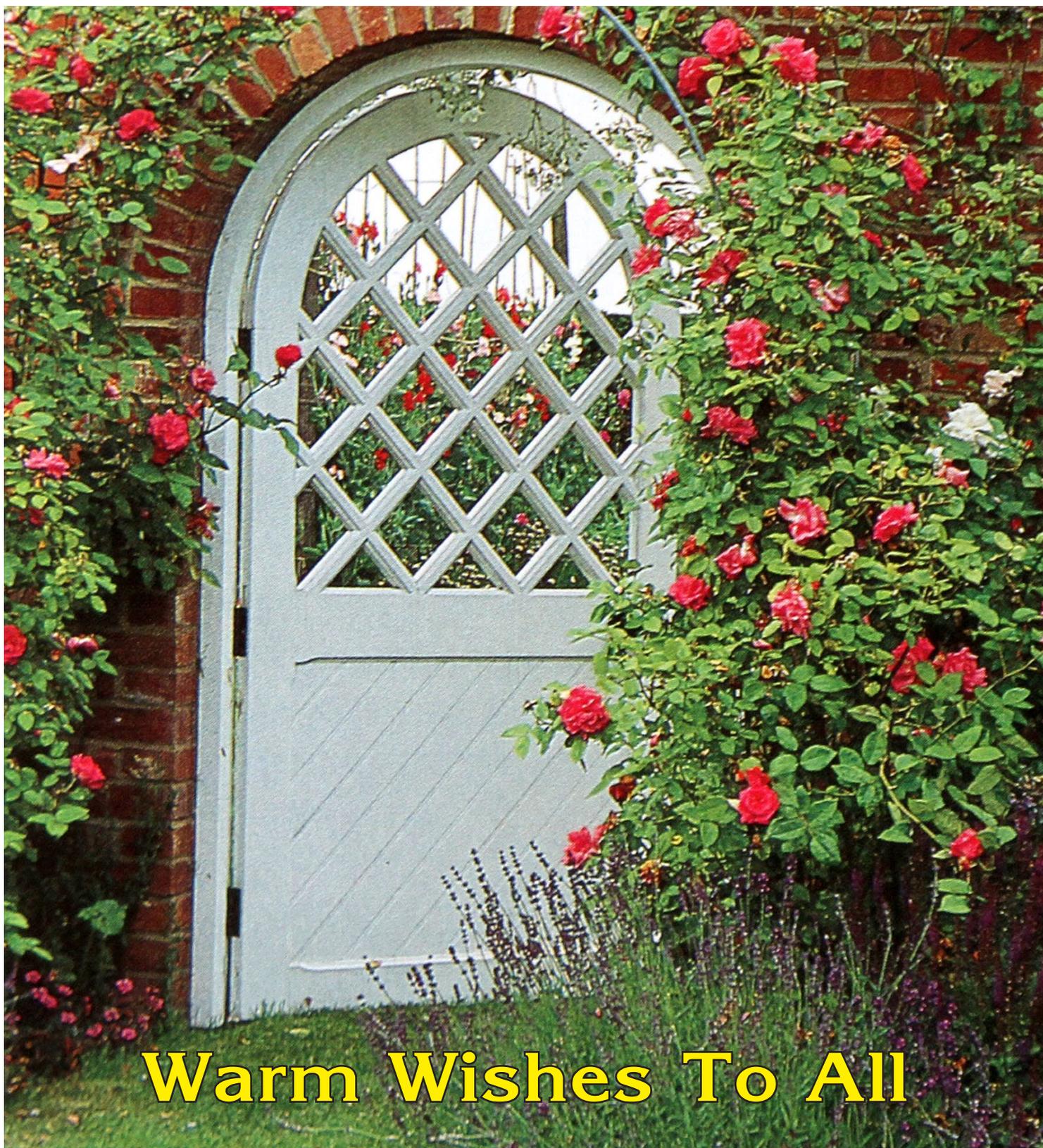


Colborne  
**Communique**

711 Colborne Street London Ontario N6A 3Z4



**Warm Wishes To All**

# An Invitation To Participate Sunday On-line

See the Communique in full colour on the church web page <http://colborne711.org>

## Colborne Communique

Submit material to Terry Fieldhouse on the due date no later than 5:00 pm at [tfieldhouse@sympatico.ca](mailto:tfieldhouse@sympatico.ca). Preferred method is an attachment typed in Microsoft Word.

