



Reach Out



Glen Cairn United Church Newsletter

Sunday Service 10:00 AM
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<http://gcuc.ncf.ca/>

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 Rev. Brian Copeland

I was noticing the trees lining Timm Road on the morning after our first frost, and it seemed that literally overnight they had gone from green to red and gold and orange. St. Paul told the church at Corinth that *"we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye . . ."*



"Like leaves on a tree in the early autumn we will be changed overnight. How true that is for so many of us. Life takes one course and then, without warning, in a moment, our direction is changed sometimes completely and forever.

Life is so ever full of these transitions: from our house to a retirement home, from employment to retirement, from illness to health, from wounds to recovery. When God created humankind, it was surely the Creator's intent that we would always be in transition. I like St. Paul's word, "transformation." For him, it was at the heart of living, and of dying. In this life we are constantly being transformed. In death, we are transformed most closely into the likeness of Jesus. From our birth to our new life beyond death, we are in one continuous transformation of our being.

I was talking with someone recently about their one-year old, and we were again amazed at the transformation which happens in that first year of life. The helpless infant begins to walk and talk and feed themselves, and engage the world around. It is a year of radical transformation. It is the kind of year which I think St. Paul had in mind for those who took up the life of being Jesus' disciples in our world. Learning more about Jesus, living his mission and love in our lives would change us overnight, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. Because we would take on new values, and new understandings of how we are to live in the world.

Autumn is a time for changing colours, for being transformed into our Christ-like selves and letting the course of life find a new way, full of abundance and hope.

GENERAL COUNCIL 41

TO BE HELD IN OTTAWA IN AUGUST 2012

Submitted by Barbara Reynolds

Now that my term of office as Chair of Presbytery has finished, I am moving on to my next task, Co-Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for General Council 41.

The United Church is organized into four levels, starting with the local congregation or pastoral charge, then presbytery, conference, and finally General Council. Every three years representatives from across Canada meet together to worship, celebrate, and make policy decisions in what is known as General Council.

Three years ago, Ottawa Presbytery extended an invitation to the General Council to meet in summer 2012 in Ottawa, saying: *"where better than in the heart of the nation's capital region, built on traditional Algonquin land, to connect with the bilingual, multicultural nature of our country, to explore partnerships for justice with many national coalitions . . . and to lift the face of the UCC in the place where national policy is shaped."*

The National Capital Area has hosted this meeting twice before, once in 1936, and the last time in 1958 when John Diefenbaker was Prime Minister. So we are glad that 54 years later, they are coming back.

General Council 41 will be held at Carleton University from Saturday, August 11th, to Saturday, August 18th, 2012. Some 600 commissioners, youth, children, staff, special guests, and visitors will participate. Ottawa Presbytery wants to give a warm welcome to our guests and to make their stay as pleasant as possible. Moreover, it is also a time to show the United Church in this region.

Thus, we are seeking help from all of the pastoral charges to recruit volunteers to help with planning the local arrangements and in carrying out these tasks during the event. These tasks include such things as greeting at the airport, transporting luggage from registration to residences, assisting in setting up displays, helping at the registration table or information desk, planning local special events, distributing documents, serving as a first aid coordinator, or baking cookies and muffins.

Whether you have a few hours or a week to commit, we need your support to show what a vibrant, welcoming presbytery we are. It is also a good way to appreciate the wider church.

Registration forms for volunteers are available on our Presbytery Web site (<http://www.uccanottawa.org/Home.html>).

STEWARDSHIP

Submitted by Sherry Sharpe

What an exciting fall we have had so far! First, we had our ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 18th, complete with dignitaries, such as Councillor Allan Hubley, shown in the photo below, at right. What a huge success story! The federal government provided a \$34,000 grant to our church to enhance our building's accessibility. We went right to work and contracted out for the powered door entrances and new accessible washroom.



L => R: Sherry Sharpe, Rev. Brian Copeland, Counc. Allan Hubley

A HUGE thanks to Moe Wright for all the excellent work he has done over the spring and summer stickhandling the construction.



L => R: Moe Wright, Sherry Sharpe

Photos by Jesse Sharpe-Schmid

Pencil in these upcoming events for more fun, entertainment, and, of course, fundraising!



On October 22nd, we will be holding a **Fall Harvest Festival**. This includes a 100-mile Meal and Oktoberfest BBQ, book sale, bake sale, silent auction, yard sale, Nan's Cupboard, Christmas Shoppe, and much more.

