

NEWS from the BRIDGE

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

AN INITIATIVE BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE TRANSITION TEAM

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2021



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

DETAILS ARE PRINTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER.



Sunday, May 30, 2021
TRINITY SUNDAY



John 3: 1-17

Think on this...

"I used to dream about escaping my ordinary life, but my life was never ordinary. I had simply failed to notice how extraordinary it was."

- Ransom Riggs

author of "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children"



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM NEWS ...

BSUC has provided meals to the food insecure in the downtown Belleville community since 1990. Annual meal volumes prepared and served 2016-2019 ranged from 13,000 to 14,000 yearly.

The pandemic community daily lunch program began 27 March 2020 with community partners the Enrichment Centre for Mental Health (formerly the Canadian Mental Health Association), Christ Church Anglican Church and St Thomas' Anglican Church. 29,317 lunches were distributed March to December 2020, in addition to 6,688 IFTC and 4,536 TGIF for a 2020 total of 41,169 meals. From 1 January 2021 to 25 May 2021, 21,089 lunches have been served, the present daily average being 166/day.

The community daily Drop-in Centre opened in Bridge Street United Church on 13 May 2021 with community partners the John Howard Society, Hastings Prince Edward Public Health and Grace Inn Shelter. Operational funding for FY 2021-22 is from the provincial Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative through Hastings County Community & Human Services.

In this pandemic time with more persons in our downtown neighbourhoods struggling for "essentials", funding dollars from the City and its social infrastructure fund has become of increasing importance to organizations such as ours in our attempt to support the marginalized. It is with gratitude that we announce that the City of Belleville Grants Committee has awarded the BSUC Community Engagement Team \$50,000 for use in support of the Meal Program and Drop-in Centre, the moneys having been received this week.

We are most appreciative of the City continuing to be aware of the needy within its streets, and to make provision within its fiscal ability to assist.

Ian Sutherland
On behalf of the BSUC Community Engagement Team
28 May 2021



Effective **NEXT SUNDAY**, June 6, 2021, BSUC's recorded worship services will be viewable on our very own YouTube channel.

Stay tuned for more details about this exciting development.

This initiative is brought to you by members of the Worship & Music Team.

Thanks Rev. David for hosting us on your personal page for well over a year.

GOD'S MISSION OUR GIFTS

FROM THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA...



Outdoor Ministry Supports Well-Being of Children

In the 17 years that statistics have been gathered, no children have died falling out of trees. Yet increasing fears about playground injuries and stranger danger, along with more screen time, mean that only 1/3 of Canadian school-aged children meet physical activity guidelines. Getting outside is good for children. Enter United Church camps...

Simply put, getting outside is good for our kids. That's why the United Church runs camps across the country. [Mission & Service](#) donations support approximately 25 United Church camps in Canada and approximately 20,000 children attend a United Church camp each year. *In COVID times, many of these camps have [pivoted to continue offering services](#) and encourage kids to get outside.* Thank you for supporting outdoor ministries through [Mission & Service](#). Your gifts help our children—and all of us—breathe more deeply.

To donate to the Mission & Service Fund of the United Church of Canada, add to your regular offering denoting "Mission & Service" or visit <https://united-church.ca/donate>.



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.

On this, Environment Sunday, let's pause and give thanks for all the ways the natural world sustains us, and especially our children. Specifically, we give thanks for the confidence, creativity, and imagination nature builds. For the sense of responsibility it creates. For the stimulation it provides. For the mental and physical health it promotes. For the wonder it inspires.

WE LIFT BEFORE GOD:

Those whose health is imperiled.

Those who are experiencing anxiety brought about by the challenges of life in the time of a pandemic.

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.

Folk who are poor, hungry, homeless or provisionally housed, as they live with uncertainty and fear.

Those whose challenges have yet to be conveyed to us and yet are so very real.

Rev. David welcomes news of those for whom we can pray.

Please reach out and advise.

interim.clergy@gmail.com or 1-905-375-7369



**... for the week of
May 30, 2021**

**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,

May 30 @ 10 a.m.

the Revised Common LECTIONARY

John 3: 1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.

He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God."

Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"

Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.

What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.'

The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"

Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony.

If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

HYMN: Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow—VU #196

- 1 Wind who makes all winds that blow,
gusts that bend the saplings low,
gales that heave the sea in waves,
stirrings in the mind's deep caves,
aim your breath with steady power
on your church this day, this hour.
Raise, renew the life we've lost,
Spirit God of Pentecost.
- 2 Fire who fuels all fires that burn,
suns around which planets turn,
beacons marking reefs and shoals,
shining truth to guide our souls,
come to us as once you came:
burst in tongues of sacred flame!
Light and Power, Might and Strength,
fill your church, its breadth and length.
- 3 Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame,
move within our mortal frame.
Make our hearts an altar pyre,
kindle them with your own fire.
Breathe and blow upon that blaze
till our lives, our deeds and ways,
speak that tongue which every land
by your grace shall understand.

Words: Thomas H. Troeger 1983 Music: Joseph Parry 1879
Words by permission of Oxford University Press, Inc.
CCLI License #1297940 and #20645769

HYMN: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound—VU #266

- 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 and #20645769

