



The WUC Uniter  
Woodroffe United Church  
613-722-9250  
woodroffeunited.org



## Advent Season 2017

---

### Minister's Message

*Submitted by Rev. Kathryn Peate*

#### **JOY TO THE WORLD! THE LORD IS COME!**

Well not quite yet, but He is on His way. Once again, we've begun a new church year with the season of Advent, a time of preparation for our minds and hearts. What does Advent mean to you? What are you doing in the next few weeks to not only prepare your house and hospitality, but to prepare a place for the Lord in your life?

I came across this prayer which I want to share with you.

Dear God,

This Christmas I would like...the clear conviction that beauty is for beholding and that I don't have to own everything that gives me pleasure.

I want to have joy in gift-giving, seeking to delight those I love.

I would like protection from over purchasing, and reminders that more gifts don't always bring more delight.

I would like contentment this year, and freedom from envy as I look at things that I cannot afford to buy.

I would like mindfulness for Christmas, so that as I shop I can be present to those I meet. In busy, bustling, boisterous aisles, I want the ability to touch people gently with my eyes, not my elbows.

Please give me kind words to share with store employees who are often overworked and underpaid.

I would like lots of perspective this year, to know how fortunate I am, and also heaps of mercy for those who are less fortunate.

If it's not too much trouble, can you give me a sign, maybe a star, that would orient me to the search I am really on, the search for a treasure, something for a wise woman or man to carry as they journey to the birth of the newborn Saviour. Amen.

May you feel God's warm embrace and everlasting love this season as you prepare and celebrate.

*Blessings, Rev. Kathryn*

## **2017 Bazaar Report**

*Submitted by Marilyn Jones and Doug McKee*

Every year, we look at one another and ask “Where do all these items come from?” or state “We will never have this much to sell again”. Yet, we set the date, request assistance and with Joe Smarkala’s reminder of the importance to WUC of a positive financial outcome, it happens. Our whole WUC Church Family seeks donations and volunteers from family, friends and neighbours. The Area Convenors utilize their experience, creativity and skills to direct their volunteers who assist in sorting, cleaning, repairing, pricing and merchandising. Within a week the transformation is phenomenal. The hard work and multiple hours are evident. The 225 + volunteers are rewarded with one hour of advance shopping as well as delicious “Break Time” sandwiches, squares and beverages on the day of the sale. The largest gratification, however, is in seeing that the advance advertising brings in many from our community who smile as they reap the benefit of good items at amazing prices. From Organization, Car Parking, Recycling and Clean Up, it is magic created by team work. In addition, it is truly fulfilling to all those who participated to know that all unsold items are delivered to, and well used by pre-arranged local charities. On top of that, our energy level showed we had fun.

According to our Woodroffe History, the first Bazaar was in 1962. It keeps building and no matter what role you played in the 2017 Bazaar, you contributed to the profit of \$27,500. Quoting Finance, “the best Woodroffe Bazaar ever”, but we had big shoes to fill and years of excellent organization on which to build. As Overall Convenors, we thank you for your dedication and support; you made our job not only easier, but very pleasant.

---

## **Syrian Family Update**

*Submitted by Judy Chaplin*

Rehab, Tamer and Baraa, the Syrian newcomer family that our church sponsored for a year, are doing well. Tamer has a part time job in a bakery in this area. He and Rehab are continuing with their English language studies and their son, Baraa, enjoys his senior kindergarten and daycare activities very much. He has made many friends in those programs. Unfortunately, his heart condition requires that he undergo surgery again and the doctor suggests it could happen in mid January. Your prayers for Baraa and his family will be appreciated.

## **Paint Nite, A First at Woodroffe**

*Submitted by Carol Cochrane*

On November 12th, 28 members of our WUC family tossed on their smocks, poised their paint brushes in hand and painted up a storm! The first ever WUC Paint Nite put on by the Membership Relations Committee was a resounding success as you can see from the smiles and the masterpieces on display in this picture. Our thanks to the very talented and patient Sarah Bradfield, who shared her artistic talents with the crowd.



