



Reach Out

Glen Cairn United Church Newsletter



Sunday Service 9:30 AM 140 Abbeyhill Drive, Kanata, Ontario, Canada, K2L 1H5 Advent/Christmas 2009

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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.

Minister's Message

Submitted by Reverend Brian Copeland

From the time I was a wee one growing up in Smithville, Christmas carols and songs have had a hallowed place in my soul. One of my earliest memories is hearing "O Come All Ye Faithful" accompanied by the old pipe organ in our church, but sung in Latin, *Adeste Fideles*. It must have been an odd and curious thing to have a hymn, the only hymn I can ever recall that we sang in something other than English, sounding across the sanctuary.

Christmas carols never grow old for me. I will sing them to my last breath with the same vigor as a child in the Youth Choir, or the soloist at last service on Christmas Eve. In the midst of all the frenetic activity of this season, the carols are a respite of reassurance and remembrance. The birth of Jesus is celebrated in such a variety of ways through this gift of music, from the sturdy tones of "Joy to the World," to the romping melody of "Go, Tell It on the Mountain," to the quiet love of "Away in a Manger."

Surely God, in the mystery of creation, gave us the rich and wonderful gift of music, if for no other purpose than to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Music has soared over the centuries at this festival of birth and new life for our world, like no other festival, sacred or secular.

In this Advent-Christmas season, I pray that you may be blessed with the gift of a familiar carol that renews your spirit's desire for hope, for peace, and for good will. And in hearing and singing the songs which proclaim Christ's birth, may we all be infused with that same spirit of gratitude that, in the darkness, a light has shined on us. May you have a grace-filled Advent, a wondrous Christmas, and a blessed New Year.

Thanks be to God.

Ministry and Personnel

Submitted by Anne McEwen, Chairperson

This time last year, the M & P Committee was in the midst of a hectic, crazy year. Who knew what lay ahead? Now, with Advent season about to begin, we can reflect back with fond memories and look ahead with confidence.

The one thing that we have learned this year is that there are many different ways to live and grow in faith. With Brian's help, we are now establishing new traditions and additions to our "fun times at Glen Cairn." At this special time, the committee would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time and talents to help us during these many changes. Whether you served on committees, participated in information sessions, baked cookies, or made our new staff feel welcome, THANK YOU very very much!!

Delma, Heather, Martha, and Anne

Men's Group

Submitted by Emmett Will

Mike Egan very generously organized and hosted a well-attended Games Night on November 7th where card sharks had their chance to show their expertise with a deck of 52 (signs of a misspent youth!) and power-hungry Monopolists built imaginary real estate empires! Plans are already in the works for 2010, starting with a talk by our own Rev. Copeland on his fascinating career in Ministry. Other events under consideration are an outing to, or instructional session at, a workshop or renovation centre; a Sens hockey game; and a presentation on global warming and how we can all help to reverse this trend. All men are welcome to join us for fun and friendship. Speak with Emmett for more information, to offer to coordinate one of the upcoming events shown above, or to suggest other activities.

Property Management

Submitted by Moe Wright, Chairperson

Over the fall season, initiative has been taken to order the replacement of three broken-seal windows in the main hall, and to add inside storm windows to all the south windows in the main hall. We look forward to some savings on the heating costs, and, equally important, the reduction of mould and mildew triggered by excessive condensation each winter. The installation should take place sometime over the next few weeks.

Through the generous gift of time, Mike McMullin has provided professionally-machined white plastic bezels to replace the unpainted wooden trim around the window cranks. Those replacements will take place for the newer style cranks as time permits, and others after some of the older broken cranks have been replaced next spring.

Research has been done on upgrading a problematic plumbing fixture in the men's washroom, with a decision to proceed pending. And research on the replacement of heating thermostats will continue, with hope to improve heating cost savings.



And in late-breaking news . . .

