

NEWS from the BRIDGE

Life at
Bridge Street United Church
(Belleville, ON)

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

Friday, September 25, 2020

world
communion
sunday



OCTOBER 4TH

Next Sunday our congregation will observe the sacrament of Holy Communion, alongside other communities of faith (including and beyond the United Church).

As worship for us will happen virtually on YouTube, those wishing to participate will need to have a bit of bread (a cracker or a sweet pastry is also an option) and a measure of grape juice (or some other flavour, or perhaps its fermented cousin?!).

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Rev. David will lead the observance and worshippers will be invited to participate in a spirit of both concelebrant and participant. For persons living together, or as member of an established social bubble, the act of serving one another may add a meaningful component to the ritual.

The Worship & Music Team encourages your participation and encourages you to make arrangements for the needed provisions (however you define and wish to use them).



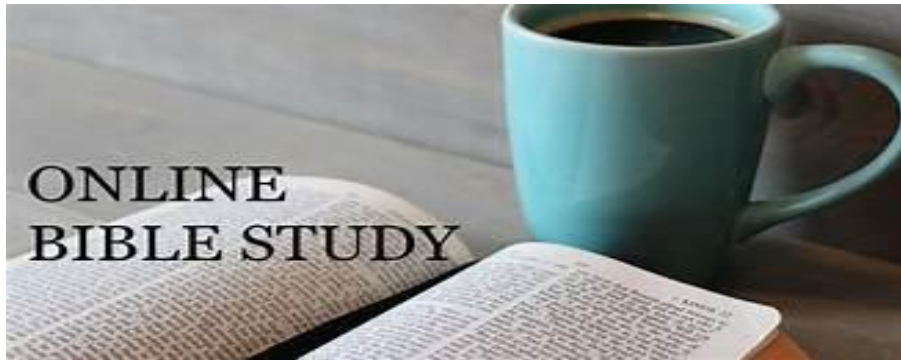
On September 17th, the Strategic Planning Committee delivered a comprehensive update about their work via electronic and land-based mail.

Accompanying that document was an invitation to offer feedback by responding to a series of questions.

With 5 full days until the response deadline, this is a friendly reminder to please review those materials and to respond no later than September 30th by 5 p.m.

Your reply is invaluable to the process!

Thanks!



Wednesday morning bible study sessions have started back up again using Zoom video conferencing technology.

Zoom can be used on any computer or digital device (eg. smartphones) to connect in and participate, using webcam and speakers. Phone-in connections can also be used.

Sessions will begin at 8:30 a.m. Wednesdays and will follow a curriculum of materials emailed out to participants each week, ahead of the next session.

For further details about participating, please contact Frank Hiebert (fhiebert@cogeco.ca) or Audrey Cowan (acowan6@cogeco.ca).



We premier our weekly online worship on **YouTube** at **10 a.m. Sunday.**

The following schedule reflects when BSUC will offer online worship for the foreseeable future.

SEPTEMBER 27th	✓
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Further details are provided in the latter pages of this publication.



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, fear, and thanksgiving.

This week you are invited to pray for the following individuals and their circumstances. As seems right, please pray for their strength; pray for their soul to be comforted; and pray for a different and better future than is their current circumstance.

We lift before God:

- **Those folk who have departed this earthly realm** in the sure and certain hope of eternal life; **especially Leanne M.**, a member of B.S.U.C., and former chorister with our choir.
- **Those grievers** who are walking through the valley of the shadow of death, particularly **Leanne M's daughters, husband Kevin, extended family and friends.**
- **Those others** whose health is imperiled.

- **Folk** who are poor, hungry, homeless or provisionally housed, as they live with uncertainty and fear.
- For **COVID-19 doubters and deniers** that they might come to a more fulsome understanding of the challenges that still beset the world, our country, our provinces, and our cities.
- **Those** whose challenges have yet to be conveyed to us and yet are so very real.

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



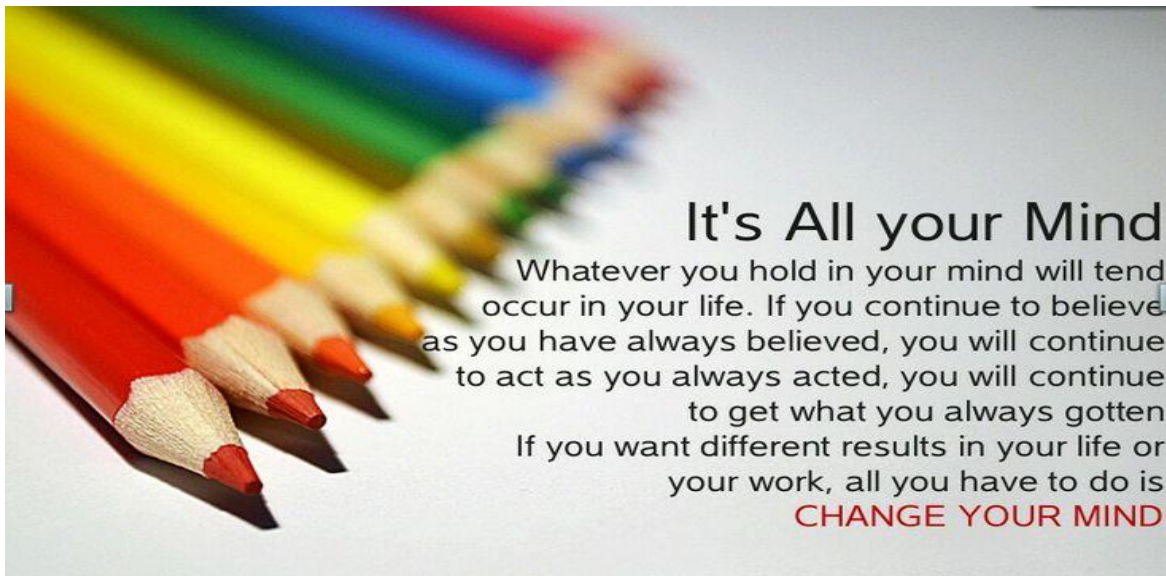
Our congregation is blessed to have a completely anonymous cluster of folk who are committed to be in prayer intentionally whenever a request is made.

