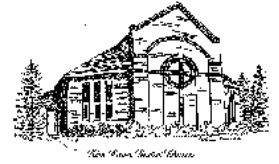




# Reach Out



Glen Cairn United Church Newsletter

Sunday Service 10:00 AM 140 Abbeyhill Drive, Kanata, Ontario, Canada, K2L 1H5 May 2012  
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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 Brian Copeland*

Sandra is the gardener in our family. She simply cannot wait until the snow has disappeared, and even before then, she is outside getting the yard ready for another season of blossoming. It takes ardent, persistent labour, and I think for Sandra it is a labour of love. To my benefit, the gardens come alive with a variety of plants in shape and size and colour. Where I had been piling snow from the sidewalk shovelling, a daffodil blooms, and in its time the beautiful allium will come forth.

The prophet Isaiah saw a time when, 'the wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom...; It was the time when the people of Israel long held in exile would at last return home. The joy of homecoming would be like a desert that rejoices and blossoms. Hard to imagine the dry, relentless sand bursting out in flower, but finally making it home would be just like that, and would bring to the people an incredible joy, beyond imagination.

In so many ways, spring and summer are a home coming in our northern latitude. We suffer the cold and increasingly icy winter, the trees barren of life, and snow making a blanket over the garden soil. But God created the seasons in their place, and from the emptiness of winter's ways new life, new birth arrives and the deserts bloom, the frozen soil, warmed by the sun, is the womb of beauty that brings colour to the landscape.

I can only rejoice in this time. For God has made us a creation of such colour and intricate pattern and design and we need only behold its wonder and give God great thanks. I pray as the spring becomes summer and life takes you in varied paths that the beauty and joy of God's world may blossom in you this year, and your soul may find its hope and satisfaction in the glory of God's good creation, each new day. Thanks be to God!

## UCW Window Dedication June 3



Property Management  
*Submitted by Moe Wright, Chair, Property Management Committee*

The next classroom to be re-floored is still pending - we are working on a time when a few good volunteers can collide long enough to attack it. Hopefully we will be doing it within the next few weeks, and the last room should be completed before the summer time.

After 25 years with the same entrance door locks, GCUC is now more secure with new locks in 7 entrance doors. The new locks require identified keys that can only be cut by the church's locksmith, and only when requested with an authorized signature. Control of the large number of keys needed by various staff and committees, and especially for the many renters, is a task that is admirably administered by our fantastic office staff.

This week, just before newsletter deadline, we are very happy to report that over 16 sections of broken and heaved sidewalk around the church has been replaced. We were exceedingly fortunate to connect with a contractor and concrete supplier who accomplished the replacement adventure, that is removal of the old sections and pouring and finishing of the new sections, all between 7AM and 3PM on Monday, with them ready for traffic on Tuesday morning. Their total job amounted to more than double the number of sections for less cost than the lowest of four other bidders, who had only bid on the 6 worst sections! And, the one section leading to the west rear entrance, which previously had a blunt curb at the driveway end, now has a seductively attractive slope to accommodate 'walkers' and 'power chairs'.

By the time this newsletter is published we trust that sufficient numbers of hardy souls will have turned up on Saturday for our annual spring clean-up. Last year we were disappointed with a very small group, but this year double the numbers have expressed intentions, and we pray they will all show up, and maybe a few bonus souls.

VIM Mortgage Proposal Approved  
*Submitted by Wayne Johnston, Past Chair and VIM Coordinator*

At a special congregational meeting on April 1, the congregation endorsed a proposal to discontinue our VIM mortgage payments. The proposal will now go to the Ottawa Presbytery and the United Church of Canada (UCC) for approval.

The congregational meeting brought to a conclusion a long series of discussions at church council throughout 2011. Proposals were presented to the congregation at large at a town-hall style meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup>. About 60 people attended the well-facilitated meeting. There was a vigorous discussion of the proposals.

GCUC council will present the proposal to the Ottawa Presbytery finance committee in May 2012. Following that meeting, GCUC expects to seek the approval of the Presbytery for the agreement.

Glen Cairn United built the church building in 1986 with the assistance of a \$500,000 loan from Ventures in Mission. VIM was a national programme to fund new church development and redevelopment of congregations. Over the years GCUC, like many congregations with VIM loans, struggled to repay the debt. Approximately, \$300,000 remains of the original debt. In 2009, the United Church of Canada authorized the development of new ways to relieve the burden of VIM debts.

In the spring of 2010, GCUC proposed a short-term debt relief to the General Council Office. The office responded to our proposal with a counter offer to end payments, in exchange for a claim on the GCUC property should it be sold. The congregation has now endorsed this proposal.

The funds made available will be used for new, local outreach. The Mission and Outreach committee, under the leadership of Shirley Bishop, is actively considering new initiatives. Their goal is to address unmet needs in the Glen Cairn community.



