

NEWS from the BRIDGE

**Life @ Bridge Street United Church, Belleville,
Ontario**



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2020

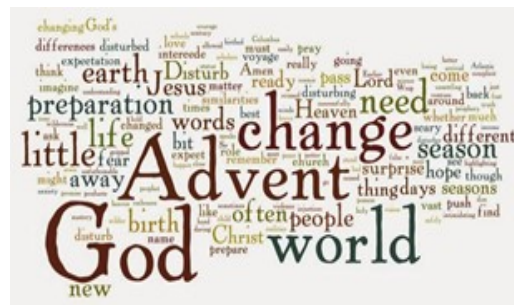
AN INITIATIVE BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE TRANSITION TEAM

Sunday, November 29, 2020



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

DETAILS ARE PRINTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER.



Isaiah 64: 1-9

Mark 13: 24-37



Advent, a four-week time of preparation before
Christmas, begins the church year.

“Advent Unwrapped” is a United Church of Canada initiative to provide communities of faith with some tools and resources to celebrate Advent. **Use these links to find Advent activities for all ages:**

Advent Calendar 2020:

https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/2020-10/au_advent-calendar-2020.pdf

Advent Wreath:

https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/2020-10/au_activity-advent-wreath-craft.pdf

Advent Colouring Storybook:

https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/colouring-storybook_0.pdf

For more Advent ideas, visit [united-church.ca](https://www.united-church.ca) and search “advent unwrapped”.

WE REMAIN VIGILANT TO HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID19 ...

E-mail sent to meal program volunteers on November 21, 2020...

*(Info, policies and procedures referred to available
by clicking links, below).*

Dear Meal Program Volunteers,

Today's news indicates an [increased number of COVID-19 cases in our HPE Public Health area](#), one new case residing in Belleville. The good news is that "contact tracing has been completed and there is no risk of exposure to the general population."

An increase in cases in our area is to be expected as case numbers have increased dramatically across the province. **Today's news is a good reminder of the need for appropriate caution in our day-to-day activities and the importance of following the proper standing operating procedures in place at the Meal Programs in order to protect each other.**

COVID-19 prevalence in our community is still low, therefore the risk of COVID-19 transmission in Meal Programs is also low. We also have policies and procedures in place to reduce the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission. We thank you for your efforts to follow these over the last several months. Continuing to adhere to them will ensure that the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission remains low in the Meal Programs.

A thorough assessment of the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission in the Bridge Street Church Meal Programs is available [at this link](#).

All policies and procedures, along with references, are available for your review in this public "BSUC Meal Programs during COVID-19" folder, including:

[Screening and Sign-in policy](#)

[Mask wearing policy](#)

[Procedures for indoor meal distribution](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact one of the Meal Program coordinators, staff, or the church office if you have questions or concerns. Thank you for your continued participation in the Meal Programs.

Thank you,
Sue, Rick, Steve, Dianne, Lisa, Ian

ANNIVERSARY OFFERINGS UPDATE ...

Anniversary offerings received to today's date total \$625.

The budget target approved by the Congregation for this year's special Anniversary offering is **\$3,000**. If you would like to make a special offering, please drop off or mail a cheque, make an e-Transfer via admin@bridgestchurch.com, or use the CanadaHelps link on B.S.U.C.'s website.

Please contact the Church Office to learn about any of these options.

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Steve van de Hoef
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gifts with **vision** A small icon of a wrapped gift with a blue ribbon.

The United Church of Canada developed "Gifts with Vision" in response to member requests to be able to give gifts to relatives, friends, and loved ones that are in direct support of the church's Mission & Service partners.

Purchase gifts online or by phone (see below). Your Gifts are sent directly to the chosen Mission & Service partner. Your Gift purchases are considered charitable donations. A tax receipt for the full amount of the Gift will be issued to the purchaser by the United Church of Canada.

Gifts for Healing and Reconciliation; Gifts for Leadership; Gifts for Wellness; Gifts for Safe Spaces; Gifts for Education; Gifts to Address Poverty and Hunger; Popular Gifts; Gifts for the Future and Gifts for Mission & Service.

Share the Gifts:

When placing an order online at giftswithvision.ca, you'll be able to add an eCard for each Gift and select a delivery date for each eCard.

Browse the gifts online using this link:

<https://giftswithvision.ca/collections/gifts>

Choose your Gifts Online OR by phone @ 1-844-715-7969.



**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: **Rev. Bill P.** on the passing of his daughter, Daniela, in BC; **Karen R.** on the passing of her husband, Ted.

Audrey H., a member of Knitters United, and her family, as she undergoes chemotherapy cancer treatment.

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.

worship ONLINE

**... for the week of
November 29, 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 29 @ 10 a.m.

the Revised Common LECTIONARY

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020

Isaiah 64: 1-9

Mark 13: 24-37

Advent 1

OPENING HYMN: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus - VU #2

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free:
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
- 2 Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

3 Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1744/Music Psalmodia Sacra 1715
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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 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... may our acts of thanksgiving for the bounty of God's gracious provision rightfully express our abiding gratitude and absolute dependence.

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

CLOSING HYMN: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah—VU#651

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

Words: Welsh, William Williams 1745; English trans. Peter Williams and William Williams 1771. Music John Hughes 1905
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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
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