Entertainment for the Festival will include a Barbershop Quartet, High-land Dancers, and more. Doors will open at 9 AM. Please see Susan McMullin or Sherry Sharpe if you are interested in donating items or helping out. Come join us for a fun-filled day and start your holiday shopping early!



On November 26th, we will celebrate St. Andrew's Day with another fun-filled ceilidh. Doors open at 6 PM. Following a fabulous turkey dinner prepared by our own UCW, there will be entertainment and dancing to the Sarah Burnell Band. We all thoroughly enjoyed this event last year. The entertainment was fantastic and we raised over \$1,500 for our church! Instruction for Scottish Country Dancing will be led by Nigel Kilby and friends. See Sherry for tickets. Bring your family and friends.

Come to the Ceilidh!



The Stewardship Campaign is finished and our results project pledges of \$128,000 in support of a \$225,000 budget.

As you can see, it is important to participate in the campaign so we can effectively manage our church's budget for the year. A huge "thank you" to the new Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) participants!

This programme supports all of the exciting work that is being done with our youth, as well as programmes such as faith formation. Being able to continue such work is only possible with your continued financial support.



Why not get into the PAR habit? **Pre-Authorized Remittance** is an easy way to contribute to the life and work of our church on a regular basis. You pay for 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 fill out an application form (available at the Welcome Table in the Foyer and in the pamphlet rack), attach a void cheque, submit it to our Church Administrator Patricia Will before the 10th of the month, and you can be on PAR for that month. The withdrawal is made from your account on the 15th of each month.

The **gift card program** is an excellent way to support ongoing fundraising for the church as well. To date, we have raised \$2,542. This is an easy way to raise funds. The gift cards provide a 3 to 5% return on the value of the card to the church.

Cards for Superstore, Loblaws, Metro, Sobeys, Home Depot, Canadian Tire, Zellers, Home Hardware, Ultramar, Petro Canada, Esso, Chapters Bookstore, and many more are available. Please visit the fundraising table after each Sunday morning Service.

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]

Your continued support and energy for Stewardship is important to the continuing life and vitality of our church.

MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by Patricia Taylor

Are you friendly and outgoing? Do you like meeting new people? Do you enjoy pot-lucks? Do you volunteer to give back to society to return some of what you have received? Can you spare an hour or two every month to help GCUC and the Membership Committee fulfill its mandate? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please read on.



The Membership Committee members are the people who stand at the Information Table in the Foyer every Sunday. They greet newcomers, ask them to sign the guest book, and answer questions about GCUC. We also host breakfasts for members joining or transferring their membership to GCUC. We host about three potluck lunches per year. That means we set up the tables, lay out the food, and clean up after. We are blessed with many helpers from the congregation, which makes everyone's job easier.

These are just a few of the many things we do. Are you interested in such a role? You will be working with a great team of dedicated (and patient) volunteers. I guarantee you will have fun and feel good about your contributions.

I have recently agreed to take on the position of Chair of Membership, replacing Norm Desjardins who has served in the position for a number of years. I'm at church most Sundays so just tap me on the shoulder and we can talk. Or, speak with any of the current members to obtain their view on this great opportunity to give back to GCUC. The Committee members include: Cathy Turner, Brenda Carr, Wanda McNea, Jim MacDonald, Denis Leclair, Bill Fuller, and myself. We would love to have you on our Committee.

Blessings, Patricia.

PERSONALIZED GCUC NAME TAGS

Submitted by Cathy Turner

As the song goes in the old TV series Cheers: "*Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came.*"

At Glen Cairn United we are always glad you came, and we want to know your name!

We offer our congregation two types of name tags: pins and magnetic. Each name tag has your name on it - the way you like it to be displayed - along with a logo of our Church window. The pin type costs \$9.00, while the magnetic type costs \$13.00. Either can be ordered at the Information Table in the Foyer. Cash payment is required when ordering and the pins are usually available for pick-up at the Information Table the following Sunday.

So, please consider getting your own name tag so we will all know your name!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Submitted by Kevin McComas

A big THANK YOU to all those people who have offered their services as a volunteer for the worship services for the upcoming year. Training was held in the Main Hall on October 2nd - also run by a volunteer. It is by everybody doing a bit that the many pieces of the GCUC puzzle are kept together. Volunteering also provides an opportunity to connect with other people as a church community. For those of you who have helped in the past, the Worship Committee thanks you.

