

# First Glance

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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## **Dinner to Celebrate With Syrian Refugees**

**February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Join us in a celebratory Syrian dinner on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the Labyrinth Room. We're delighted to mark the anniversary of Ebrahim and Amina's first year in Canada, and we are thrilled to have welcomed in December and January, members of Amina's family - twenty in total! Many will be present at this dinner.

Tickets for the dinner are \$30 each (we are supporting the efforts of a Syrian Refugee Cooperative called Yasmin), and will be on sale today in the Labyrinth room from Mary Donaghy and available each of the next two Sundays. **Quantities are limited, so reserve a ticket soon!**

## **Talking with Kids about the Painful Truths of Canada's History with Indigenous Peoples**

**Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Parents with Small Children and the Living into Right Relations Circle invite parents, grandparents and others to join Sylvia Smith, long-time teacher and founder of Project of Heart and honorary witness to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, for an evening potluck and discussion.

We gather at 4:45 to begin a potluck supper at 5:00. The conversation begins at 5:30 and goes for an hour and a half while childcare and activities are provided for the children.

## **Living in Right Relations Circle invites you to view the film**

**"We Can't Make the Same Mistake Twice"**

**Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm in the Chapel**

Join us for a special screening of the NFB's newly released film by Alanis Obamsawin which is the long-awaited documentary based on Cindy Blackstock's and the AFN's Human Rights challenge to the Canadian Government on discriminatory welfare access for children on Canadian Native Reserves.

***For more information about this film read the back page....***

Over the holiday, many dishes and serving pieces have accumulated in the kitchen. Please check to see if any are yours and rescue them. The next kitchen clean-up is coming!

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***First United:*** An Affirming Congregation

# NEWS FROM FIRST UNITED

## Women's Retreat at Galilee House:

### Connecting With the Sacred through Ritual and Play

Friday to Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>

*The annual women's retreat is occurring and brochures and information on this event are available at the back of the church. Please set aside the dates for this in-depth time of community-building and spirit rejuvenation, and for more information contact Elspeth MacEwan and Liz Tyrwhitt.*

## Men's Retreat at Galilee House

Friday to Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>

*The annual men's retreat brochures and information will be circulated shortly. Please set aside the dates and for more information contact Paul Durber.*

## Embodied Heart JourneyDance workshop at First United

Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>

Joining with the first ever Global JourneyDance event on Saturday afternoon, February 11, this will be a transformational movement experience fusing energies with conscious dancers internationally to embody, empower, express and elevate communities using a luscious musical landscape in sacred space to deepen capacity for joy and connection. More details to follow.

Also - save the dates- coming soon- JourneyDance, a ministry of movement facilitated by Kathleen Howell. Regular classes starting up again at First United, now on the 4th Friday of the month at 7-8:30 pm, **January 27<sup>th</sup>, February 24<sup>th</sup>, March 24<sup>th</sup>, and April 28<sup>th</sup>**. Contributions by free will offering.

## Joint Choir Concert with First United and Trinity United of

Bob Chilcott's Little Jazz Mass and other pieces

Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at First United

Join us for an evening of music with some 40 to 50 singers, accompanied with piano, bass, drums. We gather at 7:30 p.m. and free will offering will be gathered for *the Haven* project of the Multi-Faith Housing Initiative.

## Thank You:

Church Council expresses deep gratefulness, and invites you to express gratefulness to one another, for your ongoing support of our community of faith and our significant increase of 6% over 2015. We had an increase of over 12% for Mission and Service. While we were just shy of our givings goal, some unanticipated donations and revenues from other sources will result in a small surplus for 2016. We celebrate in sharing this news. Below is a report on our 2016 givings. **Tax receipts** are being mailed this week. Our full financial statements will be reviewed and adopted at our **Annual Meeting on Sunday March 5<sup>th</sup> following our morning service.**

<u>To December 31</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
General Fund	205,151	218,390	220,000	(1,610)
Mission & Service	30,706	34,662	33,000	1,662

# SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

## WEEKLY/MONTHLY SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS

**Young Adults Gathering:** Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> in the kitchen at First United at 6:15.  
For more information, contact Amelia Buchanan at [abuch078@uottawa.ca](mailto:abuch078@uottawa.ca)

**Queer Group Potluck:** Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at the home of Brian Cornelius, 7 Edgar Street. For more information, contact Brian or Chantel Nantel at [cnantel555@gmail.com](mailto:cnantel555@gmail.com)

**Parents with Small Children:** Our next gathering is slated for Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. On February 4<sup>th</sup> we will be inviting an intergenerational gathering with a presentation by Sylvia Smith on **How Do I Talk with my kids about the Painful Truths of Canada's History?** (see p.2)

**Monday Christian Meditation: Every Monday** at 5:30 pm in the Chapel.  
For more information: Joyce Hardman [jhardman@rogers.com](mailto:jhardman@rogers.com) or Liz Tyrwhitt [liz.tyrwhitt@sympatico.ca](mailto:liz.tyrwhitt@sympatico.ca).