As this newsletter is published only once a week, there may be occasions when the benefit of prayer is sought before it can be shared with the congregation as a while. Because of that, our prayer team stands ready to lift up your joys and sorrows, delights and disappointments, requests for intervention or the expressions of thanksgiving.

To have your prayer needs met more immediately, please contact Sue (in strictest confidence) at suemargreid@yahoo.ca



For information on how our faith community's meal program is responding to the issue of hunger, particularly during COVID-19, please see the accompanying (and separate) document: **Bridge Street United Church Meal Program Update | September 2020**



ONLINE WORSHIP FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

AVAILABLE beginning THIS Sunday @ 10:00 a.m.

Please copy (ctrl c) and paste (ctrl v), or otherwise place this link into your browser and press enter: <https://youtu.be/e7nFVWNY0q>

the Revised Common
LECTIONARY

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Exodus 17: 1-7 | Philippians 2: 1-13 | Matthew 21: 23-32



VU #664 – What a Friend We Have in Jesus

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Christ the Saviour is our refuge;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do our friends despise, forsake us?
Are we tempted to despair?
Jesus' strength will shield our weakness,
and we'll find new courage there.

Words: Joseph Medlicott Scriven ca 1855 Music: Charles Crozat Converse 1868 | CCLI License #1297940

OPENING PRAYER

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Good and gracious God, here and now.

**HERE AND NOW... MAY THE FAITHFUL FIND SALVATION
AND THE SEEKERS BE INFORMED.**

*Here and now... may the doubting find courage and
the anxious be calmed.*

**HERE AND NOW... MAY THE LOST FIND DIRECTION
AND THE FOUND BE ENLIGHTENED.**

*Here and now... may the weary find rest
and the strong be engaged.*

**HERE AND NOW... MAY THE OLDER FIND COMFORT
AND THE YOUNGER BE INSPIRED.**

*Here and now... we ask all this, as those following the Way of
Jesus, ever hopeful of finding abundant life.*

**HEAR AND NOW... TO GOD BE THE GLORY,
AND CHRIST JESUS, OUR PRAISE. AMEN.**



VU #341 – Fairest Lord Jesus

- 1 Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O thou of God to earth come down:
thee will I cherish, thee will I honour,
thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.
- 2 Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
who makes the troubled heart to sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
and fair the twinkling, starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.
- 4 All fairest beauty heavenly and earthly,

wondrously, Jesus, is found in thee;
none can be nearer, fairer or dearer
than thou, my Saviour, art to me.

Words: from the German 1677; trans. Church Chorals and Choir Studies 1850, alt.
Music: Silesian folk melody in Schlesische Volkslieder 1842
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Concluding Prayer

In this time of COVID-19, we pray:

*When we aren't sure, God,
help us be calm;
when information comes
from all sides, correct and not,
help us to discern;
when fear makes it hard to breathe,
and anxiety seems to be the order of the day,
slow us down, God;
help us to reach out with our hearts,
when we can't touch with our hands;
help us to be socially connected,
when we have to be socially distant;
help us to love as perfectly as we can,
knowing that "perfect love casts out all fear."*

*For the doctors, we pray,
for the nurses, we pray,
for the technicians and the janitors and the
aides and the caregivers, we pray,
for the researchers and theorists,
the epidemiologists and investigators,
for those who are sick,
and those who are grieving, we pray,
for all who are affected,
all around the world...*

we pray

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*for safety,
for health,
for wholeness.
May we feed the hungry,
give drink to the thirsty,
clothe the naked and house those without homes;
may we walk with those who feel they are alone,
and may we do all that we can to heal
the sick—
in spite of the epidemic,
in spite of the fear.*

*Help us, O God,
that we might help each other.*

*In the love of the Creator,
in the name of the Healer,
in the life of the Holy Spirit that is in all and with all,
we pray.*

May it be so. Amen.

The Very Reverend Dr. Richard Bott
Moderator of The United Church of Canada



VU #639 – One More Step Along the World I Go

- 1 One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new,
keep me travelling along with you:

Refrain

And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

- 2 Round the corner of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me: R
- 3 As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me travelling the way I should;
where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way, I know: R
- 4 Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough,
leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you: R
- 5 You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me,
ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you: R

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