well, both men and women! The Rabbi was teaching in the temple square yesterday and I will admit, that was why I was near there. I was hoping to catch a glimpse of him and hear first hand what he was teaching about.

I keep hearing stories about his preaching and he seems to have the Pharisees and Sadducees quite worked up. I even heard they would like to see him dead! They say Jesus talks in parables and refers to ha-Shem as his Father. It all seems very confusing and disrespectful to ha-Shem. Someone else even told me that his family is ashamed of him but even that does not stop the Rabbi from sharing and teaching with others! He says that Adonai has sent him here and that they, the Pharisees and Sadducees, should listen to what he says as this comes straight from ha-Shem. Also, that we can talk to Adonai on our own directly! This seems so amazing and crazy too.

I still have not told you about what I saw!

So I was outside the temple, I was listening from a distance, as I was by myself. I was trying to be very discreet and then all of a sudden across the square comes a group of teachers and the Pharisees quite forcibly dragging a woman amongst them. They brought her directly over to the feet of the Rabbi and told him that they had caught her sleeping with a man who was not her husband. They talked about how that in Moses’ Law they were to stone her and what did the Rabbi think of that? I know they were trying to get him to speak against the Law and Moses so that they would then have reason to charge him, but Jesus would not be baited. They would not let up on him until finally Jesus spoke. He calmly replied to them that anyone who was there that had not sinned could throw the first stone.

A hush fell over the crowd and then everyone slowly left.
It was amazing to me that all left so calmly and relatively quickly. No one wanted to be left there or anywhere near Jesus or the Woman.

I know none of us are without sin and couldn’t throw that first stone, but it has happened before! The Law states that she is to be stoned if she was found committing adultery. It felt right to leave her be, but I’m so confused by the actions of both the Rabbi and our Temple Leaders.

I had to share these thoughts and what I saw today with someone. The Rabbi seems like such a good man and some here are even saying he might be the Messiah, The Son of God, but the conflict around him frightens me. We already, as a people, have so much conflict with the Romans. I don’t wish to add more or bring it on my home or family.

Please let me know soon what you think and what you have heard about the Rabbi.

I hope you and yours stay well under the blue tent,

Your Friend

I’m not one to usually share what I have written for these courses. I actually don’t think I shared any with anyone, except my fellow classmates and professor, from the last course. They tend to end up very personal and thought provoking, which is probably the point of the exercises.

But with this one, the more I read it over, cogitated on it and then heard feedback from my classmates, I kept feeling like their was more to it that needed to be said. I felt like it needed to be shared.

If we actually lived back in Jesus’ time, would we have had the guts to actually stand up and follow him? Would we really have given up all we had, maybe put our lives and our families’ lives in danger or at the very least on the wrong side of the Pharisees, stepped away from our church and all its traditions that were so a part of our lives and traditions and followed him unwaveringly?

I know my first answer and the answer I want to say is YES!!! OF COURSE!!! As I wrote this letter, I realized maybe I shouldn’t answer this question so quickly. That I probably would’ve really wanted to, but I’m sure I would’ve been scared, unsure, excited, amazed, and even possibly downright TERRIFIED by what following him really meant to my whole life. It also made me very thankful I live at the time I do. How blessed we are to be able to follow this Man openly and even loudly if we want too!

For me, it was, and is, something to think about…. something I had only thought of very lightly and not at the depth which it deserved. I also think we need to take time to think of what our first century Christian brothers and sisters had at stake when they chose to openly follow the Messiah. So I ask you to go back in time, pretend, use your imagination and think what kind of letter would you have written to a friend or spouse if you had seen first hand all the wonderful, amazing and controversial things our Lord and Saviour did when he walked the earth as a Man.
AGE UNLIMITED

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind”.

Deuteronomy 6:5

The “most wonderful time of the year” 2014 is now history, but I want to express my thanks to each of you who made it a success. My gratitude is expressed to:

- **Madelon Kidd** and **Penny Bain** for making the reservations at “The Other Place”
- **Rev. Dr. Alex Moir** for his devotional participation
- **Tom Holmes and Band Members** for providing our musical presentation
- Everyone who contributed to the wonderful variety of delicious desserts. **Pam Beemer** made the Black Forest and Carrot cakes. After our delicious turkey dinner, each dessert was a special treat. They made it a most memorable Christmas. Merci!

“Big Al” is returning. Our Age Unlimited Group will meet in the Chapel Room on Wednesday, February 11th, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. **Al Lucier** has provided a previous Valentine treat for our group. Al plays his guitar, sings a variety of songs, tells stories and closes the presentation with our favourite hymns. Invite a friend (or two) to join you for this special meeting. It promises to be a magical, morning of memories. It will help you beat the February BLAHS as we celebrate the half way point of the winter season.