---

## **Our Youth - Cleaning Up the Capital**

*Submitted by Kim Stewart*

On September 24th, Caitlin Cuthbert and Kim Stewart met with nine people from Britannia United Church's Youth and Young Adult group to do our part to clean up around our neighbourhoods. It was a sweltering hot day and after we collected nine bags of garbage and recycling, Britannia's youth leader invited everyone back to her house for a delicious BBQ.

**Next youth activity:** Funhaven in January, stay tuned for more details.

---

## **Children and Friends Luncheon**

*Submitted by Kim Stewart*

On November 19th, the Christian Education Committee held the annual Children and Friends Luncheon. The children had a great time making their own pizzas. Rev. Kathryn led a craft activity and read the group a story.



## **Chapel Meditation**

*Submitted by the Worship Committee*

For those who are looking for a more contemplative experience prior to our Sunday morning worship services, there will be space provided in our Chapel each week. Please feel free to spend some time praying, reading the bible, sitting quietly, and engaging in activities that bring you into the presence of the Holy.

---

## **Paraments at WUC**

*Submitted by the Worship Committee*

Have you ever wondered about the material covering the Communion Table and the cloth hanging from the pulpit and behind Katarina? You might think “mmm, I’ve never given it any thought because like “magic” the material changes periodically and I’m not sure who does it or why or even where they come from”.

These cloths are called Paraments - a term applied by ancient writers to the hangings or ornaments of a room of state. Now, the term Parament refers to the liturgical hangings on the Communion Table, as well as the cloths hanging from the pulpit/lectern. In many usages, it is synonymous with altar cloth.

Paraments visually transform worship spaces to reflect the distinct message and mood of each of the Church’s seasons. Some of our church paraments are solemn and reflective. Others exude joy and exuberance.

In most Christian churches using paraments (including Roman Catholic and a wide variety of Protestant denominations), the liturgical paraments change in colour depending on the season of the church year: Advent = blue; Christmas = white; Lent = purple; Easter = white; Pentecost = red; Common = orange; Pentecost and Epiphany = green.

For the past year, as the church season changes, we have Lorna Kubow to thank for changing the paraments to make sure they reflect the correct season. If you watch closely, you will also see that the choir members have coloured collars on their gowns which reflect the colours of the Paraments.

In addition, many of the beautiful paraments we have were made by our amazing seamstress Diana Baird.

## Update on the Revitalization Project

*Submitted by Sue Smarkala & Wesley Dearham*

**Revitalization Team Members:** Sue Smarkala (Chair), Erin Bruce, Dave Chaplin, Wesley Dearham, Trish Hassard, Mary Frances Laughton, Marlene Patrick, Rev. Kathryn Peate, Cathy Seaborn, Gregg Smith

### **A Reflection on our Journey:**

It has been a long and challenging process, but our Revitalization Project has engaged many people in our Woodroffe family. From Council's determination to ensure we remain a vibrant congregation, to great ideas from so many of you, to meeting with community representatives, to focusing on our biblical heritage, it's clear that a new and important journey is well underway. Most recently, and with the leadership of Rev. Kathryn, we focused on spiritual practices plus the unique experiences that make Woodroffe United Church a vital part of our lives — both individually and together. Our Convergence Summit in January is fast approaching. That's when we will reflect on how we can best serve our congregation and community in the future. And that's when, after a rewarding year of reflection and discussion, those of us on the R-Team will step back. At that time we will encourage everyone at Woodroffe to help build on the strengths of our traditions as we move forward in new and fulfilling directions.