Our own Barbara Reynolds has been appointed by General Council to the Canadian Forces Chaplaincy! She will join the national committee responsible for selecting chaplains for the Forces.

Congratulations, Barbara!

Stewardship Connection Update

*Submitted by Susan McMullin, GCUC
Stewardship Connection Coordinator*

Stewardship connects to all aspects of church life; in worship, learning, congregational life, outreach, and leadership development, as well as administration, finance, and accountability.

Stewardship was addressed this fall **in worship**, through sermons and well-selected hymns; in **community outreach** with our first GCUC Santa Claus parade hot drink and cookie treat outdoor extravaganza; in **learning** through Stewardship Mission and Service bulletin inserts, announcements on conferences near and far, our *Who am I?* survey handout and our Stewardship Reflections posted in the bulletin folder once a month. In late October, we addressed our **finance** update along with ways one can make financial contributions, such as through planned givings, the Pre-Authorized Remittance programme, donations through your will, and donating your time and energy.

See our bulletin board for updates on all of our Stewardship Education and Development Programmes.

Celebrate Stewardship by Judith and Warren Johnson and Radical Gratitude by Mary Jo Leddy were two books recommended by Rev. Copeland which were purchased at the book fair to help with **leadership development** in Stewardship. See our library for these new purchases.

Our famous Cookie Walk, Craft Fair, and Silent Auction involves most of our **congregational family** in one form or another. Whether you sing, bake, or donate gifts, don't forget this important December 5th event.

With Christmas soon approaching, don't overlook our gift card programme for groceries, clothes, and much more, and, of course, our very popular and fresh Fair Trade coffee!

On behalf of the Stewardship Connection group, we wish you all a very healthy and safe holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!

Wayne Kerr, Steve Hardaker, Barb Loynes, Wanda McNea, Susan McMullin, Brian Neale, and Sherry Sharpe

Warm Up to the Cookie Walk

Submitted by Anne McEwen

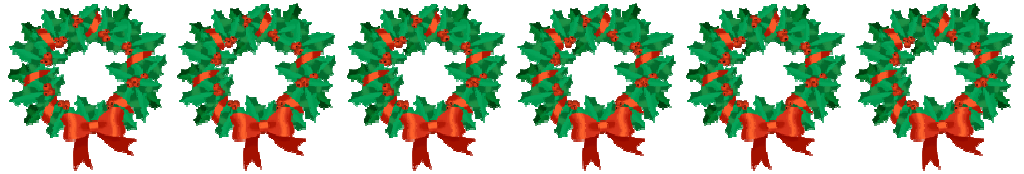
On November 14th, an energetic and enthusiastic group of volunteers gathered at the church to help celebrate Kanata's Santa Claus. We set up tables and invited those who were waiting for the parade to enjoy some hot chocolate, hot apple cider, or hot coffee, and a cookie or muffin. Thanks to some amazing bakers who donated the treats, and Mother Nature who provided good weather, the turnout was great. We also took this opportunity to advertise the upcoming Cookie Walk by putting out advertising boards and handing out cards for the event.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who participated in this event, whether by baking or helping set up, making coffee or hot chocolate, or walking through the crowd to tell those waiting for Santa about our table. You are all wonderful and looked really, really good in those festive hats!!

We did not charge for the treats, however, donations for our church's outreach activities were collected and a total of \$173.26 was raised.

Thanks again to Barb and Greg Reynolds, Mike Egan, Susan and Mike McMullin, Lynda Brooks, Hal and Faye Adams, Wanda McNea and Barb Loynes, Heather MacDonald, Sandra Copeland, Nancy Bradley, Martha Townshend Colford, and Moe Wright for all their help.

Thanks to Santa's Elves Anne McEwen and Emmett Will.