Sign up early (February 1st to 8th) If you are a senior - new to Banwell or have recently retired - this is a meeting you will thoroughly enjoy. We extend an invitation to all.

**Henry Nurse** is our group coordinator; **Rev. Dr. Alex Moir** is our spiritual advisor; **Claude Daniels** offers Grace for our delicious lunch which is purchased, planned and prepared by our hostesses; **Yvonne Eberle, Penny Bain, Madelon Kidd** and **Dorothy Allan**.

We look forward to seeing you at our Age Unlimited Fellowship.

“As I have loved you - you also love one another”. John 13:34

Henry Nurse, Coordinator
Submitted by Joan Fulmer
Church Decorating
Submitted by Donna Soper

I am sure when you entered the church on the first Sunday of Advent you noticed how bright and festive everything looked. Did you know it takes about four hours of dedicated work and the hands of many volunteers to accomplish that? Did you also know it takes another four hours to take everything down and pack it away properly until next year? Many thanks to the following people for using their talent and time to serve in this capacity this Christmas season:

Decorations: Laura Dick, Helen Fontaine, Donna Soper, Barb Wickham, Nikki Wright

Stable: Sean Doyle, Dave Ferrato, Richard Marshall, Kevin Martin, Rodi Sengmany, Jeff Soper

Banners: Linda Stevenson, Marlee Page

Thank you to everyone who placed a Poinsettia in the church in memory or honour of a loved one. They certainly helped to beautify our sanctuary.

This year I was especially touched by the new members who were more than willing to help when asked. I feel so blessed to belong to this church family.

Donna Soper
BOOK REVIEWS

THE DANCING MASTER  
Julie Klassen

Dancing master, Alec Valcourt moves from London to Devonshire in hopes of starting over. But he learns that the village matriarch forbids dancing for reasons in her past. The ladies daughter, Julia, befriends Alec and even flirts with him. She soon realizes that he evades questions about his past. Can she uncover her mother’s secrets and Alec’s also?

BRIDGE TO HAVEN  
Francine Rivers

To those who matter in Hollywood, Lena Scott is a rising star. Few people know her real name is Abra and fewer know the price she has paid to become well known.

To Pastor Zeke Freeman she will always be Abra, the infant he found under a bridge. Zeke knows the details of her birth have left her with a deep hurt and many questions that leave her vulnerable to a fast talking charmer who lures her to Hollywood. She soon discovers that fame comes at a devastating price.

ONCE IN A BLUE MOON  
Leana Ellis

Bryn lost her mother under mysterious circumstances. Now she is a journalist who likes to sky dive. But close encounters are a bit much for her. She meets a loopy old man who is full of conspiracy theories, then he drops a bomb when he admits he knew her mother. Will she find things that she may not want to know? She then meets his son who is a Christian and can’t decide whose ideas are more “out there”.

SMALL TOWN GIRL  
Ann Gabhart

In 1941, rumors of war abound in the town of Rosey Corner. As Kate watches her sister marry the man she herself loves her heart is breaking. Then Pearl Harbour changes everything. She finds herself drawn to best man Jay. But if he enlists will she ever see him again?

Happy reading!

Maureen and Team

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NEWS TEAM MEMBERS

Editor/Journalist: Jim Wheeler;  
Journalists: Tracy Bevington, Zelma Horvath & Donna Soper;  
Proof-reader: Zelma Horvath; Typist & Designer: Debbie Ebel;  
Spiritual Leader: Pastor Alex Moir;  
Production Staff: Deborah Bevington
Men’s Ministry Report

Saturday, February 28th Breakfast guest speaker will be Frank Ball. A great breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. followed by our inspirational speaker. You will be on your way to accomplish your Saturday “To Do List” by 10:00 a.m. Come and enjoy.

Human Resources Committee

- In December we appreciated our local Fire Department Inspector touring our building and his suggestions to make our premises as safe as possible. As a result of the review, he recommended a CO2 detector be placed in the Fireside Room and a fire extinguisher in the Electrical room, in addition to identifying areas to be reviewed. Thanks to Jim Elder for extending the invitation.

- We sincerely appreciate Linda Moir presenting the seminar “LifeKeys” and we encourage you to take advantage of this excellent opportunity. (Details on page one).

- J.W.

Contributors Please Note

Due to space limitations we request all articles submitted to the News ‘n Views not exceed 600 words (one page). Many thanks.

- J.W.

ATTENTION MUSIC LOVERS!

ATTENTION MUSIC LOVERS!

The CD “Friday’s Highway” by the Haines Bros., on which our Pastor has his song “The Rustler”, which he composed and sang, is officially out!

