



Reach Out



Glen Cairn United Church Newsletter

Sunday Service 10:00 AM

140 Abbeyhill Drive Kanata, K2L 1H5

Spring 2010

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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

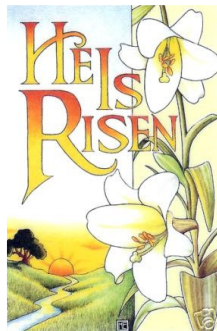
How many years did I stand on the banks of the Ottawa River, leading an Easter Sunrise Service, in a cold wind, snow still piled on the shore, even the ducks were wearing coats, and trying to sing loud joyful Easter hymns with a frozen face? But this year, oh how early spring has come, and the snow in my front yard is almost gone, except for the few north-facing corners, and Easter, even though it is early, may well be warm and cozy.

If the women and the disciples who followed them had been Canadians, I doubt they would have raced to the tomb on Easter morning; it would have been more of a hurried walk through the late winter. But, in the Middle East, the temp was such that they could race with excitement and anticipation to his grave, expecting to see the rock still in place, and the burial cloths still tightly wrapped about his body. Then came the big surprise, the unexpected outcome: the stone was rolled away, and the tomb empty.

Jesus infused the world with hope because to the ancient world like our own, death seemed to be the unconquerable barrier. A line no one ever crossed. Yet, here on Easter morning a new reality entered the experience of his followers, death had given way to new life.

By grace, God still infuses that hope into our world; the barriers which seem impenetrable can indeed be crossed. Signs of death, endings which appear to be forever, are only passages to the life and the hope which is truly beyond the bounds of death's day.

Just as spring emerges from under our winter's snow and ice, new life rises from the tomb, and we seek to live in that great Good News, that Christ is Risen, he is risen Indeed.



Ministry and Personnel Committee

Submitted by Anne McEwen, Chairperson

After saying good-bye in the last newsletter, here I am submitting another blurb from the M & P Committee . . . *Umh . . .*

With all the hectic activity of the past few years, things recently have been very quiet for our little committee. At the annual general meeting, the budget was passed and we were able to give our amazing hardworking staff a slight increase in remuneration. We are blessed at Glen Cairn United to have such a dedicated staff who go "above and beyond" for the whole church. Thank you so much for everything you do!!

While our committee has grown (okay, only by one member), we are still without a leader. I have stayed on for a while, but due to other commitments, I have not been able to dedicate much time to M & P. The committee is wonderful, however it stills needs someone to "steer the course." Without adequate time devoted to this important function, things sometimes get left undone. This is not fair to the staff or to the church as a whole. If anyone is interested, please feel free to speak to me anytime.

Also, if you have any concerns concerning the personnel or anything else happening at the church, please feel free to approach any member of M & P. We are a great group of people and are always willing to help.

Happy Spring!!!

Men's Group

Submitted by Norm Desjardins and Emmett Will

Pool Anyone?

Gentleman, it's time to relive your misspent youth! The Men's Group is planning an evening at the "Kanata Q" pool hall, 442 Hazeldean Road, on Friday, April 23rd, from 7:30 to 9:30 PM, followed by dessert and coffee at the home of Norm Desjardins, 47 Parsons Ridge, Kanata.

For more information, contact Norm Desjardins.



On Saturday, May 29th, the men of the congregation are invited to bring their families for a visit with the Ottawa Valley Live Steam and Model Engineers (OVLSME) at their Cumberland Heritage Village Museum location.

Various live steam miniature locomotives offer rides for the families on the club track. The weekend's events, which run from 9 AM until 3 PM, will also include the Heritage Power Show featuring various vintage machines and vehicles from the first half of the last century.

Details to follow, but mark your calendars now! To learn more about the OVLSME, go to: www.trainweb.org/ovlsme/

For information about the Men's Group, contact Emmett Will.

United Church Women

Submitted by Martha Townshend Colford

What a lovely Spring day! The path is clear to my clothesline now. I know it can still snow but it won't last long now.

With that theme in mind our guest for our April 12th meeting will be talking to us about landscape design and general gardening tips. If you are thinking of attending and know a specific question you might have, let me know so I can pass it on so our guest can be prepared.

We have several catering events coming up this spring and fall so say "yes" to Delma Murray when she asks for your help. You can even volunteer your services to her ahead of time.

And don't forget to save your unwanted items for the GCUC Rummage Sale on April 17th.

