

First Glance

February 19th, 2017

(613) 232-1016 office@firstunitedchurchottawa.org



Saturday March 4, 2017
@ 7:30 pm

First United Church
347 Richmond Road, Ottawa

Free Will Offering (receipts for
donations over \$20)

Songs for Shelter

A Concert to Benefit "The Haven"
a Multifaith Housing Initiative Project

Featuring Bob Chilcott's "A Little Jazz Mass"

Choirs of **First United** and **Trinity United** in Ottawa

directed by Marg Stubington and James McGowan

with Tom Denison, Bass and Valeriy Nehovora, Drums



For more info on "The Haven" see:
<http://www.multifaithhousing.ca/the-haven.html>

A Lenten Spirit Journey

Water is Speaking: Are we Listening?

*Indigenous Perspective on Water, our Sacred
Response*

Wednesdays March 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5

Brochures are available to describe these five inspiring evenings with keynote speakers that include water rituals, music, and invigorating conversations. You will not want to miss being a part of these evenings sponsored by First United's Living into Right Relations Circle.

Your assistance is required for the Water is Speaking - Are we Listening Lenten Series. The topics, speakers and process for the series have been set. We now require help with set-up, welcoming and shut-down for each evening. You can sign up at the table in the Labyrinth room this morning or email maryanne.macd@gmail.com of your commitment. Thank-you.

Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, March 5th following Sunday Worship

Join us for our Annual Meeting where we will celebrate our congregational life as well as share our annual reports as we continue to live into our three commitments:

- i) Our commitment to spiritual nature in community
- ii) Our commitment to healing
- iii) Our commitment to social and ecological justice

At this meeting we will receive our financial report for 2016, adopt our budget for 2017, name priorities for the upcoming year, and elect our Church Council. **Everyone is asked to bring a loaf of sandwiches**, and the simple luncheon is being organized by Gwen Robinson. If you are interested in helping, please contact the office. **Activities for children and childcare will be provided.**

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First United: An Affirming Congregation

NEWS FROM FIRST UNITED

Upcoming Sundays At First United

February 26th The Depth Wisdom and Teaching within “the narrow gate”
Choral Anthem: *The Road Home* – Stephen Paulus

Lent

Good News: Stories Alive with Grace and Truth

This Lent we will be reflecting on stories told in the gospel of John. These narratives are multi-layered, a layering that helps us to connect with our deepest feelings. In reflecting on these stories we encounter moments of stark honesty and surprising humour, encounters which surface both tears and laughter.

February 28th Pancake Supper from 5:30 to 7:00 (volunteers needed, contact the office)

March 1st Ash Wednesday Service at 7:15 p.m.

March 5th Water into Wine: The Wedding at Cana
Choral Anthem: *I Will Sing* – Rosephayne Powell

March 12th Living Water: The Samaritan Woman at the Well
Choral Anthem: *Sanctus and Benedictus* – Bob Chilcott

March 19th Healing Waters: The Pool of Bethesda
Choral Anthem: *I've Been in the Storm So Long* – spiritual, Mark Hayes

March 26th Let the River Run: Jesus Halts a Stoning
Choral Anthem: *Let the River Run* – Carly Simon, arr. C.H. Johnson

April 2nd God's Resurrecting love. The Raising of Lazarus
Choral Anthem: *I Hunger and Thirst* – trad. Shaker Song, Kevin Siegfried

Members of First are invited to Lenten Studies offered by ASW

Living the Questions, (Tuesdays February 21st to March 21st from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm) offered by John Wilker-Blakley is a series of conversations stimulated by contemporary biblical and theological thinkers. To register call the ASW office 613-725-9478.

Reflections on the Book of Genesis (Tuesdays March 28th, April 4, 18, 25, and May 2nd from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm) is a five week course offered by Ray Van Leeuwen, a professor of Old Testament. To register call the ASW office at 613-725-9478.

Into Our Collective Hearts

Where the Personal and Collective Meet

Diana Claire Douglas is offering this opportunity to join with others exploring new ways to become sacred activists ready to serve the larger collective. Even in the face of many societal challenges (climate change, polarized politics, refugees, right relations with indigenous people etc) let's co-create the most beautiful world our hearts can imagine!