## OUTREACH CORNER

*Submitted by Shirley Bishop, Outreach Chairperson*

Three major things have happened since February's newsletter:

**First**, John Toft has agreed to serve on the Refugee Sponsorship Committee along with Kathryn Graham and as already attended his first meeting! Having two representatives on the Committee will help to share the workload. In the fall, look for John to be raising the profile of Refugee Sponsorship and the role our congregation plays to give hope, freedom and a future for refugee families.

**Second**, there is now an Outreach Committee. This is exciting news indeed! With the congregational decision regarding the Ventures in Mission (VIM) loan, Glen Cairn United now has even greater potential to do meaningful things in the Kanata community and beyond. There is much to do to set up the structure and process that are needed to assess, develop and manage outreach programs and projects in the coming months and years. And as the saying goes, many hands make light work. A huge thanks to the following who have come forward to help shape the future of Glen Cairn United Church, as well as those who already lead current programs: Bev Armbruster, Sandy Dobson, Holly Egan, Kathryn Graham, Peri Kerr, John Toft, Cathy Turner, Emmett Will, and Brian Copeland.

**Third**, the Chinese Seniors Support Group has rented space in the Church and is now in the process of setting up programs. What does that have to do with GCUC Outreach you ask? Well, a primary objective of this group is to integrate Chinese seniors into the community. One of our congregational members, Monica Lim, is a leader in this initiative and she, along with her fellow board members will be looking for ways the Chinese seniors group can partner with our congregation to help them get more involved in the Kanata community. This opportunity will benefit us as well, since it is one more way for our Church to be actively involved and relevant in Kanata community building. Who knows what possibilities will be offered to us as we move forward with open hearts in the spirit of service?

This is a time of great opportunity and excitement in the life of our Church community. Please, do not hesitate to talk with me about thoughts, ideas and any questions you have about Outreach.

### Children's Summer Activities

GCUC has an enthusiastic group of children and we are hoping to keep children and young families involved over the summer months. We estimate that there are usually 6 children, occasionally a few more. We are looking for volunteers, either alone or with a partner to organize an activity. It does not involve a full lesson plan but rather you might want to read a story and then do an activity, a craft or play a game. We have story books available and also a variety of craft materials. If you would be willing to work with the children but do not have ideas about an activity, I can help by providing some information and supplies. Summer is a special time for the children to get to know better some of the members of the congregation. We seek your help in meeting the needs of our young members on their spiritual journey.

Barbara Reynolds

New Tenant at GCUC

*Submitted by David Rothwell, Chair of Council*

We are very pleased to welcome a new tenant to Glen Cairn. The Kanata Chinese Seniors Support Centre (KCSSC) is now using our Church as their weekly drop-in centre on Wednesday mornings.

KCSSC is a Not-for-Profit organization, devoted to promoting healthy aging and integration of seniors into the mainstream society. The key components of their 2012 programs include community involvement and volunteerism; social, physical and recreational activities; health education; and skills development such as language and computer skills. The long term goal is to place a key focus on medical care related areas, providing services from helping seniors to make doctor's appointments to providing support for seniors recovering from illnesses.

Assisted financially by the City of Ottawa and Ontario Trillium Foundation through the sponsorship of the Social Planning Council of Ottawa, KCSSC has been able to hire a professional social worker, Wen Jean Ho, for 2 days per week to help organize and manage their outreach programs. In addition to renting Room A to KCSSC, we have arranged to have Wen Jean use our Church as a home base and office for her work in our Glen Cairn community area.

Wen Jean has considerable experience in social development and has worked closely with the Western Ottawa Community Resources Centre. We are excited by the idea of developing some GCUC outreach programs in response to our VIM commitment; and are actively cooperating with Wen Jean to assist us in this challenge, and perhaps assisting KCSSC in their new initiative.

Members of the Glen Cairn congregation were invited to attend the KCSSC launching ceremony on March 31 at Community Resource Centre. We wish KCSSC great success as we continue to work with Wen Jean and with KCSSC.



KCSSC Launching Ceremony attended by GCUC members Shirley Bishop (Chair, Outreach) and Emmitt Will along with Wen Jen Ho. Also in the photo is, Brian Levitan (left) and Jewel Lau (middle) of Homewatch Caregiver.

## One More Step Along the Road I Go

*Submitted by Elizabeth Boehm-Wilson*

The first formal step one must take to become a minister in the United Church of Canada is called the “discernment process.” I did that in the winter and spring of 2006 at Grace St. Andrew’s Church in Arnprior. Now, 6 years later I am fast approaching the end of the final step of the process, this internship with you.