Material Due	2021	Delivery
January 29		February 5
March 19		March 26
June 4		June 11
September 17		September 24
November 26		December 3



### 2021 Official Board Executive

- Official Board Chair ..... Archie Wright
- Recording Secretary..... Trish Ashbury
- Trustees Chair ..... Don Mathewson
- Stewards Chair..... Gail Hutchinson  
Paul Wiancko
- Treasurer ..... John Obright
- Clerk of Session ..... Eleanor Hunt
- Worship & Music..... Ron McClatchie
- Pastoral Care..... Sheila Lui
- Christian Education ..... Dayna Munro
- Nominations..... Open
- Membership..... Cathy Cull
- Regional Lay Representative . Open
- Ministry & Personnel ..... Greg Dickinson
- Mission & Service ..... Marion Chamberlain
- Local Outreach ..... Jill Bell
- Refugee Assistance..... Anne Alton
- UCW President..... Sheila Lui
- Audio-Visual ..... Dwight James
- Communique ..... Terry Fieldhouse
- Archives..... Trish Ashbury
- Ministry ..... Rev. David Carrothers
- Children's Ministry ..... Dayna Munro

Please remember to contact the Church office or Rev. David if you know of a Colborne Street family member who is in hospital, is scheduled to be in hospital or someone who would like a call.

**Pastoral Care is an important part of our Colborne Ministry.**

### Note . . . . From The Editor

In these most unusual times the June edition of the Communique is available in e-mail format only. There will be print copies published for those without internet.

*Stay safe — stay healthy*  
Terry Fieldhouse

## A Word From David

Rev. Forrest Church, now there's a great name for a minister, says that we must learn to let go, learn to release our tight grip on what is, so that God might move us toward what might be - but we must be ready and willing in order to do so. He writes: "Over the years, my parishioners have taught me two valuable lessons: first, when we cast into the depths, in order to survive, we must let go of things that will not save us and secondly, we must then reach out for the things which can. As to the former, until we free ourselves from attachments to false sources of security and let go of our illusions, we will remain lost in the abyss. However, with respect to the latter, in order to take hold of a lifeline which can truly save us, the most important thing to remember is that lifelines have two ends. To grasp one end, no matter how tightly, does no good unless the other end is fastened to something secure. Only by placing our faith in God can we hope to get a grip on things and take hold of life with a purpose. Otherwise we entrust our future to things that won't last."



Rev. David R. Carrothers

There is no guarantee that our faith will deliver us from troubles or suffering but there is every indication that God's love will never desert us. Jesus called His believers to a life of perseverance and endurance - trusting in the providence of God. At a time when it would be so easy to conclude that God's assurances are futile, we are told the time is right for witnessing to God's promises and purposes. Jesus says that such trust and confidence in God can help us keep our gains and losses in perspective, live a life more aware of God's presence, be able to persevere and endure and, therefore, not only maintain our sanity but also and more importantly, ultimately regain our souls.

Jesus encourages patience and faithfulness as we continue to discern God's presence, will and grace in the world. Even in the midst of chaos and crisis, we must continue to bear witness. In other words, we are called to be and serve as hope's response to an anxious world.

There's a cartoon which depicts two characters who are walking along, going nowhere in particular. One says, "You know, there is a question I'm just dying to ask God." The other says, "Oh really - what's the question?" "Well, the question I would like to ask God is: why don't You do something about all the human suffering and misery in the world?" "That sounds like a good question" says the other. "Why don't you ask God that question?" "Because" replies the first, "I'm afraid God might just ask me the same question."

A teacher had been working with a student who was struggling in class. He was having trouble with math and just couldn't seem to get it. Part of the problem was that he had convinced himself that he couldn't do it which caused him to become totally frustrated and appear disinterested. Consequently, he consistently failed to get his work completed for class. "I'm just no good at math," the student told his teacher, almost as a way of making an excuse for his poor performance.

"You know," replied the teacher, "I get the impression that I believe in you more than you believe in yourself." And she was right. That teacher had confidence in the potential and abilities of the student and was absolutely convinced he could succeed if he only believed that he could and then applied himself. Yet, how could that happen if he talked himself into thinking that there was no point in even trying? First, he needed to believe in himself and his ability just half as much as his teacher believed in him. Once he did and experienced a bit of success, there was just no holding him back. What greater encouragement or reason to try than knowing someone believes in you and what you can do. Jesus said that 'with God all things are possible' because God believes in you to see them through. While our future may be in God's hands, getting there is in ours.

