



# Reach Out

Glen Cairn United Church Newsletter



Sunday Service 10:00 AM  
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[www.gcuc.ca](http://www.gcuc.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

Everywhere outside my office is under construction. The Road Closed sign remains up, survey stakes have sprouted, orange and black pylons abound, backhoes and diggers fill the air, and Abbeyhill is down to one lane in places. All in a normal Ottawa construction season. Strangely perhaps, it reminded me of a line from my favorite hymn, 'Love Divine, All Loves Excelling'. Charles Wesley's great words include this petition to God, 'Finish then thy new creation...' We are not complete. God is still working on us. There is more to do, more to finish before we become the final product.

Indeed, some have suggested that Christians ought to carry a permanent sign around their necks: Still Under Construction. God in God's love is recreating us, day after day, year after year. It fits for me. I am different from twenty years ago, and most definitely from forty years ago. What I have learned from my mistakes, and what I have learned about myself and God has changed me over and over again. I am, indeed, still under construction.

As a congregation we are far from static. And that is a good thing. We have changed dramatically in just the last five years. Our outreach commitment has been revitalized in so many ways. New people have joined us on the journey of faith in large numbers. Every year we offer new and even more interesting Adult Education programmes. And yet, my sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus, we are still under construction.

God is still putting the finishing touches on us. Which makes this new church year exciting. How God's Spirit will work in us, how God's Spirit will change and renew us is unknown. Like Wesley, we pray, 'finish then thy new creation...' Transform us God this year, for your purpose, so that we may continue to be your servants in the world!

## Bible Study

*Submitted by Sandra Copeland*

You are invited to set aside time in your week for some spiritual reflection. Everyone is welcome to join this lighthearted group as we delve into the background and meaning of the weekly bible readings, on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8 p.m., room E at the church.

Call Sandra Copeland for more information.

## **The Syrian Refugee Crisis**

*Submitted by John Toft*

What can we do? Our congregation is one of seven United, Anglican and Presbyterian Churches in Kanata and Stittsville who form the Kanata Stittsville Refugee Sponsorship Group (KSRSG). Over the past 10 years the KSRSG has helped sponsor three families from Syria. At a meeting of the KSRSG held recently, there was unanimous agreement to explore sponsoring and/or partnering with others in sponsoring more refugees from Syria. Once we have found a suitable candidate or candidates, we will begin the process of sponsorship. We encourage you to make a donation to our church specifically to help us sponsor Syrian refugees. This will help determine the number of sponsorships to pursue. Documents from the Canadian Association of Sponsorship Agreement Holders are available from the church office with information which can be useful in raising refugee related issues during the election campaign. The Canadian Council for Refugees has information about how we can respond to the Syrian refugee crisis at the following web site <http://ccrweb.ca/>. You can also find information and make donations to help Syrian refugees at the following web sites (note that donations to Canadian denominations for Syrian refugee support will be matched by the federal government):

The United Church of Canada <http://www.united-church.ca/>

The Presbyterian Church in Canada <http://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/2015/09/14/respond-with-us-to-the-syria-crisis/>

The Anglican Church <http://pwrdf.org/>

You can also donate to the United Nations High Commission on Refugees [https://donate.unhcr.ca/index\\_custom.php?page\\_id=syria](https://donate.unhcr.ca/index_custom.php?page_id=syria)

or UNICEF <http://www.unicef.org/emergencies/syria/> .

The next KSRSG meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 21 at Stittsville United Church at 7:00 pm. All are welcome. Thank you for your support.

## **Name Tags**

*Submitted by Cathy Turner – Membership Committee*

New in town or been around? Everyone is welcome at Glen Cairn United Church. We just would like to know who you are.

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. Pin types are \$10.00 and magnetic types are \$15.00 and 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.

## **United Church Women**

*Submitted by Martha Townshend Colford*

By the time you read this I will be breathing a little bit of a sigh of relief as we will have had two of the events that we needed volunteers for. This fall and winter we found ourselves in the position of catering to many activities. It is so positive that we are able to show off our church abilities, building, and our faith in God to so many people but there is no way that 5 people can organize, set-up and clean-up, make food and still have smiles on their faces at the end of the day. So I believe this is a test time for our church. Do we want to look inward or do we want to showcase what our congregation is capable of. For those of you who have so graciously given of your time and talents I do thank you so much.

On Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> we hosted the Ottawa UCW Presbyterial Fellowship Day. It was a lovely day for 60 women from the Ottawa area and western Quebec. In the morning, Shirley Bishop informed all of us of the history of the Oasis program in our church and how it has been so beneficial to many people of our community. We also had a caregiver speak who is so grateful for the Oasis support as she told about how her family's life has changed due to mental illness. It doesn't just affect one person but the whole family's dynamic changes. She was very eloquent and we were all very moved. In the afternoon we enjoyed David Sherwin's presentation on his trip to Haida Gwaii as an adult supervisor with the youth of our Presbytery. The stories were funny and the pictures were stunning. But David also had a serious side to the trip and talked about the system and the legacy of residential schools that affected the native peoples of that area. It also was so moving and gave us thought as to how wrong it is to judge cultures different than our own.

On Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> we hosted a dinner for our church family who went out earlier in the day to play golf and mini-putt. They thoroughly enjoyed a dinner of ham and scalloped potatoes and pies made by Nancy Sprules and Sandra Copeland. Thank you to golfers and others who set-up tables, put them away, and washed dishes and lifted the heavy trays in and out of the dishwasher.

The weekend of October 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> is also going to be a very busy time. We will be setting up on Friday for the Fall Harvest Festival which this year is going to include a Quilt display from both the Kanata Guild (who meets in our church) and the Richmond Guild. Thanks to Nancy Sprules for organizing those two groups. Please let Martha know if you can help in any way. We need tables set-up and items put out. On Saturday we need people to sell books, baking, Christmas and Halloween items, and our delicious bbq lunch. We then need a crew to clean-up from that event which will morph into setting up for the spaghetti dinner starting at 5:30 pm. Pat Will is looking for people to cook the spaghetti so speak to her if you are able to do that ahead of time.

On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> Oasis is hosting an all-day event for the Mental Illness Caregivers Association. We are not sure yet how many people are attending but I am taking names of people who are able to provide food: sandwiches, veggies and fruit, cheese, pickles, squares.

Other events that will be coming soon that you may be interested in attending or in volunteering or both are:

Sat., December 5 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Cookie Walk, Craft Fair, and Silent Auction

Mon., December 14 UCW Christmas Potluck

Wed., December 16 Christmas Dinner at noon

Sat., January 23 Robbie Burns Dinner

Tues., February 2 Presbytery Dinner

Our meeting in October will be cancelled due to Thanksgiving and our meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup> will be a craft meeting in preparation for the Cookie Walk. If you have an idea you would like to share please let me know.

The first 6 months of our 2015-2016 UCW year are filled with busy activities. We hope our second half will be filled with more learning and fun activities.

An advantage to having so many events to cater too is the extra money that we earn. In case you were wondering where some of that money goes, we buy items needed in the kitchen, the large folding tables, carts, small folding tables for the Sunday School and more A-frames for the signs we use to advertise events.

Watch the bulletins for more details but we will soon be taking orders for frozen berries which may be picked up at 9 am on November 7th. The prices this year will be \$19 for blueberries, \$27 for raspberries, and \$15 for cranberries. Also Church Calendars will be sold for \$6.

If you have any questions, would like to help, or need more information, please speak to me, Martha Townshend Colford.

### **Sunday School and Youth**

*Submitted by Jason Winter*

We are very excited to have our Sunday School back up and running after our time off during the summer! In addition to some new children, we are also thrilled to welcome some new teachers who have agreed to join in our Sunday School journey. This year, we will feature a 3-5 year old class, a 6-9 year old class, and our Seekers class for all of the older children. We are really looking forward to the coming months, where we will learn about stewardship, God, Jesus, prayer, the Kingdom of God, and so much more!

As in previous years, the Sunday School is already planning a few special presentations for the rest of the congregation: we will be performing a song as a Sunday School for the whole congregation sometime in the coming months, as well as putting on our very own Christmas Pageant! But these are not the only special things, we as a Sunday School will be undertaking to learn about stewardship. One of the classes will be learning to take care of a plant through the coming months. We will have special intergenerational activities during some of the services, and we have already had a visit from the bouncy castle to get the year started with a "bounce"!

The Seekers class is thrilled to be back into the normal classes, but are also excited about our upcoming Youth Events! Keep your eyes on the bulletin for upcoming events, including pumpkin carving, and much more! Our Youth events are open to all middle school and high school students, and information about signing up will be posted in your bulletins!

We look forward to a fantastic year of fun and learning together!

