



# Reach Out

Glen Cairn United Church Newsletter



Sunday Service 9:30 AM

140 Abbeyhill Dr. Kanata, K2L 1H5

ADVENT 2008

***We are called by God to be a welcoming church where we respect differences and build Christian community, as we learn, grow, celebrate, and reach out in faith.***

## Worship Committee

*submitted by David Rothwell, Chairperson*

With the changing seasons, there have also been many changes in the Worship Committee. With the sudden passing of Susan Postin in the Spring, the Committee lost a hard-working and energetic Chairperson. In October, David Rothwell volunteered to accept leadership of the Committee. While David is not new to the position, as he was previously Chair from 1999 to 2005, the need to find Supply Ministry to start during the busy Advent season has added an extra challenge.

As well as working with Ministry and Personnel to secure Supply Ministry, David has also taken on the role of Chairing the Search Committee to select our permanent Minister. Joining David will be Kathryn Young-Davies, Erwin Lucas, Susan McMullin, Kari Sparkes, and Ken Klassen. In January, their work will start in earnest once the Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) report has been received.

Since September, when Reverend Sherwin announced that he had accepted a new calling, the M&P Committee has been working with Presbytery to find Supply Ministry to cover the period from November 30<sup>th</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, when we expect that a new Minister will be arriving. A search and selection Committee, composed of Anne McEwen, Martha Townshend Colford and David Rothwell, was tasked by Council to make a recommendation on potential candidates.

After a rapid and stressful period of searching and interviewing, this Committee is delighted to announce that we have been successful in finding an exceptional husband and wife team, Garth Mundle and Dorothy Naylor, to provide Supply Ministry until next June. We are truly blessed to have found them. Garth, an ordained Minister, and Dorothy, a Diaconal Minister, have a wealth of experience in team ministry, as well as in interim ministry.

Garth and Dorothy have recently "retired" from Alberta to Ottawa to be closer to their grandchildren. They have three grown children and three grandchildren. They are currently members of the First United con-

gregation. They enjoy travel, camping, music, theatre, reading, and entertaining. Both have enjoyed cross-country skiing. Garth also does downhill and is a motorcyclist. As a volunteer, Garth has organized and led Global Exposure Tours for the Centre for Christian Studies to the Middle East, Africa, and India. Dorothy, until recently, edited the Centre's newsletter and pursues her interest in genealogy. Garth is a native of Pugwash, Nova Scotia, and Dorothy of Brampton, Ontario. Dorothy has special interests and experience in biblical studies and congregational dynamics. Garth has sought to keep abreast of developments in Theology, Psychology, Religion, and Culture - and more recently in the relationship between Religion and Science.

Garth's academic experience includes degrees from Mount Allison University, Pine Hill Theological School, and a Doctor of Ministry from Andover Newton Theological School in Massachusetts. Dorothy received her formal education at the Toronto Teachers' College, the Centre for Christian Studies, and Queen's University.

In this short space, I cannot begin to do justice to Garth and Dorothy's wealth of experience in ministry. Their career highlights include, for example, appointments to eight team interim ministry positions in the last few years; Garth being Principal of St. Stephen's Theological College in Edmonton for 15 years; Garth filling in as Minister of Scarboro United Church in Calgary while Very Rev. Bill Phillips acted as UC Moderator; team ministry at Trinity UC in Cobourg, Ontario; Dorothy leading church amalgamations in Edmonton and Medicine Hat; and many, many more.

We look forward to welcoming Dorothy and Garth into our congregation over the next seven months. Given their tremendous experience, they have agreed to work with Council and our various committees to take a fresh look at Glen Cairn as we prepare to accept a permanent Minister in the New Year. It will be a time of reflection, renewal, and fun. Garth and Dorothy bring the gifts of openness, energy, and humour which will be gratefully received by our Glen Cairn community as we begin our dance together.

## Church Council

*submitted by Wayne Johnston, Chairperson*

Endings and beginnings, sadness and joy, partings and greetings. In the next week we will go through all of these. We will thank David and his family in many ways, shed some tears, and watch David move on to his new congregation and new challenges. We'll wish him well and turn, perhaps with uncertainty, to the road that lies ahead of us.

We'll greet our new ministers, Reverend Garth Mundle and Reverend Dorothy Naylor, with anticipation in our hearts and a little nervousness in our voices. We'll begin the new Christian year. We'll hum Christmas carols.