*God bless — David*



## In Tune



It has almost been a year since I joined the team at Colborne Street United; and I am so thankful to have been so warmly welcomed into this community. Despite the restrictions of COVID-19, I've had the incredible opportunity to...

**C**elebrate David's 40th anniversary at Colborne

**O**perate the magnificent Casavant organ

**L**augh and sing with the chancel choir

**B**uild new relationships

**O**bserve the excitement and joy of the annual Christmas tree sale

**R**ing with members of the handbell choir

**N**avigate through our extensive music library

**E**joy the many musical talents of this community

I would like to take this opportunity to thank this year's choral scholar, Skylar Cameron. Skylar has been a wonderful addition to the music team during this unprecedented year. I greatly appreciated her willingness to adapt, as guidelines continuously changed throughout these past 10 months. Skylar is leaving London to begin a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Performance at the University of Toronto. The choir is going to miss having her voice and leadership, but we wish her all the best in her future studies and career! Thank You and Congratulations to Skylar!

We are all looking forward to the likely return of in-person choir this fall! Do you love to sing? Have you ever thought about joining the choir? This might be the perfect time to join! Come and meet the other choir members in September – we would love to have you! Please get in touch with me at [dom@colborne711.org](mailto:dom@colborne711.org) if you are interested.



**Kennedy  
Kimber-Johnson  
Director of Music.**

**Kennedy Kimber-Johnson**

## Mission Minute

None of us can go a single day without having an impact on someone's life. And we can't always predict how what we do to help change a life might wind up changing ours, too.

Take Bill Darnell. Bill's love affair with nature began at camp, but it didn't end there. Far from it. Bill's childhood experience of camp wound up inspiring one of the world's most influential environmental movements.

"Camping had a big affect on me. I grew up in suburbia and didn't have much access to the natural world. Camping was an opportunity to go out and be in nature. It was amazing. Being at camp solidified my strong connection with the natural world," he says.

Bill's early camp experience instilled such a love of nature that when he became an adult, he became an environmental activist. "When I was 25 years old, not far removed from my years in camp, I saw that they were testing nuclear weapons. That was so obviously wrong that I felt I had to do something to stop it." he says.

So Bill and a small group of friends anxiously climbed on board an 85-foot fishing boat later dubbed Greenpeace. Together, they set sail for Alaska to stop the testing of a nuclear bomb. Greenpeace as a movement was born.

Bill's story proves that camping experiences in childhood can lead to a lifelong commitment to care for God's creation.

As scientists and activists sound the alarm around climate change and experts report that not spending enough time outside is having an impact on our children's health and well-being, outdoor ministry has never been more crucial. It's just one of the many reasons why Mission & Service really matters.

Your Mission & Service gifts support over two dozen United Church-run camps across the country. Every year, your generosity gives thousands of children an opportunity to go to camp. There, they learn life skills, meet other campers, explore faith, and spend time outside.

Like Bill, some young people may leave camp so impressed by the natural environment that they get on board a movement to take care of it. "Camping made an incredible difference in my life. I know it will make an incredible difference to young people across Canada. I give thanks to those who support it," Bill says.

Please make a gift to Mission & Service today. Your support not only makes a difference right now but also has an impact on the future for all of us who are blessed to live in the beautiful world God created.

**Marion Chamberlain**

# Positive Energy

## Award Recipient

Soroptimist International London nominated Anne Alton for the 2021 Leading Women, Leading Girls, Building Communities Award. The award recognizes London women and girls who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in working to improve the lives of others. We are very happy to announce that Anne was indeed a recipient of this award on April 28th . We offer our congratulations to Anne for receiving such a well-deserved recognition and honour for the many years she has dedicated to serving new Canadians and youth in our community with love and compassion.

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## Personal Achievement

Another noteworthy achievement, is that recently, our Director of Music – Kennedy Kimber-Johnson – successfully defended her thesis and will be receiving a Master of Music degree. We are very proud of Kennedy for completing this while serving so dedicatedly as our new musical director. We want to congratulate her and on behalf of the congregation, I say, ‘Well done Kennedy!’ – you earned this and really need to celebrate it! (but only when the pandemic restrictions are removed).