Every step has been a challenge for me, something new, changing situations, me changing, new people in my life and new learnings. If I think about all that change at once, well, it makes me tired! But it happened little bit by little bit and all along the way there have been people who encouraged and supported me. I have been so richly blessed on this journey.

When traveling, young children (and sometimes even adults) will ask, “Are we there yet?” They are so eager to get to the destination and the trip itself is mere waiting. Well that has not been the case for me on this journey. Every leg of the journey was exciting and satisfying. I have enjoyed the trip so much that I have not been in any particular hurry to reach its end, but here I am none-the-less.

My internship at Glen Cairn has been a pleasant part of this trip. I am so happy to be part of your community for a time. I am grateful for your welcome, your friendship and support. I am grateful for your willingness to let me learn from you and practice ministry among you. I want to take this opportunity to thank Brian for giving of his time to “supervise” me and for sharing ministry with me. He has been a *super* supervisor and a colleague that I have appreciated getting to know. I also want to thank the following members of Glen Cairn for being on my “supervision team:” Susan Lucas, Linda Short, Wayne Kerr and Wayne Johnston. They meet with me monthly to hear about my learning experiences and to give me feedback. They have been wonderfully warm, supportive and generous with their time.

My last Sunday with you will be August 12. It’s a ways off yet, but this newsletter is the last one before I leave so I wanted to express my gratitude in print while I had the chance. These next 3 months mark the end of a journey for me. Thanks for being good travel companions on this road!

## Pastoral Care

*Submitted by Lynda Brooks*

The pastoral Care Team consists of a team of individuals who have completed a 10-week course on Pastoral Care. They are a group of individuals to this very important ministry of listening.

The Team members are – Brian Copeland (minister), Lynda Brooks (Chair), Joy Craigie, Joy Judd (looks after sending out cards), Shelley McLaughlin (Youth and Young Adults), Delma Murray and Moe Wright.

The team has put on a Pastoral Care service, a Healing Pathway Service, a service of Hope and Renewal as well as sending cards both from the team and the congregation.

Many church members have received visits from the team members.

Further education courses have also been attended.

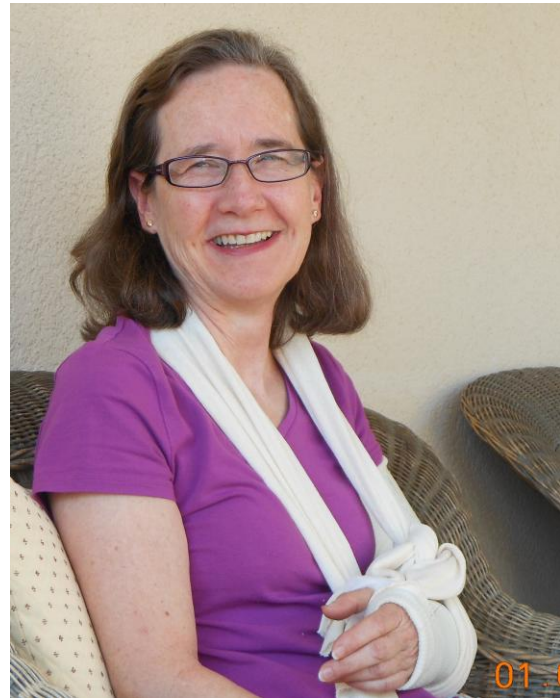
As you can see the team continues to be very active despite the fact their numbers are down.



Note to readers:

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Joanne Tuttle and I have been attending Glen Cairn for just over a year. I have taken on the task of newsletter editor with the view to getting to know the church and it's members. As this is my first attempt to publish the newsletter, I would ask that you bear with me as I experience some growing pains in taking over this position.

I would like to thank Emmett Will for encouraging me and providing some instruction on how to produce this newsletter. Thank you also to all the contributors. I would be interested in receiving items pertaining to Kanata which would be of interest to our readers. I do not live in the area so am somewhat out of touch with local activities.



The Healing Pathway  
*Submitted by Lynda Brooks*

The members of the Healing Pathway Team are, Lynda Brooks coordinator, Joy Craigie, Joy Judd, Nancy Kerr, Barbara Loynes, Martin Riechart, and Carla Van Delen.

Lynda Brooks and Barbara Loynes have now completed Phase 3 of the Healing Pathway. The Healing Pathway is available every Wednesday from 11:30 – 3:30 and 7-9 p.m. on the second, third and fourth Wed. of the month. A practice session is held from 6:30- 8P.m. on the First Wed. of the month.

Some members of the team also go to member's homes when the person is unable to go to the church. Sessions are free to all. Participants do not have to have an illness to come. In fact the Pathway does not treat illness. The Pathway is a balancing of our body's energies. When the energy of our body is in balance, we become energized, in balance, and can deal with anything that is going on in the body. If a person is sick then the pathway can direct the energy to the area that could use a boost in order to promote healing.

