

# NEWS from the BRIDGE

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

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2020**

**AN INITIATIVE BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE TRANSITION TEAM**



We premier our weekly online worship services on  
**YouTube, Sundays @ 10 a.m.**

**DETAILS ARE PRINTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER.**

**Sunday, November 8 2020**

'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

**Mark 4:26-32**



~ REMEMBERING ALL THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED FOR OUR COUNTRY ~

*Due to COVID 19, a wreath will be placed at the cenotaph  
on behalf of Bridge Street United Church  
prior to the small Remembrance Day ceremony .*

**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.
- ♦ **PASTORAL CARE needs**, please call the church office to arrange for Rev. Bill Perry, Minister (Voluntary) of Pastoral Care to contact you.

**Thank you, Rev. Gary Magarrell, for providing worship leadership this Sunday, November 8.**

**NEWS FROM  
WESTMINSTER UNITED ...**



*Thank  
You!*

**ST. MARK'S  
UNITED CHURCH ...**

*for your food drive donation  
of a cartful of groceries to  
assist in the delivery of our  
lunch program!*

**Research /**  
**Albina Retyunskikh**

## Study Shows Monetary Impact of Faith

IS IT possible to put a price on faith? The Halo Canada Project — which has been tackling this question for the past five years, with research in over 80 congregations around the country — released a study in May showing that faith communities contribute \$15.5 billion to the national economy each year.

“When we explain that for every dollar congregations spend, the wider community gets back \$3.85, that’s something that somebody in the neighbourhood can understand and see that it’s having tangible value,” says Mike Wood Daly, director of the project.

The dollar amount includes ways churches give directly to their communities, such as offering parking; acting like recreational centres, daycares or schools; building affordable housing; helping new immigrants and refugees settle; and even contributing to storm management through their green spaces.

Halo Canada also worked on a report with EDGE, the United Church’s network for ministry development. Released in February, the report shows that the United Church alone contributes \$1.6 billion annually to the economy.

EDGE executive director Rob Dalglish says that being able to quantify this impact is crucial for congregations looking to raise money from local stakeholders, who want to know how their donations will be put to good use.

“Inherently, people can see the good that’s happening within their own community of faith,” adds Carla Leon, new initiatives manager at EDGE. “They can feel the social and spiritual impact they’re making in the neighbourhood. But to see it concretely as a number, I think it’s really validating.”

Thank you for your financial support ...

STATEMENTS OF OFFERINGS FOR THE 10 MONTHS ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2020 WERE MAILED OUT THIS WEEK..

**How to donate to the ministry & mission of Bridge St. United Church ...**

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

**INTERAC e-Transfer –**

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). Your INTERAC e-Transfer donations will be recorded and receipted at the end of the year.

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

**Credit Card** – Click the “Donate Now” button on the home page of our website, [www.bridgestreetchurch.com](http://www.bridgestreetchurch.com), to contribute through “CanadaHelps”.

## Bridge Street United Church

60 Bridge St. E.,  
Belleville, ON K8N 1L7  
613-962-9178  
[www.bridgestreetchurch.com](http://www.bridgestreetchurch.com)  
[admin@bridgestchurch.com](mailto:admin@bridgestchurch.com)

### INTENTIONAL INTERIM LEAD MINISTER

**Rev. G. David King**  
[interim.clergy@gmail.com](mailto:interim.clergy@gmail.com)  
1-905-375-7369

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

**Mitchell Cox**  
[music@bridgestchurch.com](mailto:music@bridgestchurch.com)

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS MANAGER

**Steve van de Hoef**  
[svandehoef@bridgestchurch.com](mailto:svandehoef@bridgestchurch.com)

## 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:**

**Those grievors** who are walking through the valley of the shadow of death, particularly **Cindy B. and family** on the passing of Cindy's husband, Wayne, and **Katherine J. and family** on the passing of her mother-in-law, Gwen.

**Frank H.** as he prepares for spinal surgery this week.

**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.

~~~~~

#### **NEWS FROM THE BRIDGE STREET UNITED CHURCH FOUNDATION ...**

*The Bridge Street United Church Foundation would like to acknowledge the generous bequest of Leanne Moody to the Foundation.*

*This gift will support the work of the Foundation and Bridge Street United Church, and for this we are grateful.*

# worship ONLINE

**... for the week of  
November 8, 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](http://www.bridgestreetchurch.com)**.

**Available  
beginning  
this Sunday,  
November 8, 2020  
@ 10 a.m.**

## the Revised Common LECTIONARY

**READING FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020**

**Mark 4: 26–32**

### **OPENING HYMN: VU #684 – Make Me a Channel of Your Peace**

- 1     Make me a channel of your peace:  
      where there is hatred, let me bring your love;  
      where there is injury, your healing power,  
      and where there's doubt, true faith in you:
  
- 2     Make me a channel of your peace:  
      where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;  
      where there is darkness, only light;  
      and where there's sadness, ever joy.  
      O Spirit, grant that I may never seek  
      so much to be consoled as to console,  
      to be understood as to understand,  
      to be loved as to love with all my soul.
  
- 3     Make me a channel of your peace.  
      It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
      in giving to all that we receive,  
      and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Words: attr. to St. Francis 1220; Music: Sebastian Temple 1967; arr. Betty Pulkingham 1976

CCLI License #1297940

## OPENING PRAYER

*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 ENCOURAGED.**

*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... may our acts of thanksgiving for the bounty of God's gracious provision rightfully express our abiding gratitude and absolute dependence.*

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

## CLOSING HYMN: VU #395 - Come In, Come In and Sit Down

*Refrain:*

*Come in, come in and sit down,  
you are a part of the family.  
We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.*

1 You know the reason why you came,  
yet no reason can explain;  
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,  
for we are a part of the family. *R*

2 God is with us in this place,  
like a mother's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace,  
for we are a part of the family. *R*

3 There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;  
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.  
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,  
but we are a part of the family. *R*

4There's rest for the weary and health for us all;  
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.  
So come in and worship and answer the call,  
for we are a part of the family. R

Words: James K. Manley 1984. Copyright © 1984 James K. Manley

CCLI License #1297940

## 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  
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