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## Happy Retirement

Brian Cunliffe has retired after reaching 50 years in the investment business where he has made countless friends and clients. In their retirement, Brian and Maureen plan to spend more time with family and friends.

Brian is a long-time committed member of Colborne Street United Church. He was part of the committee that called Rev. David to Colborne 40 years ago. He has served on the Stewards and Trustees and volunteered as Head Usher. He proposed the idea to sell Christmas trees for the Church that has grown to be a major fund raising activity for Colborne. He was always willing to give advice on finances or egg salad sandwiches.

At Christmas Brian has been cast as a Wise Man, carrying the gold. And so, when this pandemic has ended, we fully expect to see Brian once again to be ushering and eating those egg salad sandwiches.

Bon Appetit!

## Roly Fenwick Artist

The latest exhibition at the Michael Gibson Gallery features the work of acclaimed artist Roly Fenwick, husband of Ann Fenwick, a member of Colborne Street United Church. The exhibit is entitled “Images From Home Well” in place until June 12.

He is a Western University professor emeritus who taught visual arts for more than 20 years until 1989 and is best known for his Bruce Peninsula landscapes. The show includes a number of self-portraits painted over the last 10 years depicting moments on the back porch at their cottage, reading in bed or in front of his favourite tree.

Figurative painting has long been a subject for Roly but rarely exhibited publicly. Among the portraits are those of his wife Ann, son and daughter. He has also painted group portraits of friends including members of the London arts community.

Roly studied under Alex Colville and the Group of Seven’s Lawren P. Harris in the early 1950s before moving to Toronto to work as an art director for Simpson Sears department store catalogue.

Since his retirement, Roly has continued to paint at his London studio and Big Bay cottage on the Bruce Peninsula. His paintings are in the permanent collections of the Art Gallery of Hamilton, Tom Thompson Art Gallery, McIntosh Art Gallery and Museum London.

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## Meghan Lamers Triathlete

Meghan, daughter of Marinus and Gail Lamers, discovered Triathlons in second year university, and loved the sport immediately. Her commitment to triathlon training continued throughout her university years and continues today. For those unfamiliar with this sport, the Triathlon competition consists of three components: swimming, biking and running. In a Sprint Triathlon athletes swim .75 km, bike 20 km and run 5 km. In an Olympic Triathlon they must swim 1.5 km, bike 40 km and run 10 km. Meghan competes in both Triathlons, and has qualified to go to the World Competition for amateur athletes on three occasions - at Edmonton, Chicago and most recently Nice, France.

She has also competed in a Half Ironman competition and hopes to compete in an Ironman competition at some point. With the indoor and outdoor pools shut down due to the COVID pandemic, Meghan’s training has been limited to biking and running, which she does on a daily basis.

Meghan obtained an undergraduate degree in Human Kinetics and a Master’s degree in BioMechanics and Neurophysiology from Guelph University. She is currently entering the second year of a four year program in Osteopathy.

## Local Outreach

### Donations For A Place To Call Home

#### Indwell Project

The Local Outreach Committee is undertaking a gift giving initiative in support of Indwell London. Indwell is a Christian charity that is accredited with the Canadian Council of Christian Charities. It creates supportive housing at very affordable rents for tenants who face challenges because of poverty, physical, mental health or financial barriers. It provides tenants with support for health issues and gives them a sense of belonging and community. Indwell has professional staff who help tenants solve problems, develop healthy relationships and connect with community resources where needed.

Indwell opened its first supportive housing building in London called Woodfield Gate, in 2019 with sixty-seven, one-bedroom apartments that are all occupied. Its current project is Embassy Common that will have sixty-seven, one-bedroom apartments and five, two-bedroom apartments. It will be occupied in spring, 2022. The rents will be sustainable for persons whose primary source of income is the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) or other similar programs.

More information can be found at: <https://indwell.ca/2021/02/17supportive-housing-saved-her-life/>

Indwell, in partnership with six housing agencies in London, called the Vision SoHo Alliance, is also renovating and repurposing two heritage buildings on the site of what was the health services building on the former South Street hospital land to build one hundred and ten apartments. There will be six hundred units in total built by the Alliance.