## Church Library

*Submitted by Cathy Turner*

Our library is located in the lounge area at the rear of the sanctuary. It is open for everyone's use and has close to 700 items. Some of the topics include: devotionals, music CDs, spiritual development, pastoral care issues and books for children and youth. A catalogue is kept in the binder on the sign-out shelf, which is to the right of the doors inside the lounge.

Why not challenge yourself to one of the quiz books that we have on hand:

- The Complete Bible Quiz Book
- That's in the Bible? The Ultimate Learn-as-you-play Bible Quiz Book

Both these books are located in the Youth section, which can be found on the shelves above the sign-out book, and books in this section have the happy face stickers on them.

Or, if a quiz is not for you, why not check out books specific to Glen Cairn United Church (GCUC) as well as books on the United Church of Canada (UCC). In June 2015, the United Church Women celebrated 90 years in existence; why not have a look at:

- Ordinary Heroes. Celebrating United Church Women

The sections on GCUC and the UCC can also be found on the shelves above the sign-out book. GCUC books are identified by a yellow dot sticker and the UCC books have a small gold star sticker.

Happy Reading!

# Lunch 'n Such

Come join us on

**Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at noon**

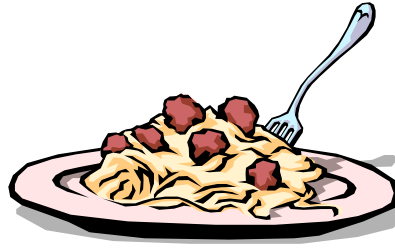
Everyone is welcome to join us for a hearty Fall lunch of homemade soups, sandwiches and dessert. Our programme this month is **Planning Ahead and**

**Being Prepared** - Hulse, Playfair & McGarry will be presenting an **informative** session addressing important issues to you and your family. Their preplanning counsellor will provide an honest approach to funerals and how to plan ahead to make things easier on your family.

Cost: \$7 (\$5 Lunch and \$2 programme fee)

Everyone is welcome!





**Family Spaghetti Supper** Join us, families, singles, seniors, for a fun time of food and fellowship following the Annual Harvest Festival on **October 17<sup>th</sup>**. The dinner is served at **5:30 p.m.** Menu consists of salad, rolls, spaghetti with meat sauce or vegetarian sauce and make-your-own sundaes for dessert. Gluten free pasta will also be available. Only 150 tickets will be sold so don't wait to get yours. Tickets are now on sale at a cost of \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 and are available in the main hall after church or from the church office during the week. Invite family and friends to a wonderful time of fellowship and great food.

## **Monthly Outreach**

*Submitted by Holy Egan*

If you have an idea for a monthly outreach initiative, please speak with Holly Egan or Cathy Turner.



### **School Supplies Outreach Thank You!**

The Kanata Food Cupboard has helped 80 families to go back to school well-equipped for the school year. Our donations of backpacks, lunch bags, rulers, markers, pencils, math sets, locks, and so much more, contributed to the success of this program. Thank you!

## **Upcoming....**

### **October Outreach – Hope Living –Hats & Mitts, Underwear & Socks, Toiletries**



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In October we will be collecting hats, mitts, socks, underwear & toiletries for The Shepherds of Good Hope - Hope Living Residence on Castlefrank. This location offers communal and autonomous living to men and women diagnosed with a serious mental illness, and to older adults 65 years plus.

### **November Outreach – Angel Program**

This year GCUC will once again be supporting the Kanata Food Cupboard's Angel Tree program, which provides gifts for children of families in our area who are currently being helped by the Kanata Food Cupboard.





Cathy Turner and Emmett Will at **The Oasis in Kanata** information table at the **Kanata Community Fair**. The fair was held on Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup> at Kanata United Church to highlight organizations and services available in our community.

### **Mental Illness Caregivers Association Family Summit to be held in Kanata**

Mark Saturday, October 24, to attend the third annual Mental Illness Caregivers Association (MICA) Summit at Glen Cairn United Church, 140 Abbeyhill Drive, in Kanata. If you are a family member or a friend of someone who suffers from mental illness, this is your chance to connect with others who face the same challenges.

This year's theme, "Families Building Partnerships," focuses on caregiver collaboration and engagement with both public and private institutions to bring about long-lasting solutions to the issues that affect families of those with a mental illness. Caregivers throughout Eastern Ontario are invited to attend this free day-long event running from 9 am to 4 pm. Pre-registration is required, however, and space is limited so, if you plan to attend, please register before October 9 at [www.micaontario.com](http://www.micaontario.com).