### **Activities:**

- FEB16 At the 2016 congregational meeting, many raised concerns about volunteer burnout plus an incomplete slate of Council positions for July
- APR16 Council approved an EDGE consultant to work with us (EDGE is a United Church network for new ministry development & renewal). Futures Team met with Bob Richards, to complete an EDGE Intake Assessment
- OCT16 Completed and shared the Viability Report with Council
- NOV16 EDGE presented to Council results of the Viability Study/proposed next steps
- DEC16 At a special meeting, Council approved a **WUC Revitalization Project**  
Long Range Planning Committee re-established to lead the project
- JAN17 First meeting of R-Team WE NEED YOU posters prepared and displayed
- FEB17 Sunday service, luncheon, town hall meeting to engage congregants in R-project. Viability Report analysis shared with congregation and questionnaires completed at this meeting
- FEB-MAY Questionnaire results collated, analysed and posted  
Email and suggestion box made available for congregational input

Interviewed city councillors, Dovercourt Recreation Centre, Boys and Girls Club, Bells Corners United Church minister, St. Martin's Anglican Church's lay representative on their own revitalization status

Conducted a review of our neighbourhood areas, boundaries

Attended Presbytery workshops on revitalization

Developed models for reviewing our congregational input

JUN/JUL 17 Series of sermons on spiritual practices to support revitalization work

SEP17 Survey sent to our young adults, families with young children

Invited to be part of Woodroffe Park redesign through Carlingwood

Community Association

Spiritual practice displays and conversations during service to highlight all the different ways we can pay attention to our spirituality.

NOV17 Two congregational workshops: Scriptural-based Visioning and WUC Unique Experiences

### **Upcoming Activities:**

Saturday January 13, 2018 – What are the needs of our community/neighbourhood?

Sunday, January 28, 2018 – Convergence Summit – How can we best serve our congregation and community in the coming years?

Link: If you are curious about the work of EDGE, please visit their website:

<http://www.edge-ucc.ca/>

---

### **Christmas Care Notes**

*Submitted by Your Pastoral Care Team*

The Advent and Christmas Seasons are a time of joy for most of us, a time for celebrating with friends and family. Unfortunately, this is not the reality for everyone. For some, the season can be a painful reminder of loss, whether recent or longstanding. Our annual "Kindle a Flame" Service, which was held at 7 p.m. on December 3, is one attempt which we make as a congregation to recognize and minister to this experience.

Another way in which we try to help is by providing a specific selection of Care Notes which address the many ways in which the season can be difficult. These notes will be displayed throughout the Advent/Christmas season on the Care Notes rack in the Narthex (across from the office). There are well over a dozen different titles both on the rack and the shelf below. Please feel free to take as many as you like either for your own use or for a friend or loved one.

## **Right Relations Series**

*Submitted by Judy Chaplin*

Stay tuned for the Right Relations Series (February 2018)... a series of events on Indigenous history, culture and issues which aims to help us all learn and live into the commitment made by the UCC to develop right relations with the Indigenous peoples of Canada.

---

## **Trusting, Trusting, Trusting**

*Submitted by Diokno Segundo*

A young girl said: "it's been a habit of mine to respond negatively to sorrow. For the life of me, I can't react to problems with a positive attitude. Why?" Her youth leader said: "you respond negatively to sorrow because the roots of life are in yourself. You are saying: "though I try, I can't." You are trying, trying, trying instead of trusting, trusting, trusting. You are trying to bring forth fruit without the root".

Other than agape love, there is no love strong enough to enable us to move out of self-centeredness. If we do not possess agape love (God's love in us), then we have a limited framework of reference in which to operate. We do not have the resources we need to cope with everything that comes. In a crisis, the three greatest personalities of the New Testament, Jesus, Stephen and Paul, all prayed for their enemies. Jesus said on the cross: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Stephen prayed amid a shower of stones: "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." Paul said: "for I am already on the point of being sacrificed, the time of my departure has come ... at my first defence, no one took my part; all deserted me. May it not be charged against them!"

It was the crowning act in the life of all three. Why can love be patient? Because it knows that the universe is behind it; that in spite of what the present says, the future belongs to God. Nothing right can come out wrong, and nothing wrong can come out right.