#### Monetary Contributions

Riverside United Church has launched a monetary gift giving project called "Gift of Hope" in partnership with Indwell that runs from May until July, 2021. With acknowledgement to Riverside United and its Outreach Committee, and other Churches, we liked

their approach to the donation giving and have adopted a similar gifting program.

The aim is to furnish each apartment unit with basic furnishings, at a cost of \$2,500. Furnishings include kitchen ware and appliances. With the support of the congregation, we at Colborne United Church would like to gift \$2,500 to furnish at least one apartment at Embassy Common. Riverside's goal is to furnish three apartments and raise the funds in three months while another London church has raised funds to furnish seven apartments.

#### Something Tangible

Each item needed to furnish an apartment, has been allocated a dollar amount ranging from \$10 to \$650. In this way, anyone who donates knows what their donation is actually buying. New items only are being purchased and used to furnish the apartments.

##### The list of items created is as follows:

Glassware \$10: Cutlery \$20: Utensils \$30: Dishes \$50: Pots and Pans \$65: Kitchen Chair \$100: Microwave \$125: Kitchen Table \$175: Comfy Chair \$200: Bed \$275: Loveseat \$300: Stove \$500: Refrigerator \$650.

#### Donations

Contributions made are tax deductible. While we continue to be in lockdown restrictions mode, contributions may be included either in regular Church envelopes and mailed or dropped off at the Church; or mailed or dropped off to the Church Treasurer, John Obright; or by e-transfer using the Church email address. All contributions must be clearly identified as "LOC INDWELL DONATION". For other than Church envelopes, please make sure that your name is clearly identified on the donation so that John can properly credit the amount to your annual Church contributions. When the Church reopens for Sunday worship, donations may also be deposited in the collection plate.

Please note that John will inform Local Outreach from time to time of, for example, the number of \$10 donations made, the number of \$20 donations made, the number of \$50 donations made, etc. not the names of the individual donors. By so doing, the congregation will be given regular updates on donations that have been received for example, for glassware, cutlery,

dishes, microwaves, etc. Such as 10 X \$10 donations received for ten sets of glassware, or \$125 for one microwave.

At the end of the gift giving period, the funds will be forwarded to Indwell with a breakdown of the amounts received for each item.

## *Donations And Regular Updates*

We would like to have this initial fundraising project run from now until August 1, 2021. It may run beyond that date depending upon the number of apartments furnished. In addition, since Indwell is continuing to build apartments, and will require further furnishings in time, it will likely be put “on hold” once the initial request has been accomplished, to be re-commenced when needed for the next number of new apartments.

We would sincerely ask the congregation to consider this very worthwhile initiative. Perhaps you might consider joining with other family members or friends to make a donation that would purchase, for example, a kitchen chair or a comfy chair?

Our grateful thanks once again to the congregation for their continuing support, for considering this project and for their anticipated donations.

**Jill Bell**

**Local Outreach Committee**

## *Growing Chefs Ontario! Virtual Cooking Class Fund Raising Event*

The Executive Chef at Growing Chefs! Ontario, Katherine Jones is leading a virtual cooking class called “DISH ON FOOD” on Friday, June 11, 2021 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. We have partnered with Growing Chefs Ontario! to prepare our Northern Hospitality meals. Katherine is the chef who prepares and helps serve the meals.

It will be a full course meal for two, including a bottle of Colaneri Riesling. The food needed for the cooking class, together with the wine, will be provided by Growing Chefs at the actual, basic cost of \$100 plus HST. However, as this is a fund raising event for Growing Chefs, donations would be very welcome and gratefully received.

Further information may be found at the following address:

[https:// www.eventbrite.ca/e/dish-on-food-cooking-class-tickets-154796724169](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/dish-on-food-cooking-class-tickets-154796724169)

Please pass this information along to anyone who may be interested in participating in this event.

Growing Chefs Ontario! is a registered charity that provides School Food Education Projects, and encourages chefs, growers, educators and community members to get more involved in these projects. It provides children with the knowledge and enthusiasm to prepare good and healthy meals, and supports and encourages the development and growth of food education for children and families. Its chefs hold in person cooking programs at their main facility as well as in schools, which of course have been suspended during the pandemic.



