



NEWS from the BRIDGE

Life at Bridge Street United Church (Belleville, ON) during COVID-19

An initiative brought to you by the Transition Team.
Submitted articles are subject to editing for length and readability.

Friday, June 26, 2020



www.shutterstock.com • 410548183

At its most recent electronic meeting, the Governance Board considered the adverse effects that COVID-19 has had on the life and work of our community of faith.

Chief amongst them is a reduction in offering income and the absence of usual and customary work requiring staff support.

Consequently, the Governance Board, mindful of its fiduciary responsibilities made the difficult decision to *temporarily* reduce the compensated hours that both our Custodian and Music Director will work (for upwards of three months).

The net effect of this is that our Custodian will, beginning July 1st, work 18.75 hours weekly, and our Music Director 10 hours per week.

The taking of earned holidays will postpone the actual effective date of this change by 2 weeks.

Conversation with the 2 staff members concerning day(s) to be worked, and hours of work, will occur shortly; specifics will be shared in this publication as soon as plans are confirmed.

The Governance Board's decision will be revisited at the end of the summer, and depending on the circumstances relative to the novel coronavirus, a return to a pre-pandemic levels of employment is the hoped for outcome.



BSUC is now INTERAC e-Transfer compatible!

Simply add admin@bridgestchurch.com to your INTERAC e-Transfer contact list and your donation will be automatically deposited into the church's operating bank account (no security questions/answers to worry about).

If you're already registered in the church office to receive charitable donation tax receipts, your INTERAC e-Transfer donations will be recorded and receipted at the end of the year. If you're not yet registered with the church office, please send a separate e-mail to admin@bridgestchurch.com to provide us with your mailing or e-mail address.

Of course, you can also continue to use our other methods of donating...

Cheque – Please mail to 60 Bridge St. E., Belleville, ON, K8N 1L7.

PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance, monthly, administered by the United Church of Canada) – Please contact the church office via admin@bridgestchurch.com to arrange for this method of contributing.

Credit Card – Visit the homepage of our website www.bridgestreetchurch.com and click the “Donate Now” button to contribute through “CanadaHelps”.

Many thanks for your commitment to the work and witness of BSUC.



WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

The Worship & Music Team wishes to advise that the following schedule reflects when BSUC will offer online worship throughout the summer.

On those occasions when we do not broadcast, we encourage you to join another United Church for their electronic service.

While there are a plethora of congregations offering online worship those days, a more local option would be Eastminster United Church, Belleville (<http://eastminster.ca>).

JUNE 28th	✓
JULY 5th	✓
JULY 12th	X
JULY 19th	✓
JULY 26th	✓
AUGUST 2nd	✓
AUGUST 9th	✓
AUGUST 16th	X
AUGUST 23rd	✓
AUGUST 30th	✓
SEPTEMBER 6th	X



Of the many activities that contribute to the life of the Church, surely prayer is a prominent one.

Praying for one and another has long been a practice that communities of faith engage in at times of celebration, sorrow, uncertainty, and fear.

It is our privilege to pray for the well-being of our sisters and brothers closer to home and further afield.

Sometimes the local church becomes aware of life-events that call for our prayers in support of fellow parishioners.

And so we do!

We pray for their strength; we pray for their soul to be comforted; we pray for a different and better future than is their current circumstance.

This week you are invited to add to your prayers:

- The family and friends of **Sylvianne B.**, one of the three founders of Knitters United, who passed away a week ago this Sunday, having struggled with leukaemia and latterly pneumonia.
- **John A.** as he faces ongoing health challenges; **Ella May**, for strength, as she continues to be caregiver and advocate to John.
- **Marilyn B.** as she is in process of being a liver recipient, and her husband, **Jim**, as he supports her.
- **Those** who continue to work at restricting the spread of COVID-19.
- **Those** whose challenges have yet to be conveyed to us and yet are so very real.
- **All** who contend with a reduction in hours of work, or job loss, as a consequence of the realities caused the pandemic.

*Life at Bridge Street United Church (Belleville, ON) during COVID-19
26 June 2020*

Rev. David welcomes news of others for whom we can pray. *Please reach out and advise.*



FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 28, 2020

AVAILABLE ONLINE beginning THIS Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.

Special thanks to Moira Nikander-Forrester
for being our vocalist!

LOGIN IN DETAILS:

Please copy (ctrl c) and paste (ctrl v), or otherwise place this link into your browser and press enter:

<https://youtu.be/Xi6IP7b5za8>

PARTICIPANT PARTS –

MV #1 - **Let Us Build a House**

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.

Life at Bridge Street United Church (Belleville, ON) during COVID-19
26 June 2020

Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

3. Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Words and music: Marty Haugen. Copyright © 1994 by GIA Publications Inc.
CCLI License #1297940

Our Payer of Reconciliation:

**Understanding God,
we admit that we have surely disappointed you,
in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with all our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
For these, and other missteps, we are truly sorry.
By your immeasurable grace,
watch for us to try anew to live and love as Jesus,
so that we may walk in his ways and honour your will.**

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Affirmation:

Hear this and believe!

The past is behind us; the future is before us;
the moment of new beginnings is now!

Having acknowledged our regret for wrongs done,
we commit to doing better. For it is by this that we
are made right with God.

Hallelujah! Amen.

MV #176 - ***Three Things I Promise***

1. Three things I promise, Holy God,
in age and youth, in life and death:
to bless your Name, and cling to Christ,
and listen for the Spirit's breath.
2. Your love unfolded time and space,
and life, and all that life became,
and so, with thankful heart and voice,
through good and ill, I bless your Name.
3. I follow, serve, and cling to Christ
amid out culture's tides and trends,
for here your Name is most revealed:
Majestic Love, and Best of Friends.
4. Enlivened as the Spirit moves
to cleanse, awaken, and renew,
I pray that justice, peace, and truth,
may seed and grow in all I do.
5. If I should live when vigour fades,
and family and friends are gone,
three acts of loving faith remain
when days are slow, and work is done.
6. Revive and guide me, Living God,
as day by day, until my death,
I bless your Name, and cling to Christ,
and listen for the Spirit's breath.

Words: Brian Wren, 1997 Copyright © 1997 Hope Publishing Company CCLI License #1297940

Life at Bridge Street United Church (Belleville, ON) during COVID-19
26 June 2020

Prayers of the People:

O God,
Lover of the world, you hold all that
you have created within your compassionate embrace,
ultimately involved and intimately concerned
for the well-being of each and all.

**As you hold our lives, torn by sorrow, anguish,
or hatred within your aching heart, we cry out for
relief and release – for ourselves, for those we love,
and for our world.**

May your healing presence gently transform the places
of our lives where we hold disappointment and pain.
May your loving presence be a comforting reality for all
who find themselves in despair, lost or alone,
especially during this time of Covid-19.

May your transforming presence create generosity
where there is greed, harmony where there is
violence and chaos, everlasting justice where evil
now reigns– particularly where racism exists or any form
of discrimination denies a person or people their dignity,
their integrity, their freedom of assembly, expression,
or choice of life companion.

**O God, lover of the world, from the silence of our own hearts,
we remember before you these people and places that need
your healing, loving, and transforming presence.**

Pausing for silent, private prayer...

O God, lover of the world, hear our prayers and in your love answer,
tomorrow as today, then as now, always and forever.

Amen.

VU #266 - ***Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound***

- 1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
 that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found,
 was blind, but now I see.

- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me,
this word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Words: John Henry Newton 1779. Music: Virginia Harmony 1831, adapt. And harm. Edwi O Excell 1900
CCLI License #1297940



Enjoy the week ahead...