**TGIF:** Our TGIF group, which is primarily seniors but not exclusively, meets on **Fridays at 1:30** in Room 5/6. Newcomers are welcome! Call Betty at 613-722-9038 for more information.

**Tuesday Morning Book Study Group:** We are studying "I am Woman" by Lee Maracle and will be looking at Chapter 1 on Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Living Into Right Relations Circle (LRRC):** First Wednesday of every month, in the Chapel at 7 p.m. For information on Book Club and Right Relations Circle, contact Diana Claire Douglas [inspiritworks@sympatico.ca](mailto:inspiritworks@sympatico.ca) and Sharon Moon [sharonmoon@gmail.com](mailto:sharonmoon@gmail.com).

**Healing Pathway:** Offer Yourself the Gift of Self-Care and Healing Hands. Tuesdays and occasional Sundays after church. All are welcome to receive. There is no cost. You can find out more in the pamphlets on the bulletin board and at the back of the church. Contact [healingpathway2010@gmail.com](mailto:healingpathway2010@gmail.com) to make an appointment.

## Updates from the Living Into Right Relations Circle

Invites you to browse/borrow books or to add your name to the 57 others who have taken up the Reading Challenge to read the TRC Report and plan on joining us for a Lenten Series - **Water is speaking to us but are we listening?** which will be held over 5 Wednesdays from March 8<sup>th</sup> until April 5<sup>th</sup>.

## THE WEEKLY LIVING INTO RIGHT RELATIONS BOOK STUDY STARTS A NEW YEAR!

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. in Room 5/6

To begin 2017 and Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> year of celebration we have chosen Lee Maracle's book "I Am Woman" and, for reflection, Richard Wagamese's book "Embers" to help us on our journey of reconciliation.

I AM WOMAN – Lee Maracle is a Canadian First Nation Coast Salish poet and author. She gives a Native perspective on Sociology and Feminism and represents her personal struggle with womanhood and culture, and traditional spiritual beliefs and political sovereignty.

EMBERS: ONE OJIBWAY'S MEDITATIONS – These are small meditations that arise from Richard Wagamese's early morning readings when "he is enveloped in Ojibway Ceremony, protocol and ritual, ringed by strong words on faith, love, resilience, mindfulness and calm."

Chapters at Kanata Centrum has 2 copies of I Am Woman and the Barrhaven Chapters has 2 copies of Embers. Call ahead to be sure they still have one for you.

We welcome any newcomers. For information: Sue Taylor -613-695-1146 or [susanne\\_taylor@rogers.com](mailto:susanne_taylor@rogers.com)

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# SOCIAL JUSTICE

Sunday, January 22, 2017 4:00 pm

The Christian Council of the Capital Area invites you to...

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Theme: Reconciliation: The Love of Christ compels us

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 400 Sparks Street

Living in Right Relations Circle invites you to view the film

"We Can't Make the Same Mistake Twice"

Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm in the Chapel

Join us for a special screening of the NFB's newly released film by Alanis Obomsawin which is the long awaited documentary based on Cindy Blackstock's and the AFN's Human Rights challenge to the Canadian Government on discriminatory welfare access for children on Canadian Native Reserves.

In 2007, the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada and the Assembly of First Nations filed a complaint against Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada, accusing it of discrimination. They argued that the family and child support services made available to First Nations children on reserves and in Yukon were underfunded and inferior to those offered to other Canadian children. Indigenous children were also six to eight times more likely to be placed in foster care—more often than not in non-Native homes. This situation was reminiscent of the assimilation and trauma caused by residential schools, which was also widely discussed during the trial.

Including the many appeals, the legal process spanned nine long years before finally ending in victory for the plaintiffs in 2016. ***We Can't Make the Same Mistake Twice*** gives a voice to those involved in this legal battle, notably Cindy Blackstock, Executive Director of the FNCFCSC, who endured government spying and retaliation as a result of her central role in the trial. Abenaki filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin guides us through the intricacies of the legal system while never losing sight of the real issues at stake: the welfare of children and the survival of Indigenous cultures.

Trans-Script

Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, at Riverside United Church, 7:00 p.m.

The Faith and Arts Ottawa theatre production about love and relationships in the context of the transgender experience will be presented at Riverside United Church, 3191 Riverside Drive, Ottawa. Free-will offering.

This play was presented on the opening night of the 2016 Affirm United Conference in July, and at Orleans, First and Rideau Park United Churches as well as Carleton University, Algonquin College and Sir Wilfrid Laurier High School in 2016. It will also be performed at the Ottawa-Carleton board-wide professional development day on February 24, 2017. For further information, email [tom.sherwood@carleton.ca](mailto:tom.sherwood@carleton.ca)

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