Paul McIntyre, president of MICA and a caregiver himself says, "Every caregiver asks the same questions: Where can I go for support? What financial help is available? How do I keep myself strong and healthy? What will happen to my loved one when I'm gone?"

The reality, says McIntyre, is that no single organization has the answers and governments do not have the capacity to meet the demand. "We, as caregivers, must work with each other and with institutions, both public and private, in our communities to find practical solutions together."

For example, family members from regions across Eastern Ontario have been working closely with organizations such as Ottawa Public Health, The Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technology in Health (CADTH), Canadian Mental Health Association, Canadian Public Health Association, Citizen Advocacy of Ottawa, Ontario Disability Support Program, Renfrew Mental Health Services and others, in addressing some of the challenges being faced by caregivers.

The caregiver is the front-line and often only touchstone, advocate, and support to help their loved one face the challenges of living with mental illness. Caregivers themselves can feel overwhelmed by the emotional, physical, and financial demands of managing the daily challenges; working towards recovery; and planning for the future.

MICA, established in 2008, is an association of family, friends, and consumers of mental health services who provide mutual support to manage the effects of serious and persistent mental illness. In recent years, the organization has worked across Eastern Ontario to identify priority issues and stimulate action.

In 2012, MICA conducted a "Quality of Life" study with caregivers and service providers in Smiths Falls, Cornwall, Pembroke, and Ottawa. Change can be slow to effect but, since the second "Roadmap for Change" Summit held a year ago, project Champions and their teams have made significant progress in priority areas. MICA-sponsored events such as the Family Support and Education session in Smiths Falls; the "What happens when I am gone" workshop in Cornwall, and the Disability Benefits workshop in Renfrew County are making a difference in the Eastern Ontario community.

MICA's 2015 "Families Building Partnerships" Summit is an opportunity to learn more about the "Roadmap for Change" initiatives and progress being made by family members and their partner institutions, for caregivers to connect with other caregivers, and to contribute ideas that will help create a better quality of life for themselves and their loved ones.

For more information about MICA, or to register for the Summit, please visit the MICA Web site at [www.micaontario.com](http://www.micaontario.com). For more details about MICA or the Summit, call 613-860-7800. The event is free, but registration is required prior to October 9. Refreshments and a light lunch are included.

MICA's "Families Building Partnerships" Summit is being hosted this year by The Oasis in Kanata at Glen Cairn United Church, 140 Abbeyhill Drive in Kanata. The Oasis in Kanata is an outreach program of Glen Cairn United Church that provides information and support to caregivers of people with symptoms of mental illness. For more information on The Oasis in Kanata, visit our Website at [www.TheOasisKanata.ca](http://www.TheOasisKanata.ca).

## **Property Management**

*Submitted by Moe Wright*

We had a moderately good turnout for our Annual Spring Clean-up, and the team performed wonderfully doing great jobs of pruning, raking, mowing, sweeping, washing, gardening & more. GCUC was the grateful beneficiary of a NEW top quality Honda walk-behind self-powered mower, donated anonymously! And, on a related topic, we really appreciate the great voluntary work efforts of Rohan Cherian and Tom & Kathy Shultz for keeping the lawns looking great this year. And we cannot forget the super work done by our dedicated gardening committee - they've done a marvelous job.



Property management worked together with Ministry and Personnel to hire Wendi Ferrone as our new custodian, and everyone is exceedingly pleased with her high integrity work.

A worn out water hydrant that serves the south garden needed a major overhaul to correct serious leaking. We were lucky to locate the original 1986 plumber for GCUC who not only still had the illustrated records and the necessary parts, which are no longer available from plumbing supply firms, he provided useful advice to enable us to re-build the frost-free tap.

A fire safety inspection was done. A contractor for the city of Ottawa installed a new remotely readable water meter, the timing of which had to be scheduled when the building did not have renters or other church activities going on. It was also necessary to have a service call to successfully unplug our central vacuum system. We have installed new paper towel dispensers, donated by our supplier, in the two washrooms, and believe they will serve well in the reasonable rationing of the towels. Robert Tate did a great job in replacing/repairing window hinge mechanisms in the sanctuary, with a couple more pending. David Baker continues to regularly replace furnace filters and tend to the replacement and monitoring of thermostat settings and batteries, and other chores. Ongoing maintenance work includes the replacement of ceiling light bulbs/tubes and ballasts (*some of which are high up*) and many other miscellaneous tasks.