And that brings me to my beginning. I'll chair my first Council meeting. I'm happy to be working with this wonderful group of people who lead the work of our church. I'm happy to be a part of that work; to be able to look towards the future and the church that we will become. There will be a lot of work over the next year as we go through the changes that new ministry brings. I look forward to doing that work with you.

## Ministry and Personnel Committee

*submitted by Anne McEwen, Chairperson*

The M & P Committee has had a very busy Fall this year. In September, we welcomed our new Youth Group Leader, Shelley McLaughlin. She has become a wonderful addition to our church staff and has brought much enthusiasm to the group. M & P is also very grateful for her transition team of Heather MacDonald, Cindy Samulack, and Diana Miller. They meet with Shelley to provide resources or information about our congregation.

The process to replace David is proceeding at full speed. The Joint Needs Assessment Committee is currently meeting and, with the help of Presbytery, hopes to have their report ready for early January. We thank Kevin McComas, Vida Johnston, Susan Lucas, Susi Hardaker, and Bill Rankin for volunteering to serve on this important committee in our church's life. We encourage all members of the congregation to talk to Committee members about what you see for the future of the ministry of our church. Your comments will be a great help to them in writing their report for Presbytery.

The second part in replacing David was to find a Supply Minister while the Search Committee finds a permanent candidate for our church. A small committee consisting of David Rothwell, Martha Townshend Colford, and myself, assisted by Presbytery, conducted interviews and the team of Dorothy Naylor and Garth Mundle agreed to accept the position. They bring vast experience and an enormous amount of energy. We look forward to their ministry as we enter a new phase in the life of our church. We would also like to thank John Toft, Andrea Dixon, and Martha Townshend Colford who have agreed to be on the welcoming team for Garth and Dorothy.

In January of 2009, after the JNAC has filed its report, the Search Committee, under Chairperson David Rothwell, will begin the process of finding the permanent minister for Glen Cairn United Church. We would like to give a HUGE thanks to David and his committee for undertaking this job.

It is with great sadness that I realize that David, Marilou, and their three children will soon be moving to their new church. It has been a wonderful ten years and we wish them well. Although they will still be in Ottawa, we will miss them terribly.

On behalf of the M & P Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season. My wish for you is that, in the midst of all the hustle and bustle that comes with this time of year, you are able to pause to celebrate Christ's birth and all the joy that it brings.

## We invite you to join us in the celebration of Advent and Christmas



November 30<sup>th</sup>  
*Advent I*

9:30 AM  
4:00 PM

**Worship Service**  
***Gifts of the Season* Choir Concert**

*A free-will offering will be collected for the Kanata-Stittsville Refugee Sponsorship Committee*

Spaghetti Supper to follow Concert  
Adults, \$10; Children under 12, \$5

Tickets on sale immediately after church on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>  
and from the church office during the week

December 7<sup>th</sup>  
*Advent II*

9:30 AM

**White Gift Sunday** Please bring a non-perishable food item wrapped  
in white for the Kanata Food Cupboard

The Seekers present ***No Room at the Inn***, a realistic view of events just  
preceding the birth of our Saviour Jesus, with cameo appearances by all  
the youth of our church - and maybe even some animals!

December 14<sup>th</sup>  
*Advent III*

9:30 AM

**Sunday School Advent Presentation**

December 21<sup>st</sup>  
*Advent IV*

9:30 AM

**Worship Service**

Senior Choir presents the Cantata ***The Promise of a King***

7:30 PM

**Healing Service**

December 24<sup>th</sup>  
*Christmas Eve*

6:30 PM

**Family Service** telling the Christmas story in a style suitable for children  
of all ages

8:30 PM

**Community Service** with traditional readings and joyous carol singing

11:00 PM

**Communion Service** providing a peaceful and reflective opportunity to  
celebrate our Saviour's birth

December 28<sup>th</sup>

9:30 AM

**Worship Service** (*No Sunday School*)

### Youth Group

*submitted by Shelley McLaughlin, Leader*

The year started off at the end of September with a Sweet Treat Meet & Greet. The evening highlights included making your own sundaes and a fast-paced game of Whack-Attack .