Prayer Partners

Submitted by Barbara Reynolds

The children and teachers in our Sunday School are an integral part of our GCUC church family. The Faith Formation Committee would like to involve the whole congregation in the teaching ministry by providing support to the Sunday School teachers and leaders. In the new year, we would like to develop Prayer Partners for each teacher and class. Thus, we are looking for people in our congregation who will covenant to pray for a teacher or a class for the program year. As a Prayer Partner, you would receive the names of the children and teachers for whom to pray. You might also contact the teacher from time to time to show support, offer encouragement, and find out whether there are specific prayer requests. Barbara Reynolds together with Jessie Boehmer will coordinate this project. Please speak to them about this new activity.

United Church Women

*Submitted by Martha Townshend Colford,
President*

It is that time of year again for the major fund-raiser of our church. We are now well known for the 18th Annual Christmas Cookie Walk, Craft Fair, and Silent Auction. This is a congregational event so please be sure to spare some time in the next week to bake Christmas Cookies and decide what you can put in the Silent Auction. If you have some crafts you would like to donate, everything is welcome. Please be generous with your time and donations. On Sunday, November 29th, I will be asking people to take one or two signs to put out at corners. Please volunteer and watch me smile. Cookies and other items may be dropped off at the church kitchen on Friday, December 4th, from 7 to 9 pm, or on Saturday, Dec. 5th, at 8 am. The event runs from 9 am until noon.

We won't have much time to rest because on Wednesday, December 9th, we will be providing a yummy Christmas dinner to the Lunch 'n Such group. Are you an adult from our church who is available at noon time? Then please purchase a \$15 ticket (what a bargain!) from Martha Townshend Colford, Patricia Will, Delma Murray, or the church office. There will be entertainment after dinner.

Our December meeting will be held on Monday, December 14th, at 6:30 pm. We will be sharing in a potluck meal and making decisions on giving money to our own church, both to the operating budget and capital fund, as well as to charities.

In January, we are looking forward to Lynda Brooks speaking to our group about food: nutrition, cooking tips, and ideas for people with allergies or other special dietary needs.

We have had a couple of other people who have expressed a desire to come and speak to our group, so watch the bulletin for more details.

If you would like more information about UCW, or would like to help out in any way, please contact Martha Townshend Colford. (contact information at the church office.)



Choir Notes

*Submitted by Bev Armbruster, Co-Director
of Music*

*'May the joy of this holy season fill our hearts with love,
And while the peace of this glorious season
Falls from heav'n above,
May the Holy Spirit be your guide,
And a light on every pathway
May the Christ Child lead you ever onward.'*

This text is from a stunning arrangement written by Canadian composer Winne-gene Hatch. She has cleverly woven her melody into the well-known and much-loved carol, "Silent Night" to create a memorable Benediction to be sung on Christmas Eve by the Senior Choir.

Sunday, November 29th, marks the first Sunday of Advent. The Cherub Choir will be singing a delightful Advent song called "What Do You Hear?" The final phrase of each verse ends with the anticipation of the coming of Christmas. There will be a potluck luncheon following the morning festivities organized by the Faith Formation Committee. At the close of the luncheon, there will be a carol sing, including anthems sung by Gabriel's Chorus, the Cecilia Chorus, Revelation, and the Senior Choir.

On Sunday, December 6th, the Senior Choir will lead us into Worship with an energetic Introit called "Redeemer." In addition, Revelation will sing a stunning arrangement of "T'was in the Moon of Wintertime," also known as "The Huron Carol." There will also be a solo by Shirley Bishop called "Maria Walked among the Thorns."

The combined choirs, children of the Sunday School, and a cast of many will present a musical called "On Our Way to Bethlehem" on Sunday, December 13th. It's a delightful telling of the Christmas story by our young and young at heart.

Sunday, December 20th, is again full of inspiring and uplifting music. Kim Power and Drew Mitchell will be singing a duet entitled "Wonderful, Merciful Saviour," and there will be a quartet, accompanied by a clarinet, singing "Bethlehem This Noblest City." The Cecilia Chorus and the Senior Choir will also be adding to the musical potpourri.