## **Commemorative Plaque Dedication at the 'Haven' Community Centre** ***Submitted by George Neville***

On October 29th, approximately 30 people gathered at the Community Centre of the 'Haven Complex', the latest and most ambitious project (completed in May) of the Multifaith Housing Initiative (MFI) in Barrhaven. The largest contingent was from Emmanuel U.C., the home of the late Anne Squire and former Moderator of the United Church of Canada, followed by that of Barrhaven U.C. The Community Centre serves the whole Haven community for gatherings, group kitchen preparations, etc. and occupies the space of two lodging units; hence, that building has 24 housing units whereas its twin building has 26 units. The gathering started with introductory remarks by Mike Ward, President of the MFI Board of Directors, followed by Phyllis MacRae, former Chair of Ottawa Presbytery, who talked about the commitment of Ottawa Presbytery to raise \$100,000 towards the development cost of the 'Haven'. Phyllis complimented all members of the Ottawa pastoral charges for their generous and imaginative support, highlighting the fundraising by Barrhaven U.C. Rev. Carla Van Delen, (Barrhaven U.C.), Chair Elect of Ottawa Presbytery, spoke about Anne Squire's pivotal role in promoting and sustaining the goal of the project. Carla then presented the plaque for viewing by her daughters (Fran and Marni) and grand-daughters (Meredith and Kate). Meredith acted as spokesperson for the group and said that Anne would be thrilled to know that the Centre was now named after her.

The plaque, mounted on an exterior wall reads as follows: The Dr. Anne Squire Community Room. With sincere gratitude to the United Church of Canada and United Churches of the Ottawa Area for their generosity and dedication to providing safe and affordable housing.



Mike Ward and Fran Squire with sister Marni to her right, and grand-daughters, Meredith and Kate, behind to the left and right, respectively.

## **150 Reasons**

*Submitted by Suzanne Israel, Chair of Stewardship Committee*

Last year the theme for our Stewardship Campaign was "Meeting our Challenges". This year our theme is in keeping with the 150th birthday of our country. It is "150 Reasons". "150 Reasons"? What does that mean? Well what are your 150 reasons to be thankful for the church. What are your 150 reasons to support the church? What are your 150 reasons to serve the church? What are your reasons for being here, part of this congregation, part of this community?

150 may seem like a huge number, but look around the church and see all the people we meet with every Sunday, our friends, neighbours and acquaintances. Think of the people who serve on committees, people who volunteer to help with meals, sales, the bazaar, office activities, and pastoral care. Each of these is a reason to be thankful. Think of the kids we help through donations of school supplies, the families we help at Christmas through vouchers and angel gifts, the families who get food from the food bank. Each of these is a reason to serve and support the church. Think of those in other countries or in small rural churches in Canada who are supported by Mission and Service. Think of those who turn to the church when they need support, and think of the times you may have done so yourself. 150 reasons? That's a small number. We each have so much to offer to our church with time and talent, as well as with financial support. Give generously of your ideas, your listening ears, the work of your hands and the love in your heart. Sing. Share. There is so much that each of you can do.

The church Bazaar happened recently and it amazes me every year the number of people who volunteer on the day of the sale, sorting Sunday and the week leading up to the sale. There are more than 150 reasons to be thankful right there! I know our treasurer is very thankful for the successful bazaars!! We all know that many hands make light work. There are always many people willing to bake for various church activities. There are those who help in preparing food for various church functions, set up, clean up, run the dishwasher etc. Without their help all of the activities might not be able to continue -- and we are thankful for all these volunteers. We on the Stewardship committee are thankful for all of you and how you are stewards of the church. Do some dreaming of all the reasons YOU have to be thankful for our church, and to support it. It is my hope and prayer that Woodroffe United Church will continue to be vital in our lives, in the city, and the world and that we may continue to be a support both within and without. Please feel free to approach me or any of the committee members with your thoughts and dreams.

