NEWS from the BRIDGE

Life @ Bridge Street United Church, Belleville, Ontario during COVID-19

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2020

AN INITIATIVE BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE TRANSITION TEAM





Sunday, November 1, 2020

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

Matthew 23:1-12

We premier our weekly online worship services on YouTube, Sundays @ 10 a.m. DETAILS ARE PRINTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER.

WHILE REV. KING IS ON A THREE-WEEK PERIOD OF VACATION & STUDY LEAVE...

- WORSHIP LEADERSHIP will be provided by Rev. John Miller (November 1 & 15) and Rev. Gary Magarrell (November 8). These services will premier on YouTube at our usual time of 10 a.m. Sundays.
- For <u>PASTORAL CARE</u> needs, please call the church office to arrange for Rev. Bill Perry, Minister (Voluntary) of Pastoral Care to contact you.

Thank you, Rev. John Miller, for providing worship leadership this Sunday, November 1.

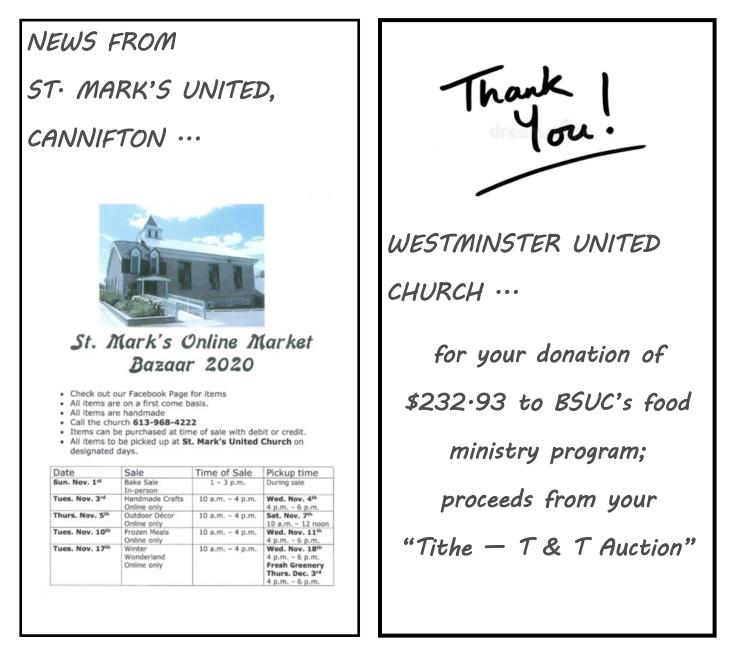


REMINDER ...

QUINTE LIVING CENTRE ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 @ 7 p.m.

FOR DETAILS, PLEASE REFERENCE THE SPECIAL E-MAIL FORWARDED TO YOU ON OCTOBER 28.



CHANGE TO DISTRIBUTION OF FREE LUNCHES @ BSUC ...

As the weather has now turned colder, it seems like an appropriate time to let you know that traditional "Inn from the Cold" meal programming will be changing this year, due to COVID-19. Instead, the take-away lunch program that has been operating here since March 27 (soup, sandwich, fruit, snack, drink) WILL CONTINUE FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, daily, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. While meals are currently being distributed from our Church Street entrance, **distribution will move indoors from our 60 Bridge St. East entrance beginning November 9**. This change is being made for the comfort and safety of both guests and volunteers during the colder months. To be clear, **only takeout lunches will be distributed**; a sit-down meal will not be served. Guests will be welcomed inside for a brief respite from the weather, receive a meal, and then exit the building before eating.

Health and safety protocols to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19 during this inside lunch distribution will continue for all guests and volunteers.

These include:

- anyone who enters the building will be required to wear a mask and sanitize their hands, and - physical distancing will be encouraged at all times.

Bridge Street United Church

60 Bridge St. E., Belleville, ON K8N 1L7 613-962-9178 www.bridgestreetchurch.com admin@bridgestchurch.com

INTENTIONAL INTERIM LEAD MINISTER

Rev. G. David King interim.clergy@gmail.com 1-905-375-7369

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mitchell Cox music@bridgestchurch.com

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS MANAGER

Steve van de Hoef svandehoef@bridgestchurch.com

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LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION ...