It is also important to acknowledge the dedication of Faye Adams and Delma Murray for their never-ending attention to the avalanche of miscellaneous thingies that would normally be overlooked by most folks. It is easy to understand the popular assumption that they must 'live at the church' - and we thank them sincerely for all they do.

### **Membership Committee**

*Submitted by Wanda McNea*

After a hiatus over the summer, the church calendar becomes busier once September rolls around. Bill Fuller has retired from the Committee due to increased work and family demands on his time and we thank him for his assistance. We are welcoming Todd Nadelle and Sharron Ladouceur to the Committee this Fall, so you will soon see them helping at the Information Table.

On October 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a Membership Transfer Service for attendees who wish to become members of GCUC. The Membership Committee welcomes new members with a breakfast where they can meet members of Council and the Minister prior to the service.

The Membership Committee will also host a "Bountiful Harvest" Potluck on November 15<sup>th</sup>. For anyone new to United Church Potlucks you will quickly learn that there is always plenty and all are welcome with or without a contribution to the communal meal after church.

Stop by the Information Table to chat, purchase a name tag, sign up for envelopes or ask about PAR, pick up monthly calendars or the "Reach Out" Newsletter or find the right person to answer a question you have.

## **Kanata Stittsville Refugee Sponsorship Group**

*Submitted by John Toft*

Greetings Everyone,

I trust you have had a good summer. I have just returned to work after four months of Sabbatical and holiday. Like all of you I have been deeply saddened and troubled by the ongoing news of the refugee crisis in Europe, including those fleeing war-torn Syria. Just over two weeks ago I was in Germany, Austria and Italy, and heard from clergy, church members and the media, about the impact this crisis is having on people's lives, and on the countries in that part of the world. Germany alone is expecting to receive between 500,000 and 800,000 refugees this year alone! I also saw signs on a number of churches and other public and private buildings boldly proclaiming "Refugees Welcome."

As you know, the refugee situation in Syria, not to mention other countries in that region, has been increasing for several years. This past week I had the opportunity to meet a woman who works with the Canadian embassy and Citizenship and Immigration Canada office in Ankara, Turkey, and heard about some of the challenges being faced by staff there. Recent tragic events have led many people in the member congregations of the Kanata Stittsville Refugee Sponsorship Group to ask what we might be able to do to help in this very critical situation.

Here is some initial information from Rev. Grant Dillenbeck, Chair of the Kanata Stittsville Refugee Sponsorship Group, which may be of interest to you.

As a result of an appeal from the United Nations High Commission on Refugees, the Canadian government and denominational leaders in Canada pledged to assist those in refugee camps in Syria. In 2009 and 2010 the KSRSG provided financial and other assistance to Parkdale United Church in the sponsorship of the five member Abu Nasser family who were living in a refugee camp in Syria, having originally come from Iraq. We are happy to report that the Abu Nasser family is doing well, and is living in southwestern Ontario. In 2011, we offered financial assistance to St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church in the sponsorship of the eight member Asmah family, who also came to Canada from a refugee camp in Syria. They too are doing well and continue to live in Ottawa. This year we offered additional financial support to St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church with their sponsorship of Thikra Abdullah and her three adult children who are related to the Asmah family, and who were living in Turkey after fleeing Syria. The family arrived in late May and are settling into life in Ottawa.

In recent years we have received other requests to assist those fleeing Syria. It has been very difficult to do so, in part because so few people have been provided refugee status by Citizenship and Immigration Canada. As you have undoubtedly heard, though the Canadian Government has stated its intention to accept 10,000 refugees from Syria, only about 2,500 have been resettled in Canada in the past two years. In spite of the assistance the KSRSG has provided to the three families mentioned, we continue to ask what more we can do.

We encourage all those in the churches who are a part of the KSRSG to request that the Canadian government to do more to receive refugees from Syria, and to ask those running in the upcoming federal election how they would respond to this crisis if elected. There is additional information about what Canada and Canadians can do to respond to this crisis on the Canadian Refugee Sponsorship Agreement Holders Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SAHAssociation>. I have attached a recent media release from that organization. Some of us will also be hearing more about how we might respond at the upcoming meeting of the Ottawa Presbytery of the United Church.