October we ventured to LaserQuest, where we enjoyed battling with one another as well as taking on the teens of another youth group. An important tip I learned that night was that, while on the offensive, you must always keep your guard up. You never know when there might be a sniper hiding in a dark corner!

November included a couple of special guests joining us during our Youth Nights: Faye Lavergne, local artist and art store owner facilitated an art night in

which two canvases were completed by the group. As well, Julie McKerchner, Director of the Kanata Youth Centre, dropped by to talk to the group about resources currently available to them, as well as to ask them how the Youth Centre could be improved in 2009.

December is just around the corner and plans include Cookie Creations and, of course, a Christmas Celebration!!! (Remember both events are off-site.)

Plans for the New Year are already underway and promise to be filled with fun, friendship - and the 30-hour Famine (with or without the famous blue juice).

***A BIG THANK-YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS VOLUNTEERED TO MAKE THIS MINISTRY MEANINGFUL TO THE YOUTH OF GCUC!!!!***

## Stewardship Committee

*submitted by Sherry Sharpe, Treasurer*

Christians are called to participate in God's mission - the mission reflected in Jesus' life and ministry. We do that as stewards in every decision about how we (as individuals and in faith communities) use all that God gives us - time, abilities, material resources, relationships - in a lifestyle of discipleship. (*United Church of Canada, Stewardship*)

This year has been both rewarding and challenging in many respects. The congregation approved a proposal to move forward in our leadership this year by starting the search for a new Youth Group Leader. The increase in the budget projections was more conservative than last year, but with the hope that we could meet our goal without setting the bar beyond our reach as a congregation.

Many volunteers and organizers have stepped up to the challenge and a number of fundraising activities have already taken place: the *Art on Abbeyhill* show; Vesey's bulbs; gift certificates; cookie, muffin, and coffee fundraisers; and the greening initiatives, to name a few. These have all contributed in many ways to supporting the work of the church.

To date, we are close to being on target. Our current Net Loss position is \$8,700. We still have some challenges ahead of us to ensure the loss position is closed by the end of the year. However, the Stewardship Committee believes that, as a strong and supportive congregation, we can meet our goals as we have in the past.

As the Advent season draws near and we think of our responsibilities as a Christian community, we trust our miracles will happen and the strong and faithful community we live in as a congregation will continue to give prayerfully and generously. Blessings to all during this season. Take the time to enjoy family, friends, and loved ones and to count our many blessings.



## *Why not start the year off on "P.A.R."?*

Pre-authorized remittance is an easy way to contribute to the life and work of our church on a regular basis. You pay your mortgage, hydro, telephone, *etc.*, by direct withdrawal from your bank account, and doesn't that beat writing all those cheques each month? You may do exactly the same with your givings.

Simply (1) fill out an application form, available at the Newcomers' table and in the pamphlet rack, (2) attach a void cheque, (3) submit it to our Church Administrator Patricia Will before the 10th of the month, and you can be on **P.A.R.** for that month. Withdrawals are automatically made on the 15th of each month. It's that easy!



## Choir Notes

*submitted by Lori Prowse, Co-Director of Music*

The choirs will present a Christmas carol concert called "***Gifts of the Season***" on November 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM. From the smallest notes (*Cherubs*) to the deepest tones (*Gabriel's Chorus*), music will fill the air!! A free-will offering to the Kanata-Stittsville Refugee Sponsorship Committee will be collected. The annual Spaghetti Supper will follow the concert. Supper tickets can be purchased through the church office. A great way to begin the Advent season!

The Choir cantata, ***The Promise of a King***, will be presented at the December 21<sup>st</sup> morning service. The ageless Christmas story is told through music by Lloyd Larson and Joseph Martin. May it renew your hope for a bright future of God's making.

The Senior Choir will be singing at the 8:30 and 11:00 PM services on Christmas Eve. There will also be a Family Service at 6:30 PM.

The Senior Choir, the Cecelia Chorus, Gabriel's Chorus, the Cherub Choir, the Stained Glass Band, and Revelation will help us prepare for and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ through music. We hope you will join us this Advent season!

## Cooperative Sunday School

*submitted by Marilou Reeve, Coordinator*

We are truly fortunate at Glen Cairn to have a wealth of children and teens who are active participants in the life of our church. We value the opportunity to introduce our kids to what our Christian faith teaches and practices. When we do this, it is easy, at times, to see God in our midst.

