

First Glance

April 23rd, 2017

(613) 232-1016 office@firstunitedchurchottawa.org



Multifaith Housing Initiative warmly invites you to our annual **Tulipathon** scheduled for **Sunday, May 7th at three o'clock** near Dows Lake at Commissioners Park.

This walkathon brings faith groups together in support of affordable housing. Last year, over 40 different faith communities across Ottawa participated and we raised over \$27K!

The 3.2 km walk through the Tulip Festival area is a great opportunity to get outside and refreshments offer a chance to engage with other faith communities.

Bicycles for Syrian Refugees

We are looking for 4 bikes for the four School age children in the large Syrian refugee family that arrived in late December. We need suitable bikes for the 2 twins, a boy and girl in grade 6 and one bike each for the girls in grade 8 and 9; any accessories like locks, panniers, etc. would be appreciated. Also is there anyone able to help us with tune ups/ minor repairs for these bikes? If you can help please contact Shirley Paton at patonshirley@gmail.com

Lawn Signs in Arabic, French and English

Lawn signs which say "*No matter where you are from, we're glad you're our neighbour*" have arrived. We ask for a \$10.00 donation for printing costs and to support our refugee ministry.

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First United: An Affirming Congregation

NEWS FROM FIRST UNITED

A Sabbatical Time at First United

Our minister, Brian, is on sabbatical taking time for spiritual renewal as well as reflecting on creative congregational responses to societal changes impacting church life. Sabbatical shifts our routines that can rejuvenate the whole community and provide energy for new insights and perspectives to emerge.

Our whole congregation are “ministers”. To facilitate our work, Peter Farris-Manning is hired as a Sabbatical Logistics Coordinator (peter@firstunitedchurchottawa.org). Peter will coordinate responses to incoming requests and is supported by a Sabbatical Team--Norman Ball (staff and refugees) Jane Ellis (finance and administration), and Carol McMurdo-Paton (spiritual nurture and pastoral care). The Presbytery appointed Howard Clark as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor for additional support.

In addition to our ongoing networks of pastoral care (i.e. Healing Pathway, TGIF, etc) we have a list of congregational volunteers and retired ministers who are available to offer pastoral support, and contact can be made with Peter or the Church Administrator, Margo.

Our Sunday services, supported by Marg and Peter, highlight the leadership and ministries that embody our congregational commitments to spiritual nurture in community, to healing, and to social and ecological justice.

April 30 th	<i>Psalms of Faith</i> Leadership by Choir	Coordinator: Marg Stubington
May 7 th	<i>Listening to the Echo – And Beyond (with Holy Communion)</i> Leadership of Voluntary Associate Ministers - Ellie Barrington & Tom Sherwood	
May 14 th	<i>What I find at Church that I can't find on Netflix</i> Leadership by Young Adults	Coordinator: Amelia Buchanan
May 21 st	<i>Hope in Times when it is Difficult to Hope</i> Ministry of Youth and Youth Leaders	Coordinator: Wendy Snelgrove
May 28 th	<i>Seeds of Hope</i> Leadership by Social Justice Activists	Coordinator: Marika Morris
June 4 th	<i>Spirit Alive (Pentecost Sunday with Holy Communion)</i> Leadership by Healing Pathway Ministry - Howard Clark & Sharon Moon	
June 11 th	<i>Sacred Dance: Rituals for Reverence</i> Leadership by JourneyDance	Coordinator: Kathleen Howell
June 18 th	<i>Je suis Donald: A response to Narcissism</i> Leadership from those inspired by the Arts	Coordinator: Jane Sly
June 25 th	<i>Indigenous Sunday</i> Leadership by Living into Right Relations Circle	Coordinator: Diana Douglas

Leadership has been identified for Sundays from July 2nd to August 6th. Brian returns on Sunday August 13th, and during the Fall, there will be time to integrate learnings from this sabbatical time as we nurture a vibrant future together.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

WEEKLY/MONTHLY SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS

Young Adults Potluck Gathering: Tuesday, May 16th in the kitchen at the church beginning at 6:15. For more information, contact Amelia Buchanan at abuch078@uottawa.ca

Queer Group Potluck: Tuesday, April 25th at the home of Paul Durber, 375 Third Avenue beginning at 6:15. For more information, contact Brian or Chantel Nantel at cnantel555@gmail.com

Parents with Small Children Potluck: Our next gathering is Saturday, May 6th 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.