If you enjoy 70’s folk rock music (think Eagles, America, Poco, Crosby Stills Nash and Young) you may enjoy this album. It is available on Itunes, Amazon.com and CD Baby under “Recently Released”.

For a review of the album, Google “Review of “Friday’s Highway” by the Haines Bros.”.

Happy listening!
## Child Care Schedules for November

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<th>Children’s Church Grades 2&amp;3</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Beth Gellner</td>
<td>Laurie Beemer</td>
<td>Terri Prevett</td>
<td>Marlee Page</td>
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<td>Marlene Wray</td>
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<td>Feb. 8th</td>
<td>Ellen Doyle</td>
<td>Suzan Harper</td>
<td>Kathy Freeman</td>
<td>Marianne Wiley</td>
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<td>Heather Doyle</td>
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<td>Feb. 15th</td>
<td>Pat Cowie</td>
<td>Carol Middaugh</td>
<td>Beth Adlam</td>
<td>Kodi Page</td>
<td>Rachel Brown</td>
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<td>Hailey Beemer</td>
<td>Gayle Marsh</td>
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<td>Feb. 22nd</td>
<td>Christa Braccio</td>
<td>Barb Stephens</td>
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<td>Linda Ogea</td>
<td>Marianne Wiley</td>
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<td>Mary Ann Adlam</td>
<td>Camryn Stephens</td>
<td>Danijela Kralik</td>
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<td>Danny Blata</td>
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### KIDS ZONE SCHEDULE

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<td>Joseph Tests His Brother</td>
<td>Genesis 42:1-44:34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 12th</td>
<td>Joseph Reveals Himself to His Brothers</td>
<td>Genesis 45:1-16</td>
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<td>Feb. 19th</td>
<td>Jacob moves to Egypt</td>
<td>Genesis 45:17-50:26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 26th</td>
<td>Moses is Born</td>
<td>Exodus 2:1-10</td>
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### ROCK SOLID MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

- **Feb. 6th**: Friday Night Live @ Banwell 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
- **Feb. 13th**: Bowling Tournament @ Superbowl 7:00 p.m. Bring $10
- **Feb. 20th**: Friday Night Live @ Banwell 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
- **Feb. 26th** to **Feb. 28th**: Winter Retreat @ Kalahari

### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL TAUGHT BY GRANT FAIRLEY

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<td>Feb. 1st</td>
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<td>Feb. 8th</td>
<td>Dave Page will be teaching</td>
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<td>Grace and Truth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 22nd</td>
<td>Grace to Serve</td>
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My Back Pages

Well February has arrived, which means it’s annual report time in our congregation, in advance of our annual meeting which will be held later this month. For some of us who are responsible for groups or committees it means sitting down with a keyboard or other writing instrument and trying to reflect on what went on during 2014. Some folks think this is a little outdated … and you certainly don’t want to get into a “paralysis of analysis” situation (think any sport with pre or post-game shows). But I think there is some value to looking back over the past year and giving a little bit of thought.

It’s like that in our personal lives as well. Probably the most valuable part of living has to do with the relationships we develop. But I’ve lived long enough to realize that even the most precious friendships change over time. Over this past year, were there folks you expected to hear from but didn’t? Were you pleased with the quality of encounters with others in your personal life? Were there some well established traditions with special friends that fell by the wayside for the first time last year? Did new friendships develop which make the New Year seem more exciting?

Change is tough to take, especially when it affects a relationship we have come to rely upon. That can even happen in a church context, as folks whose company we’ve enjoyed choose to engage with another congregation or drop out altogether for awhile. One of my mentors in ministry gave me a piece of advice many years ago that has helped me with all of the coming and going, personally and church-wise, through the years. He had found that “taking people as he found them” was the best policy. We might wish folks to act differently and come through in the way that would be more helpful to us … but it just doesn’t always happen. Adopting this approach with those around us eliminates the frustration of trying to affect things we have no control over. But it does one more important thing … it encourages us to give the process over to God.

But there is one more thing to consider in this discussion and that is our own role. One of the great resurrection appearance stories is found in the gospel of John, when the Lord appears to the disciples on the shore of the Sea of Galilee while they are out fishing (John 21) and encourages them to throw the net on the other side of the boat. The result is a great catch … and a joyful reunion! In his conversation with Jesus after breakfast Peter asks the Lord what his friend John’s role will be, as things unfold for this new movement. Christ’s words are most telling … “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.”

As we anticipate twelve new months to fill (Lord willing) we need to keep things as simple as possible. Ultimately, we can only affect one life and that is ours. If we, through prayer, good devotional regimen and confession, can keep things in good shape with the Father, He will help us through the changes that come with life.

Devotedly your pastor … Alex