It is also important to note that the KSRSG is committed to assisting in the sponsorship of two

families from Afghanistan who are presently in Tajikistan. We have received news that their sponsorships have been approved, and are awaiting details about when they might be arriving in Ottawa. A date for the next meeting of the KSRSG will soon be set, and will provide more information about these and other refugee related issues in the near future. Please feel free to contact me with any specific questions or comments you may have.

We are grateful for the support we receive from our member congregations, and look forward to your ongoing involvement. Please pray for those who are desperately fleeing war and violence, and are seeking a life of freedom, peace and security for themselves and their families. Pray also for all of those who are seeking to offer sanctuary and safe haven to refugees. And pray for the KSRSG that we might be able to do what we can to respond to God's call to care for our refugee neighbours.

## **The Canadian Refugee Sponsorship Agreement Holders Association**

Media Release  
September 4, 2015

The Canadian public wants to help refugees who are running for, and losing their lives. Canadians have been contacting Sponsorship Agreement Holders in record numbers asking how they can contribute to a sponsorship enabling Syrian refugees to find a safe home in Canada.

The Council of the Canadian Refugee Sponsorship Agreement Holders Association (SAH Council) represents the organizations in Canada that sponsor refugees under the Private Sponsorship program. The SAH Council understands that refugee resettlement is not the whole solution to the Syrian crisis, but it is definitely an important part of it. Ever since Canadians resettled 60,000 Southeast Asian refugees 30 years ago, Canada has been recognized as a leader in its ability to respond to a crisis of huge magnitude by bringing desperate families to safety in Canada.

The following are issues Canada must address or it will lose its role as a leader in resettlement:

- More Government resources and staff are needed in Canada and at visa posts to keep up with the sponsorship applications and reduce very long processing times.
- Refugee resettlement is about the urgent need for protection. Sponsorship procedures need to be fast and efficient so that lives are not lost in the current situation of endless red tape.
- Barriers to the private sponsorship of refugees must be reduced. This includes removing restrictions on Group of Five sponsorships and providing exemptions which will expedite family reunification.
- The Government of Canada needs to quickly resettle many more Syrian refugees, and not at the expense of its resettlement commitments in other places around the world.
- The Government's commitment must be funded by the Government. All private sponsorships should be in addition to the Government's commitment.

For more information, please contact the members of the SAH Council:

Brian Dyck, Chair  
[204-801-7481](tel:204-801-7481) (c)

Aslam Daud  
416-560-7933 (c)

Tom Denton  
204-589-2092

Ellen Erickson  
306-955-5010

Paulette Johnson  
780-391-3327

Scott McLeod  
905-682-9232

Susan Nye-Brothers  
902-969-4892 (c)

Rebecca Walker  
905-703-5793 (c)

## **Devotion presented at Worship Committee meeting**

*Submitted by Wayne Johnston*

"The mixing of sport and religion has been in place at least since the Greek athletes offered ritual sacrifices to the gods in the hope of enhancing their performance in events. In my Catholic childhood making the sign of the cross before a free throw was fairly common practice. Today the presence of the deity in sporting events seems, dare we say, omnipresent."

*Richard C. Crepeau,  
University of Central Florida*

Football season is upon us, with the NFL regular season having started last week. The NHL begins in early October, which means that our wives won't see much of us until May or June, depending on how the Sens perform. The United Church is also starting its new season, and so I did some research on the similarities between sport and religion.

- Both have places and buildings for their events;
- Both are controlled by hierarchical organizations;
- Historically, they were dominated by men;
- Presently, male domination is reducing (much more so in Christianity);
- Both have times of significant importance (religious holidays, playoffs);
- Their events are saturated with rituals;
- They have heroes, stories and legends;
- They have villains (devil, Leafs);
- They can evoke commitment and excitement;
- They give a sense of belonging;
- They stress discipline, repetition and the development of character.

The research also led to some differences.

- Religious beliefs are grounded in the supernatural realm while sport is grounded in the material and physical realm;
- Religion wants us to transcend material life, while sport is all about material issues;
- Religion is non-competitive, sport is highly competitive.

All I needed to know about life I learned in hockey: practice hard, respect coaches, teammates and opponents, be committed, and be resilient.