Janet Kerr will provide organ accompaniment for the earliest service on Christmas Eve. There will be choirs at both the 8:00 and 11:00 pm services.

The women of the Senior Choir are singing an anthem called "Each Child" written by the well-known Canadian composer Eleanor Daley.

Our choirs and musicians have been busy. Wednesday mornings, the Cecilia Chorus are preparing Christmas music to sing at Granite Ridge on Wednesday, December 2nd, and at Robertson House on Wednesday, December 16th. We're delighted to welcome Faye Adams and Eleanor Ford to our group. If you come into the church on Wednesday evenings, you'll hear Revelation and the Band rehearsing. As early as 6:30 on the Thursday evening you'll hear the sweet young voices of our cherubs, and, shortly after that, a very dedicated group of men led by Peter Bishop begin rehearsing at 7:00, followed by the senior choir at 8:00. On Sundays, after church, Vida Johnston encourages the youthful voices. New members are always welcome to join any of the various choirs.

In closing, I'd like to express sincere thanks to the many individuals who faithfully share their musical gifts. From all of us to all of you, a joyous and blessed Christmas season. Merry Christmas!



Adult Fellowship Group

Submitted by Emmett Will

A Progressive Supper, ably organized by Holly and Mike Egan, was held on November 21st. The 30 attendees enjoyed delicious appetizers at the home of Cindy and Bill Samulack, soup and salad at Joy Craigie's, the entrée at Holly and Mike's, and, the pièce de résistance, dessert at Shirley and Moe Wright's home. Many thanks to all the generous hosts and participants. Although, as of this date, no one has stepped forward to assume the mantle of AFG Coordinator(s), we are hoping someone will so that more informal social activities may take place in the coming year and the long-running AFG tradition may be carried on. Contact former Coordinators Emmett Will or Shelley McLeod (contact information at the church office.) to see how easy and rewarding this role, so vital to our congregational life, can be.

Worship Committee

Submitted by David Rothwell, Chairperson

Preparing for a New Year: starting on January 3rd, 2010, Sunday Worship Services will begin at 10:00 am.

For most of Glen Cairn's history, Sunday services were at 10:00 am. However, in September 2001, the first service was moved to 9:30 to accommodate a second morning service starting at 11:15.

Although the second service was subsequently dropped in 2006, the time of the Sunday service remained at 9:30. Over the last few years, the Worship Committee has been asked on numerous occasions to consider moving the service back to the traditional time of 10:00 am.

Several parents of young children said that the later time would be better for ensuring a more consistent attendance. Parents of teens and pre-teens have also suggested that the extra ½ hour will help them in getting their children to church.

In April 2009, the Worship Committee conducted a survey which showed that the congregation was evenly split between members who wanted 9:30 and those who wanted 10:00 am. Many respondents who preferred one time or the other also said that they would support either time.

The biggest concern about the 10:00 am time was that it could cut participation in after-church adult education activities because it would run into lunch hour. On the other hand, some respondents indicated that they needed 10:00 am because they were encountering public transportation difficulties at 9:30.

The Committee felt that the survey could be biased because those people who currently do not attend our Church due to the early start time of 9:30 did not get an opportunity to respond to the survey which was distributed at the service.

The Committee also conducted a survey of the service times of the 17 mainline churches in Kanata. Glen Cairn is the only church which conducts its main service (largest service) at 9:30. All of the other churches have their main service at 10:00 am or later.

The Kanata church-going community clearly sees that 10:00 am, or later, is the preferred time to attend service on Sunday. If newcomers to Kanata are looking for a local place to worship, they may simply be bypassing Glen Cairn because of the early start time.

Because half of the congregation would like to continue services at 9:30, the Worship Committee had a difficult time coming to a decision. However, considering all of the factors, the Committee was unanimous in recommending to Council that the time be changed to 10:00 am. Our new minister, Brian Copeland also supports the 10:00 service. As one survey respondent stated, "When we were at 10:00, we had a full Church". We hope that the change will be accepted by the entire congregation in a positive and progressive spirit. Please feel free to speak to any member of the Worship Committee if you have further information or comments to offer.