September always seems a very hectic month in our church with so many activities and events being planned, restarted, and continuing. For some reason, I enjoy the bustle of activity that goes with this and find comfort in knowing the church is being used by so many people for so many different occasions. We hope that GCUC is a "welcoming" church filled with an active, moving Spirit.

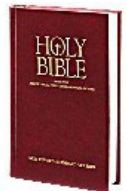
We have spent time planning worship services for the next few months ahead. We find that the church worship calendar is full and varied, yet is built around sound biblical ideas with much nourishment for inward thought. We hope the Sunday Service continues to be a time to refill your need for spiritual food and Christian companionship.

We are fortunate to have Kathryn Young-Davies as an observer on the Worship Committee as the Choir representative. The current members of the Committee are: Hazel Pompey, Co-chair with Kevin McComas, Patricia Will, Dianne Evans, Diana Miller, Mike Egan, Kathryn Young-Davies, and the ever-youthful Rev. Brian Copeland. All of us are very approachable and if you have something you wish to discuss regarding the worship services, we look forward to hearing from you.

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BIBLE STUDY

Submitted by Sandra Copeland



This group could also be titled "worship enrichment." At Glen Cairn United, all the Sunday School classes, all the choir music and hymns, and the Sunday sermon itself are based on set Bible passages taken from the "lectionary" each week. Sharing an in-depth look at these scriptures beforehand gives you the opportunity to get more out of your Sunday morning experience.

The lectionary is a set of common Bible readings used by Christian churches all over the world. The lectionary passages are designed to take the reader through all parts of the Bible over a three-year period. The scripture readings for the upcoming week are printed in the bulletin each Sunday for your use.

This is a lighthearted group that embraces varied ideas and opinions with lots of good discussion. No previous experience is required and everyone is welcome. Join us for coffee and study for an hour on Thursday mornings at 10 AM in the Lounge.

Does everybody know your name?

MUSIC

Submitted by Alison Kranias

The people at Glen Cairn love to sing, and, thanks to some great volunteers, there is a choir for everyone.



The Senior Choir has already been very active under the leadership of our new Music Director Alison Kranias, presenting anthems new and old and leading hymns on Sunday mornings.

The Cecilia Chorus, led by Eleanor Ford, is having lots of fun preparing Christmas music to share both here at the church and out in the wider community.

Peter Bishop has gotten the men of Gabriel's Chorus going again this year, and we'll be hearing them next month in the Remembrance Day service, singing the well-loved *Prayer for the Children*.

The Stained Glass Band and Revelation have also started rehearsing, so we'll have a great variety of music this season.

Young people of all ages will also be singing soon. The Youth will be singing with the Stained Glass Band on October 30th, and we'll first hear the Junior and Cherub choirs in our Advent concert on November 27th.

Both the Youth, led by Caitlin Johnston, and the Juniors, led by Jennifer Yeates, rehearse on Sundays after church. The Cherubs will begin practicing with Erin Johnston at the end of October.

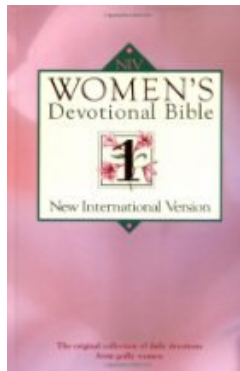
And, of course, we all get to sing every Sunday morning, even if we don't join a choir. I hope you catch a tune to whistle through the week!

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

Submitted by Cathy Turner

The first adult education session of the season is currently underway and the group is exploring how the Bible, as we know it today, was formed.

At Glen Cairn United Church we have a number of Bibles in our library should you wish to do your own exploring. Here are a few books that may interest you. These books can be found on the shelf near the coffee table in the Lounge. (*Reviews taken from Amazon.com*)

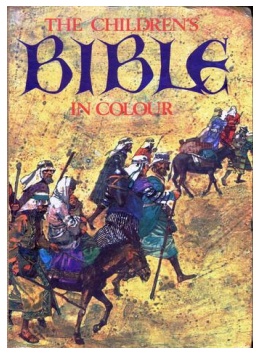
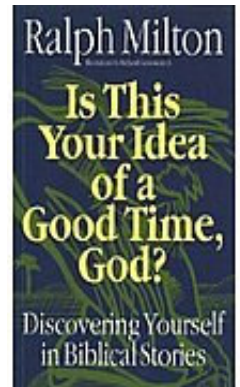


Women's Devotional Bible - New International Version

Encouragement, Insight, and Inspiration for Today's Christian Women. If you want to understand what the Scriptures have to say about your needs, your questions, your challenges, and your interests, the Women's Devotional Bible offers an inspiring alternative to other types of Bibles.