By Mike Egan

## **Outreach Committee**

*Submitted by Nancy Sprules*

We have been blessed by an extended summer through the first few weeks of September. The weather has made getting back into the swing of things a bit more challenging as the lure of the cottage, beach and hiking trails is still there! However, the Outreach Committee is in full swing once again preparing for Outreach Sunday on September 27 and presenting another Oasis in Kanata information session on September 21. Our Seniors Liaison group is hosting Ruth Winter as she presents a talk on her recent travels to Spain on September 29 and our Monthly Outreach program is targeting the Ride for Refuge Oct 3 for its September appeal. Everyone is back on track and working hard.

The heart breaking and sometimes rather frightening pictures of refugees and migrants pouring out of the Middle East and into Europe has dominated the news of late – overshadowing the fall election and bringing a whole new and urgent topic to debates and news scrums. We are all eager to help but finding an effective and reasonable way is the challenge. Our own Kanata Stittsville Refugee Sponsorship Group is working overtime to find a way to expedite the work of bringing refugees into the Kanata/Stittsville area. As you will have heard over the past year or two from John Toft, our representative on the committee, sponsoring refugees, even from United Nations recognized camps, has been more than difficult. The process is so slow and the parameters seem to change on a whim so that there is a stalemate between the desires of the sponsors and the needs of the refugees. The KSRSG is working hard to mitigate some of these problems so families can move and resettle. Please keep an eye on the bulletin boards, newsletters and other sources of information to see how you can help with this huge and ongoing humanitarian issue.

As we move into a new year of reaching out to the community around us and beyond, we are thankful for the lovely summer we have had and the opportunity to recharge and rededicate our energies for the work we do. We look to the congregation of Glen Cairn United Church for their continued, enthusiastic support of our outreach committees – Mission and Service, Oasis in Kanata, the Kanata Food Cupboard, the Kanata Stittsville Refugee Sponsorship Group, the Monthly Outreach program and the Seniors Liaison group.

## **Kanata Food Cupboard**

*Submitted by Nancy Kerr*

Glen Cairn continues to support the Kanata Food Cupboard (KFC) rotating every 6 weeks with 5 other Kanata area churches. The future sustainability of this outreach program at GCUC is struggling as we need some new volunteers to keep it going. Drivers and a backup coordinator/scheduler are especially needed. Contact Nancy Kerr if you could help in any way.

## **The Stewardship Connection**

*By the Stewardship Committee*

We have so much to be thankful for and so much to contribute. Welcome to the season of thanksgiving. As we move from a beautiful Summer into a spectacular Fall, we need to stop and count our blessings. We have so much to be thankful for – a beautiful and free country, family, friends, strong faith, generous people, and the list goes on. We are truly blessed!

The Stewardship committee would like to thank all the volunteers, participants, donors, supporters, and many talented people in our congregation and community who make this Church as strong and amazing as it is! Whether financial, time, or talent, GCUC has so much

to give. We want to thank each and every one of you for all you do to support your GCUC community! Here are some of the exciting programs and events stewardship has to offer this season.

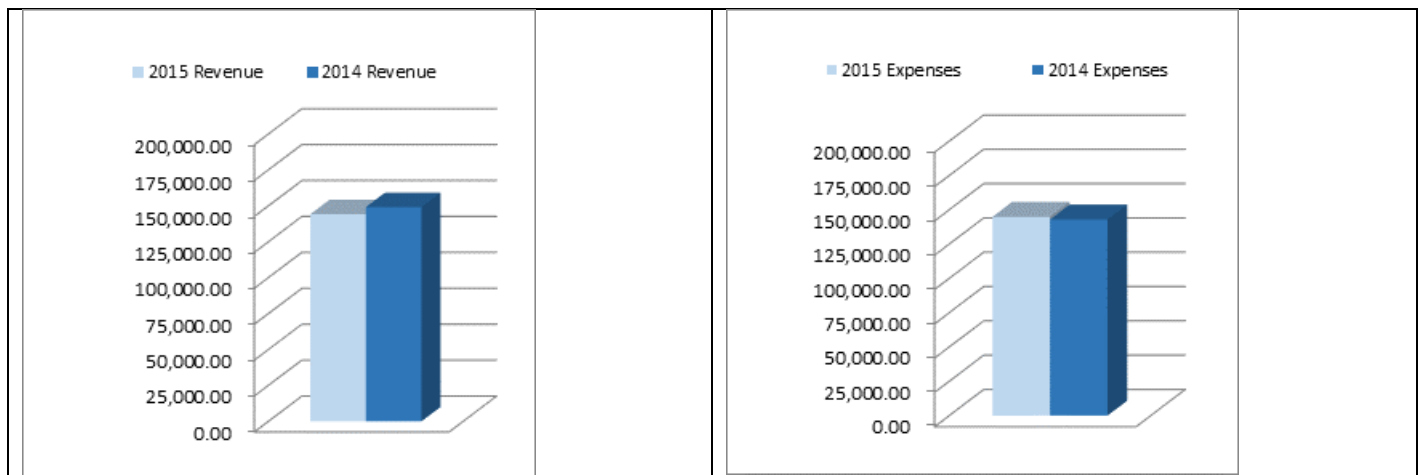
We have so much to be thankful for!