Sunday, December 27. Normally, we provide a much-deserved break for the Minister and Music Directors on the Sunday following Christmas, i.e. this year on December 27. It is a chance for the congregation to step forward and provide service leadership. We already have a volunteer to lead music, but we need someone, or several people, to lead worship and give a message (sermon). If you have just been waiting to say what is on your mind, don't pass up this chance. Please contact David Rothwell (613-836-4331) to offer your leadership. If no one volunteers, we will be picking names out of a hat. Be prepared.

Sunday January 24. Rev. Copeland will be away on study leave that Sunday. The message will be given by Rev. Pierre Allard, formerly the Assistant Commissioner for the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC). Pierre began working with the CSC in 1972 as a chaplain at Archambault Penitentiary.

Since that time, has served in a variety of roles within the CSC, including as Regional Chaplain for the Atlantic Region, Director of Chaplaincy at CSC National Headquarters, and Assistant Commissioner, Correctional Operations and Programs. He obtained his Doctorate in 1986, and in 1996 and 1998, respectively, was granted honorary doctorates of divinity from McMaster and Queen's universities.

From 1995 to 2005, Rev. Allard was President of the International Prison Chaplains' Association (IPCA), and was involved in the organization of three worldwide conferences. For over thirty years, Pierre has been engaged in building partnerships with volunteers and in the spiritual sustenance of prisoners. His work has placed him at the forefront of

the restorative justice movement, which brings together communities, offenders, and victims of crime to discuss the effects of criminal acts on the community. Since retiring from CSC in 2006, Pierre is committed to training and equipping prison chaplains in developing countries such as Rwanda, Burundi, RD Congo, and Cameroon in the area of Restorative Justice.



Summary of the November Meeting of Ottawa Presbytery

Submitted by Barbara Reynolds, GCUC Presbytery Representative

Ottawa Presbytery met at St. Andrew's-Knox United Church in Bristol, Quebec, on November 10th, 2009. The Presbytery was warmly welcomed by the congregation and served a wonderful meal in the church basement. At the end of the dinner hour, Chair John Keddy extended the appreciation of the Presbytery to Mike and Pat Nyenhuis for their work in publishing the book of churches in the Presbytery called "A Journey of Faith."

The meeting was called to order in the sanctuary and Joyce Sylvester, Secretary of the Official Board, welcomed the court. During her greeting from the congregation, she noted that the St. Andrews-Knox building had recently been recognized by the Quebec Heritage group as the most architecturally interesting protestant church in the Pontiac.

Presbyters were led in a time of worship focusing on Remembrance. It included the 2009 video entitled "The Fallen" prepared by Canadian Forces Chaplain and United Church clergy Rev. Neil Parker.

The regular opening business of the court was conducted. Rev. Brian Cornelius, Chair of the Finance Committee presented the 2010 budget and assessment. Both motions were approved.

Congregation/pastoral charges will soon receive a letter of notification of their 2010 assessment. The budget includes building into the regular assessment the full-time staff position for Youth and Young Adult Ministry. The 2010 budget is a deficit budget based on the retained earnings of the Presbytery and in the desire to be good stewards of pastoral charge resources.

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Ottawa Presbytery (*cont'd*)

Information about the Resource Centre, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and Stewardship were shared. Andrew Hyde, the Youth and Young Adult Minister mentioned the good response from youth groups outside the Presbytery to the invitation to come and be present during Winterlude. Any congregation willing to host these young guests by providing sleeping accommodation in their church hall or basement is asked to contact Andrew. The Youth Ministry Fundraising Committee, led by Rev. Ed Gratton has two fundraising activities planned for the December meeting of Presbytery: a pie sale and a Christmas bazaar clearance table. Pie orders can be directed to edgratton@rogers.com and leftover crafts from Christmas bazaars would be greatly appreciated.