United Church Women

*Submitted by Martha Townsend Colford*

Now that the Rummage Sale is over, in between gardening, preparing lunches for Lunch 'n Such, and for some of us singing out with Cecilia Chorus we are making preparations for June.

We will be having our next meeting on Monday, May 14 at 7:30 pm. We will be planning for the 50th Anniversary Celebration and Dedication of the UCW Stained Glass window on Sunday, June 3, plus our hosting of the next UCW Fellowship Day on Monday, June 11. If you have any stories about your UCW experiences that you would like to share please let Martha know. They could include when UCW started in 1962, they could be from this church or another church, they could include something amusing or catastrophic, being welcomed into a new community or making a lifelong friendship, or a spiritual awakening.

Eleanor Mather's daughters are planning on attending the service on June 3. If you know of anyone else who used to belong to UCW or their family, please invite them to our service. We are looking for volunteers to help make fancy sandwiches plus we will be having an anniversary cake.

On June 11 many women from our presbytery will be coming to our church. Let us know if you would like to attend too. Members of our Healing Pathway team will be sharing their knowledge and experience. Ruth Richardson from Stittsville United will also be speaking plus we will have another 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

## The Stewardship Connection

What a fabulous event!!! The GCUC Spring Rummage Sale and BBQ on April 28 raised over **\$2,800** for the Church and we made a significant donation of toys and goods to Chrysalis House. A huge thanks to the many volunteers for making this a success!! We had the popular Nan's Cupboard, a Book Sale, Bake Sale, Silent Auction, Toys, Jewellery, BBQ and a Bicycle Tune Up Centre. This event not only helps accomplish our objectives to raise funds for GCUC for programming such as music, youth, and Christian formation, but also doubles as an outreach to our local woman's shelter and beyond.



The Stewardship Campaign is just beginning. We are looking to receive pledges for a budget of \$250,000 for this year. As you can see, it is important to participate in the campaign so we can effectively manage the Church's budget for this year. A huge thank you, to the new PAR participants and those that increased their PAR givings. This supports all of the exciting work that is being done with the youth and programs such as faith formation. Being able to continue such work is only possible with your ongoing continued financial support.



After returning from a restful summer and getting back into the groove, join us for a Fish Fry in September. A pleasant way to ease back into the routine and reunite with your Church family.



The Fall Harvest Festival on **October 20** entails a wonderful 100-mile Meal and Oktoberfest BBQ, book sales, bake sales, a silent auction, yard sale items, Nan's Cupboard, a Christmas Shoppe, and much more. Entertainment is planned for the event, as well.

The gift card program is an excellent way to support ongoing fundraising for the Church. Last year we raised **\$3,114** in gift card sales. To date, we have raised **\$1,350**. I'm sure we can surpass last year's fundraising! This is an easy way to do fundraising for the Church. The **grocery and gas** gift cards provide a **3-5%** return on the value of the card to the Church. Cards for Superstore, Loblaws, Sobeyes, Metro, Home Depot, Canadian Tire, Zellers, Home Hardware, Petro Canada, Esso, Ultramar, Chapters Bookstore, and many more are available. You can also order cards for clothing such as **Roots** and **Mark's Work Wearhouse** that give back **6%** or **Cineplex and Famous Players** that return **8%**. Orders placed on Sunday are available the next Sunday. Please visit the fundraising table after the Service. A **HUGE thank you** to our gift card volunteers – **Heather MacDonald, Greg Reynolds, Ann Toft, Elaine Green, and Norm Desjardins** - without you the program wouldn't be as successful as it is!





Each week, the ministry of Glen Cairn United touches hundreds of lives through worship, Bible Study, Sunday School, fellowship groups, Youth Group, pastoral care, counselling, outreach into the community, and in many other ways. Your continuing support is vitally important, and your pledge is a great help to us as we plan for the future in a faithful and responsible way. We are a welcoming and growing Church. Please review your givings commitment and give prayerful thought to making an additional investment in a strong and vibrant Church community. *An increase of 5-10% makes a significant difference.* **Consider giving through PAR.** PAR helps support your Church Council significantly in its stewardship functions. If you are already a PAR supporter, please consider revisiting your PAR profile. **Givings in Local Operations** are essential to the ongoing sustainability of the Church and less restrictive than Capital. The Capital Fund is currently in great shape. It is Local Operating that requires the attention.



**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 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 newcomers' table and the pamphlet rack, attach a void cheque, submit it to our secretary Pat Will before the 10th of the month, and you can be on P.A.R for that month. The withdrawal is made from your account on 15th of each month.

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*

***Through stewardship, we offer back to God a portion of the Time, Talent, and Treasure that God has given to us.***