## Financial Report as of October 2017

*Submitted by Joe Smarkala, Treasurer*

	End October 2017	End October 2016
<b>Income</b>		
- Givings	\$147,682	\$145,875
- Fundraising	38,288	33,894
- Use of Building	95,473	87,916
- Other	6,097	5,011
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$287,540</b>	<b>\$272,696</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
- Personnel	\$199,757	\$186,543
- Building	62,923	44,106
- Other	40,716	41,850
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$303,396</b>	<b>\$272,499</b>
<b>Operational Status</b>	<b>-\$15,856</b>	<b>\$197</b>
<b>Reserve</b>	<b>\$176,473</b>	<b>\$196,624</b>

Our Operational status to the end of October has some good features and some not so good features. You can see that our total income for this year is \$15,000 better than last year. Increases in your givings, fundraising (new high for Bazaar) and in use of building contributed to this increase. Your Treasurer thanks you for your continuing support of the church.

But our expenses have increased by \$31,000 over last year's expenses. The building expenses have increased by \$18,000 over last year due to major furnace repairs, unexpected plumbing expenses and paving expenses. Personnel costs are up due to salary increases, cleaning costs and increased pension and CPP/UIC contribution costs.

The result is that we have a \$15,000 deficit so far in 2017 where last year we had a small surplus. Our 2017 budget tabled and accepted at February's Congregational meeting had a deficit figure of \$20,000. With Christmas season coming up, the Treasurer projects that we will have a deficit of around \$10,000 by year end.

Overall, our reserve has dropped by \$20,000 over last year to \$176,473.

Thank you again for your continued support.

## A Junior Church Word Search

*Submitted By Caitlin Cuthbert*

When asked about what she learns every week in Junior Church, Caitlin decided the best way to share her new knowledge was through a wordsearch. Caitlin has created this puzzle for all to enjoy and learn from.

### The words to search for are:

Angels, Birth, God, Joseph, Noah, Stars,  
Baby, Donkey, Heaven, Manger, Sheep,  
Bethlehem, Glory, Jesus, Mary, Singing.

### Junior Church

S	N	X	P	H	S	J	H	M	J	D	U	D	H	A
U	T	H	U	R	B	K	E	A	P	O	H	O	N	N
S	M	G	A	B	J	H	M	R	O	O	S	G	J	X
E	Y	T	O	O	E	E	A	Y	N	N	E	E	Y	E
J	S	I	H	L	C	B	N	Q	Z	L	K	G	P	V
Q	I	M	H	E	K	U	G	J	S	A	A	L	P	H
N	I	T	A	W	V	Y	E	K	N	O	D	O	X	O
K	E	V	Z	A	J	E	R	X	B	B	Y	R	A	M
B	S	H	E	E	P	C	N	G	A	R	A	Y	P	C
M	E	P	B	B	M	T	O	B	O	H	D	U	S	P
S	I	N	G	I	N	G	Y	P	R	P	T	V	S	C
D	D	H	C	F	Q	Q	Z	D	N	P	L	R	V	L
W	W	D	Z	F	D	N	K	K	K	P	T	Y	I	H
Q	Y	N	E	L	N	G	Z	I	E	M	Y	P	Y	B
S	X	Z	J	W	L	P	B	Q	V	U	N	F	R	W

## Traveling Around Italy

*Submitted by Joe Holmes*

From Oct 21 to Nov 6, 2017, my brother Russell and I had an excellent trip to Italy. Both of us had been to Italy before in our mid teens.

Roman sites visited included various ancient ruins, St Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City, the Colosseum, Trevi Fountain, Vittorio Monument, and the Pantheon. I also explored along part of the Tiber River.

From Rome, we drove to Pisa to see the Leaning Tower, and Florence with its famous Duomo and artwork such as Michelangelo's statue of David. Then it was on to Venice for a gondola ride and tour of a glass factory.



*Clockwise from top left: St Peter's Basilica and Square, Vatican City, Rome; Trevi Fountain, Rome; Michelangelo's David, Florence; Venice gondolas with Isola San Giorgio Maggiore in the distance.*

In Assisi, we saw the Basilica of St Francis, the ancient City of Pompeii and Mount Vesuvius. From Naples, we took an overnight ferry to Palermo, Sicily and visited some Norman churches. We saw massive salt pans, the Florio Winery, and south east to the impressive Valley of the Temples, an ancient Greek settlement. Sicily has extensive grape, olive, orange and lemon farming.