

First Glance

March 5th, 2017

(613) 232-1016 office@firstunitedchurchottawa.org

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

The first of our series of 5 evenings on "Water is Speaking: Are We listening? Indigenous Perspectives on Water: Our Sacred Resource

Grandmother Francine Payer *The Sacredness of Water in Indigenous Culture*

We are blessed to be celebrating International Women's Day with Grandmother Francine who will offer sacred teachings about water; women's role with water in Indigenous culture; and share with us a water ceremony from her Anishanabe Tradition.

Wednesday, March 8 The Sanctuary, First United 7 to 9pm
Doors open at 6:40

In respect for Indigenous ceremony, women are encouraged to wear skirts. Please no store-bought plastic bottled water. It is fine to bring your own glass or metal water bottles. Women will be using sticks to accompany the water songs. If possible please bring your own sticks: approx 12 inches long x 1 inch in diameter, bark still on, found on the ground - NO cutting branches from live trees.

Men's Group Meeting

A reminder, the first get-together is at Donna's Express (Churchill & Scott) at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, March 12 (RSVPs to Paul Durber at pdurber@rogers.com).

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 Barrière Lake region, and invites you to join them for...

- Chili Supper and Raffle prizes
- Performers and speakers \$20 or pay what you can
- Kids welcome

www.firstunitedchurchottawa.org

First United: An Affirming Congregation

NEWS FROM FIRST UNITED

Lent

Good News: Stories Alive with Grace and Truth

Throughout 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.

March 5 th	Water into Wine: The Wedding at Cana Choral Anthem: <i>I Will Sing</i> – Rosephayne Powell
March 12 th	Living Water: The Samaritan Woman at the Well Choral Anthem: <i>Sanctus and Benedictus</i> – Bob Chilcott
March 19 th	Healing Waters: The Pool of Bethesda Choral Anthem: <i>I've Been in the Storm So Long</i> – spiritual, Mark Hayes
March 26 th	Let the River Run: Jesus Halts a Stoning Choral Anthem: <i>Let the River Run</i> – Carly Simon, arr. C.H. Johnson
April 2 nd	God's Resurrecting love. The Raising of Lazarus Choral Anthem: <i>I Hunger and Thirst</i> – trad. Shaker Song, Kevin Siegfried

Earth Hour - Shine a Light on Climate Action

March 25th - 8:30-9:30 pm

We will mark Earth Hour with a community gathering in the sanctuary on Saturday, March 25th between 8:30 and 9:30 pm. There will be time for song, for reflection and for sharing thoughts on the importance of Earth Hour. For further information contact Maryanne MacDonald at maryanne.macd@gmail.com

Sue Taylor will be leaving our congregation and Ottawa to begin another chapter on her journey. Join us for a finger food potluck farewell gathering on March 24th between 3:00 and 6:30 pm in the Party Room at 1081 Ambleside Drive. Bring a favourite memory of your relationship with Sue for sharing in a memory book. For further info contact the office or Maryanne MacDonald at maryanne.macd@gmail.com

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

<u>To February 28</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
General Fund	31,446	31,055	34,200	(3,145)
Mission & Service	5,483	5,301	5,800	(499)

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

WEEKLY/MONTHLY SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS

Young Adults Potluck Gathering: Tuesday, March 21st at Brian's house at 7 Edgar Street.
For more information, contact Amelia Buchanan at abuch078@uottawa.ca

Queer Group Potluck: Tuesday, March 28th 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 Potluck: Our next gathering is Saturday, April 1st 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.

Mental Health (MH+) Postive Space: Our next gathering is Wednesday March 15th, a chance to talk about mental health where stigmas are "checked at the door" . Contact is Jessica Ward-King King@hotmail.com

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.

More "Remits"

As a democratic "bottom up" church, remits are "votes" within the United Church of Canada whenever major changes are considered. On Sunday March 19 (after worship) and Tuesday March 21 (7-8:30), everyone is invited to come and learn about, discuss and provide wisdom two remits titled Office of Vocation and One Order of Ministry. This discussion will be facilitated by Wendy Snelgrove and Susan Chambers, who will offer a brief overview, and then invite some in our congregation who have experience related to these two remits. While not necessary to read in advance in order to participate in the conversation, if you are interested in getting more information, please visit <http://www.gc42.ca/remits>.

JourneyDance

Classes on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month (March 10th, March 24th, April 7th, April 21st)

Hard Times Require Furious Dancing

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

www.firstunitedchurchottawa.org

First United: An Affirming Congregation

SOCIAL JUSTICE

WESTBORO REGION FOOD BANK



Our food bank has a material request

The Westboro Region Food Bank's clients don't always have strong bags to carry their food. If you have lots of cloth grocery bags and can spare a few, the WRFB can put them to good use. You can simply hang them on the door of the food bank. (From the Madison entrance of the church, take the stairs down and to the left. At the end of the hall, turn left again and you're at the WRFB.)

Volunteers are also needed for a variety of tasks. Your commitment can be once-only or weekly—or as frequently as you can manage. Our website gives more information. Please go to <http://westborofoodbank.wixsite.com/westborofoodbank> and click 'Volunteer' or email WestboroRegionFoodBank@gmail.com.

Thanks so much for your ongoing support and interest in the Westboro Region Food Bank!

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 Bonell) 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.