The learning component for the meeting was led by those in the Presbytery who had been sent for Racial Justice Training for Trainers: Rev. Kim Vidal, Rev. Thérèse Samuel, Rick Balson, and Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey, who, for two terms, chaired the General Council Racial Justice Advisory Committee. Presbyters were told about the upcoming training events which will occur in the winter / spring of 2010. The presenters also engaged the court in discussion about why it is difficult to talk about racism and why it is also important to talk about racism. Each person on the leadership team shared briefly about why the training has been significant and important to them. The Racial Justice Training will be for both ministry personnel and lay people.

The meeting closed with prayer and a hymn. Before closing motions, the court sang "Happy Birthday" to our clergy host, Rev. Allen Hobbs.

Celebrate an Earth-friendly Christmas

Submitted by Kathryn Young-Davies, Green Team Coordinator

Most people want a white Christmas, but a green Christmas really is more earth-friendly. As Christians, we are called to be stewards of our earth, so it makes sense, at a time of year when we celebrate Jesus' birth, to plan our festivities and gift-giving in a way that does not put undue strain on our earth's resources or its people.

Here are some "Green" tips for the holidays:

- Think of the three Rs. Reduce the number of gifts you buy by making a list and buying for fewer people. Reuse: feel free to regift items that don't suit your style! Recycle: buy gifts from second-hand stores (used-book stores; used electronic games at EB Games; used CDs at CD Warehouse; books, games or clothing at Value Village; dishes and knick-knacks at Encore Decor).
- Consider where items were made and how much it cost (in \$\$ and greenhouse gases emitted) to get them to you. Buy local where possible. When entertaining, think of local food and beverages. The LCBO carries a growing number of organic and local beers and wines (although you must ask for their definition of "local" which can often mean "Ontario" rather than "Ottawa").
- Consider clothing, bedding and towels from renewable sources: it's getting easier to find organic cotton items plus items made from bamboo, soy or hemp.
- Think about excess packaging: try to buy items that aren't overpackaged; bring your own bags; wrap gifts in cloth bags, colour comics or reusable paper gift bags.
- Look for labels that indicate earth-friendliness: Energy Star, certified organic symbols, Forest Stewardship Council certified wood products, Fair Trade etc.
- "Fair trade" means the people who produced an item were paid fair wages. Fair Trade items are getting easier to find - GCUC sells fair trade Equator coffee, tea and chocolate, and you can even find these products in local grocery stores. Ten Thousand Villages, in Westboro, sells fair trade gift items from around the world.
- For decorations, use LED Christmas lights that use far less electricity. Set your table with cloth napkins and beeswax or soy candles. You can even buy compostable paper plates, cutlery and "plastic" glasses now!
- For cosmetic gift items, consider organic. Natural Food Pantry has many lines of creams, lotions, shampoos etc and Shoppers Drug Mart carries a line of organic makeup.
- Help people create less garbage by giving reusable coffee mugs and water bottles as gifts.
- For people on your list who really don't need "stuff", contribute to a charity in their name. Worthy charities include: Project TEMBO, www.projectembo.org, where you can buy one chicken for \$10 or a goat for \$40 and the donation helps support education for girls and women in northern Tanzania; the Amani Children's Home in Tanzania, www.AmaniKids.org, where \$10 can buy a school uniform for one child; WorldVision www.worldvision.ca where there is a huge catalogue of ways to donate in people's names.
- Consider that while some Earth-friendly gifts may cost more, purchasing them forces us to buy less - and that's good for our planet!

Have a Merry "Green" Christmas!

Outreach Shout-out

Submitted by Kim Power, Coordinator

We HAVE had a busy autumn, sharing our many blessings with others in need. In September, we collected enough coffee mugs to fill the entire trunk of a car full of suspicious rattling sounds. These mugs were taken to the Shepherds of Good Hope by our group of volunteer servers on October 4th, where both the mugs and the servers were immediately put to excellent use.