STORYTELLING

Storytelling is an ancient oral art. Once both educator and entertainment, now a rare treat. A tale needs a beginning, middle, end. Come join us after refreshments in room 5/6 after church service to hear two stories and to talk about what telling a story means to you.

April 30, 2017 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm Room 5/6
Questions? ruth.stewartverger@gmail.com [613-722-8402](tel:613-722-8402)

EXTREME HUNGER APPEAL



The United Church of Canada is launching an [Extreme Hunger Appeal](#) as the humanitarian crisis in Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen reaches grave levels. Starvation and extreme hunger are rapidly reaching a scale the world has not seen before in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen. There is also extreme hunger, malnutrition, and starvation in Kenya. Vulnerable people are most impacted, including children.

If you wish to give to this special fund of Mission & Service, please make your donation to **First United**, but mark it clearly for the "Extreme Hunger Appeal."

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SOCIAL JUSTICE

Itinerant Identities: The Intersections of Religion, Gender, and Diaspora

May 1st, 2017 9am-3pm 303 Paterson Hall, Carleton University.

Esther Guillen is chairing this year's Religion Colloquium at Carleton University. Students from Carleton and other universities will be presenting on a variety of topics that you may find interesting. To receive a list of paper topics, please email Esther at the address below, or check out the poster at the Madison Ave door.

Kosher lunch and refreshments will be provided throughout the day for those who RSVP. If you have any questions, and to RSVP, please email estherguillen@cmail.carleton.ca.

EARTH GROUP

Hazardous Waste Special Collection - **Sunday, May 7, 2017**

Tunney's Pasture 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sir Frederick Banting Drive Residential electronic waste is also accepted at this site.

VOLUNTEER AS A COMMITTEE TEAM MEMBER WITH MHI

MHI is recruiting passionate volunteers to serve on the following Volunteer Committees:

Resident Relations Committee

Housing Management Committee

Membership and Outreach Committee

Communications Committee

Development Committee

Committee members meet once a month to make decisions that drive MHI.



To volunteer or for more information, please contact our Manager of Community Engagement, Sahada Alolo:

Phone 613.686.1825

Email mhi.sahada.alolo@gmail.com

You may also visit www.multifaithhousing.ca to apply.



Since 1985, Upstream Ottawa has been a not-for-profit agency that empowers youth and adults with mental health challenges in their pursuit of a fulfilling life. As part of Upstream's activities many of its clients attend the First Connections lunches held at First United each month.

We are currently seeking volunteers to join the Upstream community for the following positions:

- Volunteer Driver, Volunteer Handyman/Handywoman, Social Media/SEO Marketing Volunteer, Newsletter Content Creator Volunteer

If you would like to learn more about the following openings, please contact Reyna Vega at 613-248-3330 Ext. 401 or email rvega@upstreamottawa.ca Please visit our website: www.upstreamottawa.ca

Green Churches Network Forum

Our 2017 Green Churches Network Forum will be held in Ottawa on May 11th, 2017. The theme of our Forum is "Celebrating the Spirit of Creation". We want to celebrate in conjunction with the celebrations taking place throughout the National Capital for Canada's 150th anniversary. As believers, we see Creation manifested in abundance in our home and native land. This event will also be a testimonial of thanksgiving for the beauty and greatness of God's work in our country from coast to coast to coast. – for more information, see poster on bulletin board

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