

# First Glance

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

(613) 232-1016 [office@firstunitedchurchottawa.org](mailto:office@firstunitedchurchottawa.org)

## ***WELCOME LUNCHEON, MAY 28<sup>TH</sup>***



If you started coming to First United in the last few months, the Welcoming Team would like to invite you to a casual luncheon on May 28<sup>th</sup>, right after the service. This is an opportunity to ask questions about the church, get information and meet a few more folks in the congregation—and we promise to finish by 2:00 pm so that you can get on with your day.

In order to plan the food, we'd like to finalize the numbers a week before the event. If you are interested, please contact the church office at [office@firstunitedchurchottawa.org](mailto:office@firstunitedchurchottawa.org) or call our church secretary Margo den Haan (613) 232-1016 by May 19<sup>th</sup>.

We look forward to meeting you!

## **GOOD SAMARITANS INTER-FAITH FOOD DRIVE**

Through the **Good Samaritans** Inter-Faith Food Drive, religions are working together cooperatively for the public good. Beyond the issues arising in these troubling times, this inter-faith, cooperative activity highlights the value religious believers bring to civic life, as engaged citizens committed to Rev. Martin Luther King's "Beloved Community", social justice and caring for the most vulnerable among us. Non-believers are also welcome to participate. **Places of Worship can deliver their food donations to our central drop-off point at the Ottawa Mosque, 251 Northwestern Avenue @ Scott St., on Friday May 12 from 3 to 7 pm, Saturday, May 13 from Noon to 7 pm or Sunday, May 14 from 1 to 7 pm.**

*In partnership with the Capital Region Interfaith Council, Ottawa Muslim Association and the Women's Federation for World Peace - Ottawa*

## **STRAWBERRY HIGH TEA**

You're invited! Please join us on Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> for this special event, which is a fund-raiser for the **Cornerstone Housing for Women** Princeton Project. There will be two sittings for tea, one at noon and one at 3 pm., with a concert in between, at 1:30 pm. Gluten-free food will be available. Tickets are \$40 and must be purchased in advance. Tickets will be available at coffee hour following Sunday worship, and in the ASW office Tuesday through Friday, 2-4 pm, Monday 9:30 am -1 pm, and Tuesday 10-11am. Scrumptious sandwiches, delectable desserts, strawberries and cream, and of course tea, plus a concert by the accomplished band, Fumblin' Fingers, who will entertain us with lively music that celebrates Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>. Participate in the very worthwhile effort to provide safe, affordable housing for women in need -- all this for \$40! For more information contact [Marcie.taylor@hotmail.com](mailto:Marcie.taylor@hotmail.com) or [613-321-9093](tel:613-321-9093).

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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](mailto: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.

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

Leadership has been identified for Sundays from July 2<sup>nd</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>. Brian returns on Sunday August 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 16<sup>th</sup> in the kitchen at the church beginning at 6:15. For more information, contact Amelia Buchanan at [abuch078@uottawa.ca](mailto:abuch078@uottawa.ca)

**Queer Group Potluck:** Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at the home of Paul Durber, 375 Third Avenue beginning at 6:15. For more information, contact Chantel Nantel at [cnantel555@gmail.com](mailto:cnantel555@gmail.com)

**Parents with Small Children Potluck:** TBA

**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. For information, please contact Maryanne MacDonald [maryanne.macd@gmail.com](mailto:maryanne.macd@gmail.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](mailto:inspiritworks@sympatico.ca) or 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.

## Into Our Collective Heart

**Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** from 6:30 to 9:30 in the Chancel of First United Church  
Diana Claire Douglas is offering a monthly gathering: "Into Our Collective Heart: Where the Personal and Collective Meet." Join with others exploring new ways to become sacred activists ready to serve the larger collective. Even in the face of so 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! This is an open group. New participants welcome!  
[dianaclairedouglas@bell.net](mailto:dianaclairedouglas@bell.net)    [613-799-1343](tel:613-799-1343)

## Inaugural "FOR OUR GRANDCHILDREN" Ottawa Meeting

**Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm room 5/6  
The vision of For Our Grandchildren (4RG) is to connect and empower grandparents and prospective grandparents who are concerned about the impending effects of climate change, and enable them to join a movement to counter and prepare for these effects on behalf of all of our children and grandchildren. Those interested in forming an Ottawa chapter of 4RG will meet to discuss the possibilities of influencing and encouraging political leaders to take effective action against Climate Change. If you plan to attend please contact Maryanne at [maryanne.macd@gmail.com](mailto:maryanne.macd@gmail.com).

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# SOCIAL JUSTICE

## Westboro Region Food Bank update

We're seeing an increase in the numbers of individuals and households served by the WRFB. Here are the monthly averages for the past few years:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u> (to March 31)
Individuals:	241	273	274	261	231	263	318
Households:	103	115	112	111	103	118	128

While we have been able to help everyone who has come to the food bank, we do need and appreciate your continued support.

If you would like information on volunteering with the WRFB, please go to the website <http://westborofoodbank.wixsite.com/westborofoodbank/volunteer> or send an email to [WestboroRegionFoodBank@gmail.com](mailto:WestboroRegionFoodBank@gmail.com).

## EARTH GROUP

Free Tree Saplings offered by Ecology Ottawa at various community events. Check out their website at [ecologyottawa.ca](http://ecologyottawa.ca) for more information.

## SPRING JAZZ SOCIAL

**Saturday, May 13th** at 7:00 pm  
435 Via Verona Avenue in Barrhaven (off Longfields)

Come and see the newly-opened MHI affordable housing community, **the Haven**. Enjoy an evening of Jazz with Peter Woods and the Evensong Ensemble while sampling delicious Syrian canapés made by Yasmin, Syrian Food from the Heart.

Tickets are \$60/ person, and includes a \$30 donation to MHI. Tickets available through Eventbrite.

The Ottawa Presbytery and United Churches of Ottawa have committed to fundraising \$100,000 to support the development of the Haven, a new affordable housing community in Barrhaven.

## AVAILABLE AT THE HAVEN - ACCESSIBLE UNITS!



1-and 2-bedroom units at below-market rent for those who qualify  
Apply with the Social Housing Registry  
2197 Riverside Drive, 5th Floor  
Ottawa, ON K1H 1A9  
(t) [613.526.2088](tel:613.526.2088) [www.housingregistry.ca](http://www.housingregistry.ca)

## INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA, AND BIPHOBIA

The International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia takes place around the world on May 17<sup>th</sup>. This day emphasizes that homophobia, transphobia, and biphobia are still the reality in the daily lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans members of our communities.

For more information, see the United Church website: <http://www.united-church.ca/worship-special-days>

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