We would like to thank the Youth Group for inviting us to be judges for their Bake-Off on March 12th. Barbara Reynolds, Faye Adams, Sandra Copeland, and I enjoyed making medals while waiting for the cooking to be done. The fruit pizza, lemon cookies, and chocolate cupcakes were delicious and it was a very close verdict for the medals.

For more information about the UCW, contact Martha Townshend Colford.



Adult Fellowship Group

Submitted by Shelley McLeod

The Adult Fellowship Group has been somewhat inactive for a while and I, among others, have been missing it. Therefore, once again, I have agreed to take the lead to plan and organize social events for the adults of the congregation and their friends. The purpose is strictly social: a chance to meet the people you see on Sunday but don't have enough time to talk with. And food is certain to be included in some form or another.

Generally, four or five events will be organized per year, from September to June.

Currently, two events are coming up: on April 10th there will be a games night, and on June 19th there will be a car rally. For the games night, we keep it simple: you are asked to bring your favourite board game and snack food to share. For those of you who have attended or heard about the Glen Cairn United AFG car rally, you know there is no shortage of friendly competition. And of course, the food: we start with a potluck supper, send teams out to do their best, and then return to the starting point to enjoy dessert and to hear the results of the rally.

Three to four weeks before each event, there will be an announcement in the bulletin. In addition, information, when available, will be provided in the newsletter for those who like to have their calendars filled in months in advance. Approximately three weeks prior to each event, there will be a sign-up sheet so the host can be advised of how many to expect.

On that note, hosts are required for each event. Therefore, if you are willing to generously open your home to a group of wonderful people on occasion, please give your name to Shelley McLeod. There is much fun to be had.

Come one, come all and enjoy the fellowship!

Property Management

Submitted by Moe Wright, Chairperson

During the winter season, three windows which had broken seals were replaced and interior storm windows added to all the south-facing windows in the main hall. This has reduced the amount of condensation that had collected in previous years, and we hope to realize some savings in the heating costs as well as a reduction in the mould and mildew triggered by excessive condensation in previous winters.

General maintenance has included regular cleaning, with more attention being paid to less-frequently attacked areas, including floors behind doors and cobwebs in corners. The problematic plumbing fixture in the men's washroom was finally fixed, and plans are underway to solicit volunteers to redecorate the two washrooms. So, let us know if your skills are in the painting, plumbing, or 'other' category, and watch for a sign-up sheet in the next few weeks for a project sometime in May. It will also soon be the season to tend to our gardens, and volunteers for that kind of TLC would be greatly appreciated.

We have replaced one of the existing room thermostats with a 7-day multi-programme unit. The rest will be installed before next winter with an aim to better balance the heating costs relative to known rental and church activity times.

With the loss of a significant facilities renter last season, our Church Council is currently giving careful consideration to applications from several new candidates. We aim to attract more renters, taking into consideration each activity's appropriateness to, and potential impact on, our facility and church activities.

Lunch 'n Such

Submitted by Patricia Will

Join us on
Wednesday, April 14th
at noon for



Guest Speaker: Myriam Jamault, Public Health Nurse, will give us valuable information on general Wellness, fall prevention, medication, *etc.*

See you there!

Stewardship Connection

Submitted by Susan McMullin, Coordinator

We thank all of you who took part in our spring and fall surveys. Our committee's Data Collectors Wayne Kerr and Steve Hardaker have put into place some interesting results for you to examine.

Not only are our strengths and weaknesses as a group been identified, but also who we are (broken down by age, marital status, gender), our needs (youth, outreach, community, financial), and last, but not least, where we are headed in the near and foreseeable futures.

Kudos to Wayne Kerr, Steve Hardaker, and Wayne Johnston for compiling and arranging these puzzle pieces of information into a format that we can use to benefit GCUC.

Pastoral Care Team

Submitted by Joan McComas, Team Leader

Members of the Pastoral Care Team are trained to listen and we wish to remind you that we can help in many ways. If you wish a visit at home or in the hospital, please let the team know by sending an E-mail to care@gcuc.ca; by telephoning the pastoral care contact for the month listed in the bulletin each week; by asking any member of the Team, identified by the purple ribbon on their name badges at church; or by calling the church office.

We also pray for people in times of need. If you wish prayers, please contact any of us. We will be offering a Service of Healing and quiet contemplation on May 2nd at 2 PM. All are welcome. We will have a CD recording of a healing service available to borrow very soon.