29 October 2020

To the members of the Bridge Street United Church Congregation

From the Meal Program Leadership Team

On Upgrades to the Gymnasium, Corridor Toilet, and Former Infant /Toddler Rooms

We have recently received a generous grant from the John M & Bernice Parrott Foundation to upgrade parts of the 1962 addition to the church.

The Meal Programs have not been able to offer meals inside in the gym since March 2020 because of the risk of inter-person COVID transmission in a poorly-ventilated space. An energy recovery ventilation system, designed and mechanically engineered for the dimensions and location of the gymnasium will be installed in the gym roof. The ventilation upgrade, when functioning in conjunction with public health measures, shall assist immensely in making the room COVID-safe for gatherings and meals.

Those of us who have lunched or met in the gym in the past are very aware of the echoes and difficulty in any spoken or amplified communications there. The Parrott grant is also funding the installation of sound baffling material on sufficient of the gym wall area to improve the capacity for verbal communication and sound amplification in the space.

The Faith Formation Team is consolidating space for in-church children and youth activities to the Children's Centre. As a result of that decision, usable space in the corridor and adjacent rooms leading to the gym is being freed up for alternate use. The Governance Board has approved the suggested renovation and upgrades of the two small toilets, the infant and toddler rooms. This work is also being funded by the Parrott grant. Upgraded washrooms with barrier-free access to toilets and showers, and a laundry area with two sets of stacked washer/dryers will be created.

A time estimate for obtaining the ventilation supplies and equipment, then installation and renovations is 12-16 weeks +/-, thus, end February into March 2021. When the upgrades are completed, the church facility could be made available to meet community needs.

Ian Sutherland

Co-Coordinator, Meal Programs



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:

Gary H. as he recuperates from hip replacement surgery.

- **Those** whose health is imperiled, or who are experiencing anxiety brought about by the challenges of life in the time of a pandemic.
- **Folk** who are poor, hungry, homeless or provisionally housed, as they live with uncertainty and fear.
- **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.

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY WISHES!



The Barber family wishes to inform members of the Bridge St. United Church faith community of the 60th wedding anniversary of Bob and Nora Barber, on November 5th. *Congratulations, and best wishes, Bob and Nora!* (If you would like to convey your personal wishes to Bob and Nora, please call the church office for contact information).



... for the week of November 1, 2020

Click below to access Rev. G. David King's YouTube address ...

https://youtube.com/channel/UCt8ig2lpQ8ILzRfKjNmcuSw

or go to the home page of our church website for a link, **www.bridgestreetchurch.com**.

Available beginning this Sunday, November 1, 2020 @ 10 a.m.

the Revised Common

LECTIONARY

READING FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2020

Matthew 23:1-12

OPENING HYMN: MV #28 – God of the Bible

1.God of the Bible, God in the Gospel, hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come, you are our centre, daylight or darkness, freedom or prison, you are our home.

Refrain: (repeat 2 times)

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise, God always faithful, you do not change.

2.God in our struggles, God in our hunger, suffering with us, taking our part, still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit, feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.

3. Those without status, those who are nothing, you have made royal, gifted with rights, chosen as partners, midwives of justice, birthing new systems, lighting new lights.

4.Not by your finger, not by your anger will our world order change in a day, but by your people, fearless and faithful, small paper lanterns, lighting the way.

5. Hope we must carry, shining and certain through all our turmoil, terror and loss, bonding us gladly one to the other, till our world changes facing the Cross. Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1995 Words copyright © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CLT License #1297940

OPENING PRAYER

How good it is to gather together to praise you God!

It is a joyous thing to sing and speak your praises!

As we gather, our hearts are glad and our spirits rejoice O God!

We come with joy and thanksgiving, giving our attention to your word and your love for us, Gracious God.

May it be so, Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: VU #595 - We Are Pilgrims

- We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road; we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
- 2 Sister, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.
- I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear;
 I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

- I will weep when you are weeping,
 when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
 I will share your joy and sorrow,
 till we've seen this journey through.
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.
- 6 Brother, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

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CLOSING BENEDICTION

May the love of God be the passion

in your heart.

May the joy of God our strength

when times are hard

May the presence of God a peace

that overflows.

And the Word of God the seed

that we might sow.