**Jill Bell**

**Local Outreach Committee**

## *Ribfest – Parking*

It has been reported in the local news that the organizers of RIBFEST LONDON are hopeful that outdoor gatherings and organized public events with size limits, included in Phase 3 of the Province of Ontario’s “Roadmap to Re-opening Plan”, anticipated towards the end of July, will allow this event to take place between July 29 and August 3, 2021. As a result, we have been asked about the possibility of covering the parking this year.

The “Re-opening Plan” is contingent upon vaccine thresholds being met with significantly reduced and manageable numbers of Covid-19 outbreaks. It will be 21 days after the end of Phase 2 before the decision is made to move Ontario into Phase 3.

The Local Outreach Committee had not anticipated that any of the Victoria Park events would take place this year. In addition, the parking lot may not be made available to us. Accordingly, at this time, we are not planning on covering RIBFEST parking. However, should the situation change for the better, and circumstances permit, we may make a further decision at that time.

Thank you for your interest.

**Jill Bell**

**Local Outreach Committee**

# Our Colborne Church Family

## Birthdays

April 12 .....Hans Markvoort  
 April 24.....Nancy Reynard  
 April 27.....Dorothy Riehl  
 May 12.....Edna Gee  
 May 31 .....Ruth Stevenson  
 June 8 .....Jon Baskerville  
 June 15 .....June Baeker  
 June 25.....Marryl Ebanks  
 July 12.....Ruth Coulthard  
 July 24.....Bill Frank

## Anniversaries

May 21.....Dave & June Wenn 55th  
 June 10.....Ron & Ann McClatchie 60th

## Deaths

We extend our sincere sympathy to Donna Wood for the loss of her sister in April and to Areum Han for the loss of her sister in May.

If you or your family have a special event including a birth, wedding, special wedding anniversary, illness or death, or just need to say hello with a thinking-of-you card, the UCW sends a card on behalf of our Colborne family. We have now extended the birthday card ministry to include all Colborne members on the Pastorial Care list (long term care or nursing homes). We will continue to send cards to those over 90 living at home.

A red rose on the organ during worship is to celebrate the birth of a child into a Colborne member's family. ***Please let the Church office know of your special event or to request a card.***



# UCW Executive & Coordinators

- President ..... Sheila Lui
- Secretary..... **Open**
- Treasurer ..... Bonny Shawyer
- Corresponding Secretary.. Brenda Fieldhouse
- Kitchen Supervisor..... Sheila Lui
- Special Occasion Decorating
  - Easter..... Lynn Foster & Gayle Fluter
  - Thanksgiving..... Helen Bell & Barb Webster
  - Christmas ..... Sheryl Lodge & Gail Lamers
- Flowers (Purchase and Distribution)
  - Easter ..... Gayle Fluter & Lynn Foster
  - Christmas ..... Kathryn Turnbull **Open**
- Birth Rose..... Maureen Cunliffe
- Receptions & Catering .... Sheila Lui
- Take-A-Break ..... Theresa Golem
- Rummage Sale ..... Eleanor Hunt **Open**
- Quilting Group ..... Norma Stokes
- Retreat Committee..... **Open**
- Rep. Stewards ..... **Open**
- Rep. Official Board..... Sheila Lui
- Rep. Session..... Sheila Lui
- Data Projector ..... Church Secretary



# I Didn't Know That

## The Virtue of Cardinals

Every cloud has a silver lining, so they say.

COVID may have kept me cooped up in the 'hood' more than I liked, this year, but it has helped me appreciate a frequent visitor to my little corner of the world, too.

The City of London is looking for an official bird to recognise and I have already gone to [www.birdfriendlylondon.ca/citybirdpoll](http://www.birdfriendlylondon.ca/citybirdpoll), casting my ballot for the Northern Cardinal, that ever-present dot of red in our local greenery.



**Mark Richardson**

Oh, what romantic singers these mortals be. As if their colour alone were not enough to impress, cardinals can rear back and fill the neighbourhood with a variety of trills. My favourite is the “purdy, purdy, purdy, purdy” call. It makes a tentative appearance in the first days of spring, but moves into high gear as the weather warms. And when I hear “ptoo, ptoo” coming from somewhere in the foliage, I know a cardinal is not far away.

Even in the dark days of winter, cardinals can herald better days ahead with their little “chip” sounds.



Growing up in Nova Scotia I had never seen a cardinal. That is, not until visiting Stratford, Ontario with Edith in the mid-1980's, when I was so excited at spotting one, I whipped out my camera and took a photo. The result was a blurry mess, but it graces my scrapbook, nevertheless; and if you look hard enough you can see my feathered friend at the very top of a suburban tree singing his heart out.

