

First Glance

June 25th, 2017

(613) 232-1016 office@firstunitedchurchottawa.org



WESTBORO REGION FOOD BANK 'BUNDLE BUGGY' REQUEST AND UPDATE

Do you happen to have a 'bundle buggy'—a **folding, wheeled grocery or utility cart**—sitting unused in your basement or garage? Some of our clients have trouble carrying their WRFB food; a compact grocery cart would make things much easier. If you would like to donate one, please leave it in the office. A client with mobility issues will make good use of it!

The month of **May numbers** in the last three years have increased significantly: 189 individuals served in May 2015, 255 in 2016 and 272 in 2017.

And the **monthly averages for those years** have gone up, too: 231 in 2015, 263 in 2016 and 305 in 2017.

Your support continues to be needed and much appreciated. More information about our food bank is available at <http://westborofoodbank.wixsite.com/westborofoodbank>.

SHARE YOUR WATER IMAGES

Building on the Lenten water series, we are planning an art show for the fall: photographs, paintings, drawings, fibre art . . . called **This Is Water**. So gather up to five of your favourite creations to display on the dividers in the Labyrinth Room. Children's art is of course welcome. More details in September. Contact: Judith Miller j3miller@uwaterloo.ca; Maryanne Macdonald maryanne.macd@gmail.com; Joyce Hardman jhardman@rogers.com

FABRIC FROM YOUR STASH??

We are looking for fabric for a New Canadian Mom who wants to sew dresses for her high school daughters and shirts and pants for her elementary school age son. If you have appropriate fabric in your "stash" that you are willing to part with, contact Ruth Stewart-Verger [613 722 8402](tel:6137228402) ruth.stewartverger@gmail.com

www.firstunitedchurchottawa.org

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.

- July 2nd Leadership offered by Jason Swan
- July 9th Leadership offered by Paul Durber
- July 16th Finding Silence and Stillness
Leadership offered by Patti Robillard, Margaret Ault, and Norman Ball
- July 23rd Leadership offered by Cathy McBride
- July 30th Leadership offered by Pat Lindsey
- August 6th Leadership offered by Esther Guillen

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.

Please note that Margo's office hours during the summer will be Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Phones and email will be checked regularly.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

WEEKLY/MONTHLY SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS

Young Adults Potluck Gathering: Tuesday, July 18th at 6:15 p.m. - picnic at Westboro Beach. For more information, contact Amelia Buchanan at abuch078@uottawa.ca

Queer Group Potluck: Next potluck on Sept. 29th. See you in the fall! For more information, contact Chantel Nantel at 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 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: No meetings over the summer. We will meet again in September to discuss "Indigenous Healing" by Rupert Ross. For information, please contact Maryanne MacDonald maryanne.macd@gmail.com.

Living Into Right Relations Circle (LRRC): 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.**

SOCIAL JUSTICE

FREE CONCERT

BIG SOUL PROJECT - Canadian hit songs

Sunday, July 9th, 6:00 pm

Lansdowne Park, South Court Under the direction of Roxanne Goodman With Deep Groove Band

Pride prayer and United Church statement on Pride worldwide

The United Church offers us both a prayer for Pride (<http://www.united-church.ca/prayers/pride-prayer>) and a reflection on Pride Month (<http://www.united-church.ca/news/solidarity-lgbtq-people-chechnya-and-around-world>).

Iridesce: The Living Apology project launches website

IRIDESCE: The Living Apology Project seeks to inspire and reconcile people of diverse sexual, romantic, and gender expressions and identities within The United Church of Canada. This project, approved by the 42nd General Council, is a vehicle for dialogue, story-telling, and education with gender- and sexually-diverse communities. www.iridesce.ca