Is this Your Idea of a Good Time, God? Discovering Yourself in Biblical Stories

This retelling of 23 biblical stories will move you to laughter and tears, and bring new insights into characters like Eve and Adam, Hagar, Jacob, Naaman, Peter, Pontius Pilate, and Mary of Magdala. Each story is prefaced with biblical and historical background.



Children's Bible in Colour

This edition of the Bible, including both the Old and the New Testaments, is designed to appeal specifically to children.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

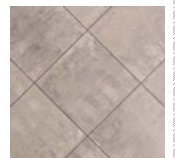
Submitted by Moe Wright

GCUC was very proud to host a ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 18th to officially recognize our new accessible washroom with a powered door opener, and powered door openers for the main front and rear entrances. We will now be able to consider GCUC even more welcoming to a larger number of souls in our community.

With significant thanks to the initiative of UCW President Martha Townshend Colford and her helpers, new flooring has been ordered for all the classrooms. We will now be looking for volunteers to help with installing the flooring, in one-room-at-a-time stages. And we would be absolutely thrilled if two or more folks would be willing to volunteer as project leaders, or co-leaders, if that is less intimidating. There is a sign-up poster in the Foyer.

With the recent resignation of our custodian, Joe Warnock, we are now accepting applications to fill this important part-time position. If interested, or you know of someone who might be, contact Delma Murray.

New classroom flooring! ➡



PASTORAL CARE

Submitted by Joan McComas

We warmly welcome Shelley McLaughlin to our team. We are pleased to announce that, like all the Pastoral Care Team members, Shelley has completed thirty hours of training in pastoral care work. She comes to us with a wealth of experience in working with children and youth. Shelley will have special responsibilities for children, families, and youth on our team. If you wish to contact Shelley or any member of the team, you can call the Pastoral Care contact of the month who is listed in the Bulletin each week, or you can E-mail care@gcuc.ca and a team member will contact you.

We will be hosting a special Service on the longest night, Wednesday, December 21st, at 7 PM. This will be a service of hope and light for the Christmas season and will involve quiet contemplation, beautiful music, and prayer. All are welcome.



Comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.
2 Corinthians 1:4

Several Pastoral Care Team members and other members of our congregation have been trained in Healing Touch and Healing Pathway. Training in Healing Pathway follows the concepts of Christian-centred healing through prayer, meditation, and the laying-on of hands.

If you have chronic pain, emotional stress, illness of any sort; if you are trying to cope with life transitions or deepen your spiritual connection; if you would just like to feel relaxed and escape from the stresses of life, you may benefit from a Healing Pathway session. The sessions are prayerful, contemplative, and relaxing, and are offered without charge.

We offer Healing Pathway sessions to our congregation on the third Wednesday of each month. You may book an hour-long session in the afternoon between 2 and 4 PM, or in the evening between 7 and 9 PM. Contact Lynda Brooks or by e-mail at care@gcuc.ca, to book a session.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Submitted by Tom Dickson

Last year was a full year for the GCUC Christian Education group, and this year promises to be equally busy. To start the year, Kevin McComas led a study group that explored the origins of the Bible. The group examined such topics as whether the Canon of the Bible should be re-opened versus leaving it as it is - a completed work. Kevin has done some marvellous study on his own to prepare for this engaging study group. Thanks Kevin!

Looking ahead, our next study group is based on the DVD boxed set titled "Uppity Women of the Bible." The four-volume DVD-based series features Hebrew Bible Professor Dr. Lisa Wolfe. Combining careful scholarship with humour and fresh insights, Dr. Wolfe presents food for lively, thoughtful discussion of Ruth, Esther, Judith, The Song of Songs.

In the "Ruth Study," we will look at the vulnerability of widows, the difficult situation of foreigners in Biblical times, and themes of loyalty, bitterness, courage, poverty, and seduction. In *Esther*, a book in which God is never mentioned, we enter into an exotic and fanciful Persian kingdom complete with a dim-witted King, a defiant Queen, and a loyal uncle.