Tuesday Feb 21 from 6:30 to 9:30 in the Chancel of First United Church

Contact dianaclairedouglas@bell.net 613-799-1343 and see flyers for more details

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SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

WEEKLY/MONTHLY SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS

Young Adults Gathering: Tuesday, February 21st in the kitchen at the church.
For more information, contact Amelia Buchanan at abuch078@uottawa.ca

Queer Group Potluck: Monday, February 27th at the home of Brian Cornelius, 7 Edgar Street.
For more information, contact Brian or Chantel Nantel at cnantel555@gmail.com

Parents with Small Children: Our next gathering is Saturday, March 4th gathering at 4:45 pm to begin our potluck supper at 5:00 pm. Childcare is provided beginning at 5:20 pm leaving opportunity for parents to explore faith and life together.

Monday Christian Meditation: Every Monday at 5:30 pm in the Chapel.
For more information: Joyce Hardman jhardman@rogers.com or Liz Tyrwhitt 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.
For information, please contact Sue Taylor at susanne_taylor@rogers.com.

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 at inspiritworks@sympatico.ca or Sharon Moon 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 to make an appointment.

Creating a new Circle of Connection and Conversation at First United Last Wednesday of the Month (February 22nd) from 6 pm to 7 pm

WE ARE BUILDING A MENTAL HEALTH POSITIVE (MH+) SPACE.
CHECK YOUR STIGMA AT THE DOOR.

Look to your left, look to your right. Chances are one of the three of you will be diagnosed with mental illness in your lifetime. Chances are certain that all of you will struggle with your mental health at some point in your lifetime – during financial difficulties, at the death of a loved one, when a romantic relationship ends badly.

So why is it still so difficult to talk about?

In a MH+ space, we affirm that mental health and illness are *normal*, and we fight against pervasive stigma. We are peers who talk and listen and support one another.

For more information, contact Jessica Ward-King at j.ward-king@hotmail.com

JourneyDance

Classes on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month (Feb 24th, March 10th, March 24th)

Hard Times Require Furious Dancing

Contact drkhowell@hotmail.com and see flyers for more details

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SOCIAL JUSTICE

Available on the back table
A Letter of Solidarity for Our Muslim Neighbours
From Moderator Jordan Cantwell

No Mining on Algonquin Land

Community Fundraiser for Barrière Lake

March 11, 2017 5:00-8:00 p.m. at First United

The Living in Right Relations Circle of First United is being supportive of community efforts to protect land and resources in the Barriere Lake region, and invites you to join them for...

- Chili Supper
- Raffle prizes
- Performers and speakers
- Kids welcome

\$20 or pay what you can

Letter of Thanks from Multi-Faith Housing Initiative

On the bulletin board downstairs is a letter of thanks for the \$6,279 given to *The Haven* project by the congregation of First United Church. The 98 unit project is nearing completion and many of the new residents will be families leaving temporary shelters for a new "home" where the values of inclusion, safety, affordability, and community are sustained.

Update on Our Partnership with ASW

This April 1st, we celebrate 10 years of partnership with All Saints Anglican.

Celebration of our Partnership: In the coming weeks, we will be sharing ways we will celebrate and mark our 10 years of sharing faith together.

Review of our Partnership: To keep our partnership healthy, we take time to review our relationship and agreement every five years. A review process engaged 24 persons a week ago (12 from each congregation) and a report from this meeting will be forthcoming. The conversation was very healthy and life-giving as both partners expressed deep appreciation for the partnership.

Property Improvements: The Joint Property Committee (First's representatives are Neil McFadyen, Howard Clark, and Chris Carlson and from ASW are Lamar Mason, Doug Fisher, and Bryan Bonnel) has many projects on the go. Over the next two years, you will see extensive painting, a refurbishment of the Labyrinth Room (hope you are enjoying the new lights), and many other "unseen" projects as the integrity of the building is maintained. We are thankful for all the extensive work that they do.

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