During October, we heard of the dire need for supplies at the Kanata Food Cupboard and focussed on collecting food for our community. A full carload of food and about \$1200 were generated and our Food Cupboard volunteers were busy helping during the week of October 12th.

Later in October, the Tofts introduced us to Abdou Amidou, who was gathering children's clothing to take to his homeland of Togo in late November. Abdou requested donations of clothing and school supplies, as well as financial assistance to pay for transportation of the shipping container. Abdou attended church with us and was on hand to answer our questions after the service.

During November, we reached out and brought the community in, with the introduction of two after-church guest speakers. Our counsellor for Kanata South, Peggy Feltmate, spoke to us about flooding, transit, the 2010 budget process, and green boxes. On November 15th, Rabbi Reuven Bulka candidly answered a wide range of questions about Jewish traditions, Christian-Jewish relations in Ottawa, and the conflict between Israel and (*cont'd*)

Outreach (cont'd)

Palestine. What a great opportunity to meet two well-known members of the community and to have them get to know us! We are already generating some ideas for next year, but if you have an idea for a guest speaker, let Brian Copeland or Kim Power know.

Also in November, Patricia Will organized our annual "Operation Christmas Child" campaign. The familiar red shoe boxes of toys and supplies were gathered by November 20th for shipment around the globe to brighten the lives of children in need. It is always an impressive sight to see so many boxes decorating the Sanctuary and to watch the collection grow.

Thank you for reaching out with love to those in need in our neighbourhood and in neighbourhoods around the world. Here's an update of Outreach projects for the next part of the year.

December: We'll welcome winter by collecting toques, mittens, and warm socks for adults at the Ottawa Mission. If you prefer to donate mitts for smaller hands, I know of several OCDSB "beacon" schools that can use mittens every day and would be pleased to have help.

You may notice that no "White Gift Sunday" has been scheduled for Advent this year. Because there are often many community food drives in December to support the Kanata Food Cupboard, we would like to respond in **February** when the need is sure to be greater. The food collection bin will still be available in the foyer, as always, and you are welcome to donate food to the bin or to donate money directly to the KFC as an individual.

January: We will collect toiletries, pyjamas, and other emergency supplies for Chrysalis House, a Kanata shelter for women and children exposed to abuse.

February: The Ottawa Humane Society needs help to care for God's furrier creatures. Items they ask for include: rubber gloves, receiving blankets, kitty litter, and canned dog food (for behaviour training). "White Gift Sunday" will also take place in February (date to be determined).

Dates to Remember:

Shepherds of Good Hope: April and June, 2010.

Contact: Kathryn Young-Davies

Kanata Food Cupboard: week of January 4th (and every six weeks thereafter) Contact: Lori Prowse

GC3 Youth Ministry

Submitted by Shelley McLaughlin

"Leading youth to *G*row in *C*hrist as they live out the *G*reat *C*ommandment and apply the *G*reat *C*ommission in their daily lives. The goal is to love God & love people as we go and teach others to do the same. (Matthew 22:37-39; Matthew 28:18-20)"

Boy, time sure flies when you're having fun - it's hard to believe that it is already the start of Advent. The youth have had several new opportunities this past fall to participate in. We attended an Anniversary celebration at Chapel Ridge Church, where we heard an "intense speaker," enjoyed feasting on some pizza, and got to experience the musical talent of Trinity Presbyterian's Youth Band. We also checked out The Point, a night of worship enjoyed by the youth of the entire Ottawa United Presbytery.

We had a blast bowling at Rock 'N Bowl - where the black lights and fluorescent bowling balls put a whole new spin on things. We quickly discovered that Brian, Mitchell, and Vida were the super strikers of the night.