In the Apocryphal book of *Judith*, believed to be a parable, we look at the themes of piety, lust, and violence amid the backdrop of warfare and intrigue. The "Song of Songs" is an intricate and sometimes puzzling book. Who wrote it? What sort of people are the main characters? Is it historical or mythical? Who is the Powerful Woman in this poetic book?

Join us in Room "A" starting October 23rd, at 11:25 AM as we take a closer look at these powerful women of Old Testament times.

Looking even further ahead to the winter and spring, there will be two more studies. Our Lenten study is called "Victory and Peace or Justice and Peace." This DVD-based study featuring John Dominic Crossan explores the juxtaposition of Roman Imperial Theology and the Kingdom of God. It tackles many thought-

provoking questions. What is the Character of your God? What is the Content of your Faith? What is the Purpose of Your Prayer? What is the Function of Your Church?

Later in the spring, we hope to offer another short study group to finish off the year. At present, there are just too many topics from which to choose, but we'll settle on something in the New Year. Watch for announcements in the Sunday bulletin.

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CHILDREN OF AFRICA

Submitted by Anne and John Toft

Visit the Children of Africa Canada Web page to see how much the children of Togo appreciate our help!

Abdou Amidou will be back to speak to us on November 13th about the impact our gifts are having on the children.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Children-of-Africa-Canada/241609502554330>



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BICYCLES FOR HUMANITY

Submitted by Emmett Will

While on the subject of helping our African neighbours, there is a local chapter of Bicycles for Humanity which collects surplus mountain bikes, cleans and repairs them, and twice a year, ships a 40-foot cargo container filled with bicycles and spare parts to an African country - Malawi, this year.

The bikes will be used by medical personnel to enable them to get around the countryside to visit their patients.

To learn more, have a gander at a recently-produced YouTube video at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JshlUXdaqjs>

OUTREACH CORNER

Submitted by Shirley Bishop

I will say right up front that I am looking for help to shape the Outreach Program so if you don't think you would have the time, save yourself some time and stop reading now.

I am looking for two or three people to help me create an Outreach "portfolio" that answers our call as a congregation to connect us in service as a Christian community with our local and global communities.

Currently, the Outreach Program is made up of three ongoing programs:

- ❖ Peri Kerr and her team of 20 congregants and community volunteers donate their time to work at the Food Cupboard every six weeks.
- ❖ Kathryn Graham represents Glen Cairn United Church on the inter-church Refugee Sponsorship Committee that brings families to Canada and helps them settle in to our city. Our congregation commits funds on an annual basis to support this program.
- ❖ The Monthly Appeal program responds to *ad hoc* requests for goods and money that come from a local or global community outside the church. Each month, I select one request as the "monthly project," advertise it, and individuals in the congregation respond to the appeal as they are able.

There are other instances of outreach in the congregation, individually-sponsored events that raise funds for organizations in need. These events are not "under the Outreach umbrella," so, although I am aware of some projects, I cannot identify them all. In fact, we, as a congregation, really do not know the scope and extent of all our outreach efforts.

With that in mind, I am asking you to consider a few questions. Are you satisfied that we, as a congregation, are doing all we can to reach out to, connect with, and serve others both locally and globally? What else could we do? What talents and resources do we have as a Christian community that we could harness to make a tangible difference in the world? Are you willing to help in some way to make it happen?

Right now, I am a "committee of one." Council members have joked that my meetings must be short since no one disagrees with me. While that may be so, if Outreach continues to be a committee of one, the shape of Outreach would reflect my thoughts and ideas only and not the spirit and intention of the congregation of Glen Cairn United.

I believe that a truly strong, viable, sustainable Outreach Program reflects who we are as a congregation and the energy we are willing to put into making this world a better place. A sustainable Outreach Program evolves according to the needs of the time and the will of the congregation, not just one individual.

Mission



Outreach

So, are you willing to help? Should we enhance the three programs we have? Should we add new programs? What should our Outreach Program look like? How can it be sustained? How can we invest our resources and energy where we know we are really making a difference? The possibilities abound. I need to hear your ideas and how you think you can help. Look me up after church, call or email me. (My contact information is available at the office)



Did you know?