**What is Stewardship and why is it important to me?** It can mean many things to many people – effective and efficient resource management, taking care of the environment, taking care of each other, taking care of the buildings that support our programs...

Here at Glen Cairn, we have many activities as well as worship services happening in our facilities – for which we are responsible for maintaining. We have programs such as Oasis and the Judo program we heard about earlier this year. We take care in who we allow to rent our facilities and ensure they respect our values. We have over 25,000 people use our facilities over the course of a year. We are the stewards for our community!

Every third or fourth Sunday, we have invited someone to speak about why Glen Cairn United Church is important to them and why and how they wish to support their church. If you're interested in sharing your thoughts, please contact Sherry Sharpe for further details.

**Minute for Stewardship** - Our current financial situation is **Revenues:** \$144,123 compared to \$149,032 for 2014 and **Expenses:** \$144,813 compared to \$142,904 for 2014. We currently have a **Net Loss of \$691**



**Gift Cards** - Do you know about our gift card fundraising program? This program can help both you and the Church. The gift card fundraising program **raises approximately \$4,000** each year. Over the summer months, we have raised \$320. **Year to date, we have raised \$1,583.** This is an easy fundraising program. You simply purchase the gift cards and the Church gets a **3-8% return**. We have a large selection of gift cards to choose from - for example, clothing such as **Roots, Moore's, Mark's Work Wearhouse,** and **La Senza** that give back **6%** or entertainment cards such as **Cineplex** which provide an **8% return**. We also have the following gift cards in inventory for your regular household needs such as **Superstore, Loblaws, Farm Boy, Sobeys, Metro, Home Depot, Canadian Tire, Lee Valley, Home Hardware, Petro Canada, Esso,** and **Ultramar**. For special orders, such as cards for **Tanger Mall** like **Tommy Hilfiger, The Gap,** and **People's Jewelers,** just place the order on Sunday and they will be available within two weeks. Please visit the fundraising table in the **Main Hall after the Service** or speak to **Sherry Sharpe** about your order.

Each week, the ministry of Glen Cairn United touches hundreds of lives through worship, Bible

Study, Sunday School, fellowship groups, Youth Group, pastoral care, counseling, 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. **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 the attendant or the Church office before the 10th of the month and you can be on PAR for that month. The withdrawal is made from your account on 15th of each month.

When deciding your allocation to Local, Mission and Service, or Capital, please consider **givings to Local Operations**. Local operations are essential to the ongoing sustainability of the Church and less restrictive than the Capital or In Trust funds.

On **October 17**, we are holding our annual **Fall Harvest Festival**. This festival includes an Oktoberfest BBQ, **new this year – a Quilt Show**, book sales, bake sales, as well as many vendors with items such as jewellery, maple syrup, preserves, crafts, and much much more! Musical entertainment is planned throughout the event as well as lots of family fun including a **bouncy castle** and **face painting!** **Come one and all and celebrate the Fall.**



**Come to the Ceilidh!** On **January 23, 2016**, we will celebrate **Robbie Burns Day** with our annual fun-filled ceilidh. Doors will open at 6:00 pm starting with a traditional Burns Supper prepared by our own UCW and followed by entertainment and dancing to a live ceilidh band. We thoroughly enjoyed these ceilidhs in past years and this is an excellent fundraiser for the Church!

Instruction for Scottish Country Dancing will be led by Charlie Inglis of the Scottish Country Dancing Society and friends! **Tickets will be \$35 for adults and \$12 for children under 12.** Please see Sherry for ticket sales. **Bring your friends and family – Come to the Ceilidh!**

As we move into Fall, the Stewardship Committee wants to thank everyone for their past and continued support. Enjoy this season of thanksgiving with friends and family. We are truly blessed!

**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.***