Each week after Story Time in church, the children gather for a time of singing in the Main Hall before going off to their respective classes. The classes are guided by the United Church's *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum.

Both the Seekers class (on December 7<sup>th</sup>) and the younger Sunday School classes on December 14<sup>th</sup> (*look for the woolly lambs*) will have a chance to showcase their talent during Advent.

Each class has a **Team Leader** who coordinates the other parent volunteers:

Toddlers and JK - SK (*Ages 3 - 5*)

Andrea Dixon and Lee-Anne Asselstine

Grades 1-3

Jennifer Yeates

Grades 4-6

Judie Leach Bennett

Seekers (*Grades 7+*)

Bill Davies

**Associate Teachers this year include:** Susan Lucas, Monica Chamberlain, Tracy Mitchell, Janet Smith, Julie Jones, Rebecca Leclair, Julie Gadour, Nancy Vincent, and Sara McMullin. Thank you to all.

In keeping with the cooperative nature of the Sunday School, we encourage members of the congregation - including those who do not have children in Sunday School - to take a turn at nurturing our kids. Look for a roster sign-up sheet in each class. We especially are looking to close the gender gap that we seem to be experiencing at this time (Code for: **we welcome Dads!**).

We look forward to another fulfilling year with the children of our congregation. If you have ideas, suggestions, or even a small amount of time to offer, please speak to any of the Team Leaders.

It is also important to note that in recognition of the huge importance of our children and the functioning of our Cooperative Sunday School, consideration is being given by our Church Council to the creation of a paid Sunday School Coordinator position to start in January, 2009. Stay posted for updates on this development!

## United Church Women

*submitted by Martha Townshend Colford*

It's amazing how busy life can so quickly become. We always think of Advent as a preparation time and must always convince ourselves to take the time to remember the significance of the upcoming holiday of Christmas. It's time to take a deep breath and let the true spirit of Christmas surround us.

I am writing this as we prepare for the departure of the Sherwin family from our midst. So many preparations, so many secrets, so much sadness and joy all mixed up together. We truly wish them all the best in their new church home.

We are very pleased that Garth Mundle and Dorothy Naylor have agreed to come and lead us through this transition time. They bring so much experience and insight that I am sure they will lead us with encouragement and inspiration.

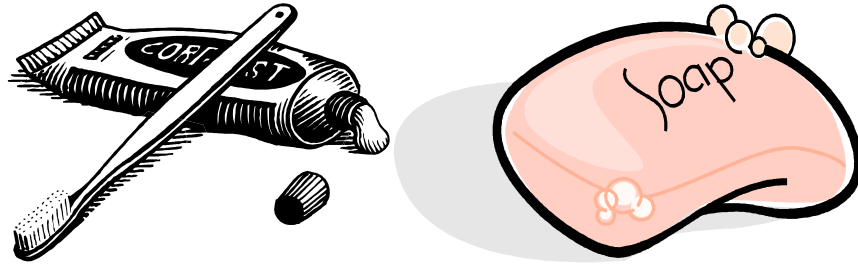
Five members of the UCW spent some time at our November meeting trying to be more "green." We folded cardboard boxes to replace the Styrofoam containers that we have been using for the Cookie Walk. We are going to try it out and, if it doesn't work, we will at least know we tried our best. As we were folding and the boxes were stacking up, we realized we hadn't really thought it out where we were going to store them for three weeks. *Ooops!*



You will have read the notice in the announcement sheet for the Cookie Walk so I won't repeat it all, but please try to remember that this fundraiser cannot happen without all the members of the congregation helping out. The 5+ members of the UCW really do appreciate all your donations of Christmas cookies, crafts, and items for the Silent Auction. The donations may be dropped off at the church on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 PM, or on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM. Please speak to me if you can help set up tables or put out signs to advertize the event.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. We will be having a potluck. Food makes us think better. And we will be giving our money away to our own church and to other charities. All ladies are welcome to attend.

# December Outreach Project



For the month of December we will be helping Kelly Funeral Homes gather toiletries for the Shepherds of Good Hope

## Items Needed

Toothpaste & toothbrushes  
Feminine hygiene products  
Shampoo  
Soap  
Deodorant  
Razors

Regular and hotel sizes are welcome

*Please place your contributions into the Outreach Bin in the foyer.*

*submitted by Patricia Will, Outreach Coordinator*