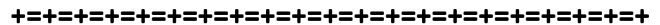
The GCUC Shepherd's Volunteer Program has been discontinued. After weeks of appeals, and even a little shoulder tapping, no one came forward to replace Kathryn Young-Davies as Coordinator. The Shepherd's program cannot be sustained without this vital role and so we reluctantly agreed to discontinue it.

Many, many, many thanks to Kathryn for building and running the program for many years and thanks to the many volunteers from both inside the congregation and outside its walls who faithfully answered the call to serve food to the homeless. You know who you are.

Godspell

The production of Godspell in May raised \$2,300! The organizers of the event have decided to divide the proceeds and donate to three good causes:

- ❖ \$768 to the GCUC General Operating Fund
- ❖ \$766 to the Friends of Ottawa Hospice
- ❖ \$766 to the Horn of Africa Appeal.



Lunch 'n Such

Submitted by Patricia Will

Be sure to mark your calendar for Wednesday, November 2nd at 12 noon when once again we will enjoy a lovely lunch together, followed by a very informative session presented by Constable Strottmann of the Ottawa Police. Have your questions ready for him.

Everyone is invited to attend Lunch 'n Such. The cost is only \$7 (\$5 for lunch and \$2 towards programming).

Looking ahead, our annual Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday, December 7th. Tickets will be available for that lunch shortly.



GLEN CAIRN UNITED IS NOW ON FACEBOOK!

Submitted by David Leclair and Emmett Will

Thanks to the foresight and initiative of long-time congregational member Dave Leclair, our church now has an attractive and informative [Facebook](#) page which all can easily access to learn of upcoming church and community events.

If you have already created your own Facebook account, you are in good company: close to one billion people worldwide (that's roughly one out of every 7 people on the planet!) use it to keep in touch with families and friends, and to learn about the community, association, and hobby groups to which they belong. Not bad for a service created by some Harvard University undergrads in February 2004, not quite eight years ago!

Not already enrolled?

For those who have heard of this rapidly-growing social media phenomenon, but know little about it, here is some information - and, we trust, reassurances - to help you decide whether you would like to become part of this world-wide communications phenomenon.

- ❖ First, the church's Facebook account will only be used to make you aware of upcoming church events and special occasions which, as an active member of our congregation, we are sure you would not want to miss!
- ❖ Second, this service will provide our Minister, Rev. Copeland, with a forum to share with you some of his thoughts relating to our faith and morals, and perhaps even news from Presbytery or the wider United Church of Canada - after all, we are just one congregation among many across the country.

- ❖ Third, this will provide a means for you to contribute your own thoughts and observations on church activities and policies, and to link to other members of our congregation whom you might like to know a bit better than just saying "Hi!" to on a Sunday morning.

To allay any concerns you might have about setting up your own Facebook account, and to learn how to do it properly once you've decided to take the plunge, Dave has kindly provided the following suggestions regarding privacy and security.

We encourage everyone to take advantage of this means to stay in touch, especially if you can't make it out to church every Sunday or attend every exciting church event in the months ahead.

Privacy and Security

The GCUC Facebook page has been created with all the available security features. As well, the Page Administrators will be notified immediately by E-mail when anyone makes a post on the page, so the use of the page can be properly monitored and filtered.

However, as it is a public page in order to provide access to both the congregation and the community at large, care should be taken to not include personal information in any of your posts (e.g.: telephone numbers, street addresses, E-mail addresses, *etc.*).

We also recommend that you activate all of the Facebook privacy features available on your own personal Facebook page to ensure that only your friends have access to your page. In that way, no one will be able to "click" on your name in any post you make and obtain unauthorized access to your page.

The tools are easy to use: just go to "[Home-Privacy Settings](#)" in the upper right corner of your page and make your selections. Consult the Facebook "[Help Centre](#)" for further information.

How to Make a Post on the Page

Posting a comment on the GCUC Facebook page is quite simple. Go to the "[Post](#)" box (containing the words "[Write Something . . .](#)") near the top of the page, type in your comment, and press the "[Share](#)" button. Your comment will appear beside your name at the top of the "wall," the portion of the page where all posts are listed. Both text and photos may be posted on the page. However, videos are prohibited as videos circulating around Facebook sometimes contain viruses.

Feel free to post comments about your own GCUC experiences, or on someone else's post, including "liking" their comment.

Facebook vs Web site?