GC3 also enjoyed guest artist and local art store owner Faye Lavergne for our night of Creative Creativity. Faye led us in a discussion on prayer. We then had the opportunity to express our thoughts about prayer in a unique piece of artwork. We are looking forward to a night of "picking Brian's brains," as well as our Christmas party in December. Plans for the New Year include taking Brian to LaserQuest (he's never been - can you imagine!), a girls and guys night, and many more nights of fun with friends!

GC3 generally meets every 2nd Friday, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, here at the church. Please check the announcements in the bulletin on a regular basis for upcoming activities.

Any youth (grade 7 to grade 12) who is not currently receiving E-mails regarding GC3 activities, is quite welcome to contact our youth leader, Shelley McLaughlin, via E-mail at youth@gcuc.ca or via telephone (contact information at the church office.). We'd love to have you join us!

***“I’ve Been Going There for More Than
40 years!”***

Margaret just loves her church. “I’ve been going there for more than 40 years,” she says. “My children were baptized, went to Sunday School, were confirmed and married there.” And now, more than ever, she talks about folks at church as being “like family”. “We helped the kids lead the parade on Palm Sunday. We learned the Noah story from the animals’ perspective. That was a lot of fun! And we do a lot for others. Last year, we gave money to our own United Church camp. We always give to the Mission and Service Fund. And we paid all the bills. That’s pretty good!”

Margaret is turning 74 this year and she has decided that she would like to do something to ensure that her congregation’s sense of family and community would be there for others in the future. “I began to wonder if there was something I could do financially. But I didn’t know what.”

Then she read about a *United Church of Canada Charitable Gift Annuity* and started asking questions. Here is what she learned:

At 74 years of age, Margaret could create a \$10,000 United Church Annuity. In return, she would receive:

- An 6.06% annuity rate for her lifetime;
- An immediate tax receipt for \$3,040.15; and
- \$606.00 income per year, deposited directly into her bank account (½ on June 1st and ½ on December 1st).

In addition, Margaret learned that:

- 88% of her annuity income would be non-taxable; and
- On her death, whatever remains in her Gift Annuity would go to her congregation—or whatever United Church ministry she wishes.

Margaret thinks that this is a grand opportunity. It would give her some guaranteed income—and that’s important these days! Then, the monies that are left in her gift annuity when she dies will become a special gift to her congregation. It seems like a “win-win” situation.

Margaret’s sister, Dorothy, is turning 70 this year. They will probably have her birthday party in the church. “I’m going to encourage Dorothy to arrange for one of these United Church Gift Annuities, too!” says Margaret.

Single United Church Charitable Gift Annuity – Examples

(Joint annuities are also available.)

	Female, Age 60 \$10,000	Male, Age 60 \$10,000
Annuity Rate	4.92%	5.12%
Charitable Donation Receipt	\$2,301.99	\$2,673.85
Annual Income	\$492.00	\$512.00
Non-taxable Portion	\$317.49 (65%)	\$351.73 (69%)
Taxable Portion	\$174.51 (35%)	\$160.27 (31%)

	Female, Age 70 \$10,000	Male, Age 70 \$10,000
Annuity Rate	5.61%	5.97%
Charitable Donation Receipt	\$2,791.48	\$3,263.89
Annual Income	\$561.00	\$597.00
Non-taxable Portion	\$448.36 (80%)	\$489.55 (82%)
Taxable Portion	\$112.64 (20%)	\$107.45 (18%)

	Female, Age 80 \$10,000	Male, Age 80 \$10,000
Annuity Rate	7.07%	7.60%
Charitable Donation Receipt	\$3,413.92	\$3,891.43
Annual Income	\$707.00	\$760
Non-taxable Portion	\$707.00 (100%)	\$760 (100%)
Taxable Portion	\$0.00 (0%)	\$0.00 (0%)

Notes: Minimum age is 60 years. Minimum amount is \$10,000.

If you would like more information, please contact:

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