The Facebook page is intended to complement our church's wonderful Web site, ably maintained by Anne Toft, David Baker, and others on the Web site Team; it is not intended to replace it. We encourage everyone to continue to view our Web site regularly for more detailed information about church activities, past, present, and upcoming; the Facebook page is primarily designed to alert you to upcoming events so that you don't miss out on anything important to you. If you haven't visited the Web site in a while, have a look today!

<http://gcuc.ncf.ca/>

Questions about the Page?

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the page, please contact one of the Page Administrators shown in the top right corner of the page ("[Admins](#)").

We hope to see you on Facebook!

Be informed.

Keep up to date.

Communicate and share.





OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
Submitted by Patricia Will

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the message of God's unconditional love. It provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on project of Samaritan's Purse that focuses on the true meaning of Christmas - Jesus Christ - God's greatest gift.

Operation Christmas Child was started in 1990 by Dave Cooke, a Welshman who felt moved to deliver gifts to Romanian orphans after seeing their living circumstances on television. In 1993, Operation Christmas Child grew and was adopted by Samaritan's Purse, a Christian organization run by Franklin Graham.

To date, Operation Christmas Child has collected and distributed over 86 million shoe box gifts worldwide. Each shoe box gift is filled with hygiene items, school supplies, toys, and candy, and is given to children regardless of gender, race, religion, or age. When culturally appropriate, copies of a book entitled *The Greatest Gift of All*, which has been translated into 130 different languages, are offered to children after the shoe box has already been distributed.

Join us:

- In celebrating the 640,714 shoe boxes collected in Canada in the 2010 season!
- In packing even more shoe boxes that will bless children around the world in the 2011 season!

The 2011 National Collection Week is November 21st to 27th. Please consider taking one or more shoeboxes to fill for children around the world this Christmas. The boxes are available for pickup by the doors to the parking lot.

Deadline for returning the boxes to the church is Sunday, November 20th.

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SUMMARY OF THE OCTOBER 2011 MEETING OF OTTAWA PRESBYTERY

Submitted by Barbara Reynolds

Ottawa Presbytery met at Manotick United Church on Tuesday, October 11th. The congregation warmly greeted presbyters and hosted a tasty 100-Mile Dinner.

Chair Rev. Dianne Cardin called the meeting to order and Catherine McVie, Chair of Manotick United Church Council, extended words of welcome. The congregation's worship band and Rev. Elaine Beattie led the court in worship focusing on creation. Following the routine opening business motions, Rev. Brian Cornelius, Treasurer, led the court through a preliminary look at the 2010 Reviewed Financial Statements and the 2012 proposed budget and assessments. These financial considerations will be decided in November. The proposed budget is a deficit one which takes into account that the Presbytery holds about \$98,000

in retained earnings. The proposed assessments are based on a 2.75% increase.

There was a focus on Youth and Young Adult Ministry as the Presbytery covenanted with the Rev. Hilary Merritt as the YAYA Presbytery Minister, and some of those who attended *Rendez-Vous*, the national United Church gathering for youth and young adults held in Toronto in August, reported on their experience. Those who shared were enthusiastic about the impact of *Rendez-Vous* in conveying energy, creativity and hope about the place of youth and young adults in the church.

Kiersten Jensen, Resource Centre Coordinator reminded presbyters of the upcoming Resource Fair and Learning Event. The theme this year is art and spirituality. Rick Balson talked about the photography workshop he will lead and Isabel Bender gave some highlights of the quilting workshop.

Rev. Grant Dillenbeck, Chair of the Mission Strategy Working Group of Ottawa Presbytery, highlighted the work of the denomination on new strategies for ministry and mission through EDGE. Those interested in the program and resources being offered can visit <http://blogs.united-church.ca/edge/>. Rev. David Sherwin then told the court about his application to the New Ministries Formation Fund through the United Church of Canada. He is proposing an arts-based ministry which would link the creative arts with spirituality and faith. David indicated that his hope is that Ottawa Presbytery would be willing to consider whether his project might be a "presbytery-recognized ministry."

"*C'est la Vie*," an ongoing movement by the French Ministries Committee which helps to build an understanding and vocabulary about ministry in French, was presented by Nicole Beaudry and Angelika Piché. It was a reminder that while some church terms are easily transportable from one language to another, other terms need a greater awareness of the appropriate translation. The French Ministry Committee is also looking for congregations who would be interested in hosting "Chantons Noël," a service of carol and readings in French during the Advent season. Those interested should contact Nicole.

There was to have been a presentation by the Church in Society Committee on the United Church of Canada program "*Covenanting for Life*," however, due to overrun in agenda time, it was deferred to a future meeting. However, Chair of CIS Rev. Ellie Barrington gave a brief introduction to the focus of the program. "*A Covenant for Life in Creation*" is proposed for adoption at the next General Council in 2012. This process calls us to renew, affirm, and live out the United Church's historic commitment to making our faith manifest in the world. Questions from the floor noted that General Council is seeking a response by October 15th. A motion was then considered giving indication of support in principle by Ottawa Presbytery and was carried.

The meeting closed with a benediction by Rev. Elaine Beattie. The Presbytery will next meet November 8th at Stittsville United Church.

Lillian Roberts, Presbytery Minister

FOOD CUPBOARD

Every six weeks, a number of volunteers from our church help out at the Food Cupboard, located here in Kanata at St. Paul's Anglican Church on Young Road.

Peri Kerr, our Coordinator, is looking for more packers and, in particular, drivers for Tuesday and Friday evenings. If you can spare a couple of hours one evening every six weeks, please contact Peri (Contact information is available at the office.)

You can make a difference in your community by helping those less fortunate!

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MEN'S GROUP

Submitted by Emmett Will

We're off to the races! The Rideau-Carleton Raceway will be the site of our next outing on Sunday, November 6th. Join us for a fabulous buffet supper - for only \$20! - and an evening of exciting racing. Plan to arrive at 6 PM so that you can start your meal before the first post is called at 6:30. If you'd like to carpool, meet in the church parking lot no later than 5:15 PM. *And . . . they're off!*

Many thanks to Mike McMullin for hosting our Third Annual Golf Outing on September 24th, and to Peter Bishop for organizing the foursomes which played at the Amberwood course once again. The winning team consisted of Jim Power, Moe Wright, and Peter Bishop, while the miniputt champ was Bill Samulack. We were lucky the rain held off long enough to enjoy the day and the BBQ at the McMullins' residence. Thanks to everyone who participated!

Future plans include a possible evening of pool in January, so watch for upcoming announcements. We invite all the men of the congregation, and their adult family members and friends, to join us in any or all of our activities.

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UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

United Church calendars are now on sale at the cost of \$6 each. Speak with Martha Townshend Colford or any UCW member soon because they go fast!



The final day to order your frozen blueberries, raspberries, and cranberries is Sunday, October 16th. The pick-up date is scheduled for Friday, October 21st, at 6:45 PM at the church. Don't miss out!

UNITED CHURCH OBSERVER

Submitted by Emmett Will, long-time Observer subscriber

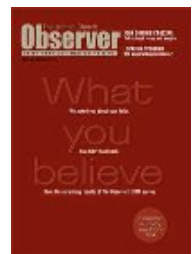
It's time to renew your subscription to the *Observer* magazine, the United Church of Canada's flagship periodical. At \$20 for 11 informative issues, it's practically a steal! You can pay by cash, or a cheque made out to Glen Cairn United Church, indicating that it is for a subscription to the *Observer*. Just pop your envelope into the Church Office mail slot. The deadline is the end of October.

If you don't already receive this terrific publication, I encourage you to consider doing so! Over the years, it has won countless awards as one of Canada's finest magazines - and not just in the religious magazine category. Each issue is packed with news of secular and religious events taking place across Canada and around the world which have an impact on our everyday lives.



In the October issue, for example, there is an in-depth look at the implications of Canada selling our precious water supplies to commercial bottlers and to other countries, specifically to the parched western regions of the United States. As well, there is an article entitled "*Under-employed and Overextended*" which examines the plight of generation X and Y Canadians who are struggling to deal with impossibly high house prices, and the lack of meaningful jobs appropriate to their high levels of education and abilities.

Past issues have covered the Alberta tar sands and oil pipeline controversies, the international efforts to relieve the poverty and starvation endemic to Africa and many other countries, the impact of global warming on developing nations, as well as the success stories of our sister United churches across Canada and our United Church partners in other countries.



If you find yourself feeling apathetic about, or even sickened by, world events as presented in the 15-second sound bites you view on the 11 o'clock news each evening and want to learn more about Canadian and global issues from a fresh religious and moral perspective, try subscribing to the *Observer* for a year. You will not be disappointed!



The deadline for submissions to the next issue of "Reach out!" is midnight, Saturday, November 12th.