There are eight birds to choose from in the London poll. Black-capped chickadees are friendly little chaps, of course; and mourning doves have a haunting presence, to be sure; but, for me, the cardinal is king. Says Emily Williamson, an ecologist for the City of London: “Did you know cardinals show up in London on the annual Christmas Bird Count more than anywhere else in the nation?” I did not know that.

Emily adds, “The Cardinal is also the mascot for the local naturalist society, Nature London; and both male and female Cardinals sing, making them truly egalitarian. And as one of the lead characters in the ‘Angry Birds’ video game, wouldn’t cardinals be a great gateway to foster young birders? Wouldn’t a cardinal mascot inspire the next generation?”

Say no more, Emily, I’m sold. However, let me add a few points to the cause, myself. Did you know our bird of choice is named for the red garb worn by the College of Cardinals in the Roman Catholic Church? The next time there is a conclave at the Vatican, we can thank the “princes of the church” for the cardinal name.

Speaking of Rome, were you aware the church has long touted the four cardinal virtues: prudence, temperance, fortitude and justice? Or, that those virtues were celebrated by the ancient Greeks?

The word cardinal goes back to the Latin *cardinis*, or hinge. Cardinal Bishops were considered pivotal to the smooth running of the church, for example. The Cardinal Virtues, meanwhile, were thought to be the gateway to the higher, Theological Virtues of faith, hope and love. (I Corinthians 13)

Church history aside, the Northern Cardinal is just too pretty to be ignored and too talented to forget. I have nothing against great horned owls. I bear no grudge towards the peregrine falcon. I can even admire the majestic menace of the red-tailed hawk.

But when it comes to choosing the best bird for the Forest City, a little voice is singing to me “Vote Cardinal.”

# Report From The Treasurer's Desk

Financial Summary – YTD May 31, 2021

John Obright

	Last Year's Actual	This Year's Budget	This Year's Results
<b>Income</b>			
Envelope Givings – YTD May 31, 2021	95,859	86,149	89,325
Rental Income, Special Projects	38,235	38,870	39,136
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>134,094</b>	<b>125,019</b>	<b>128,461</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Operating Costs – YTD May 31, 2021	133,000	146,858	148,090
Other Income/Expenses	10,041	3,000	9,264
<b>Net Income/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>11,135</b>	<b>(18,839)</b>	<b>(10,365)</b>

**Comments**

The efforts of many to get their contributions to me continues to be a great help that has enabled us to stay ahead of budget. Your efforts are much appreciated. Please continue to help us in this way over the summer – a normally tough period on the church finances.

Wage subsidies for the first four months of 2021 are now reflected in the above numbers. These have certainly helped us to continue paying all staff during this period.

We have some new PAR users. Much appreciation to all users of PAR. This flow of income has been one of the factors for us being able to keep close to budget. For current PAR users, you can make changes to your givings by sending me an email at the address below or in writing to my attention at the church. I need a written request to make any changes

We have been able to add eTransfer to allow our members an additional means of making their church contribution. To use this method, simply send your eTransfer to church@colborne711.org and it will get automatically deposited to our bank account. Any special instructions should be noted.

You can contact me directly by email (jfobright@sympatico.ca) or by phone (519-432-8735) if you have any questions regarding your Church Donation or the financial affairs of the church.

## NORTHERN HOSPITALITY 2021 – 2022

St. Michael's Catholic Church 511 Cheapside St.

Please note that only pre-prepared lunch bags and beverages will be handed out in September, October and November. Subject to any continuing health safety restrictions, a decision will be made about the 2022 dates later in the year.

### Colborne's Dates

2021	2022
Sept. .... 27	Jan. .... 24
Oct. .... 25	Feb. .... 28
Nov. .... 22	Mar. .... 28
	April .... 25

## All Men / All Girls

When my daughter, Kelli , said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). For several weeks, after we had finished the nightly prayer, Kelli would say, 'And all girls.' This soon became part of her nightly routine, to include this closing. My curiosity got the best of me and asked her, ' Kelli , why do you always add the part about all girls?' Her response, 'Because everybody always finish their prayers by saying 'All Men'!

## *Excerpts From David's Retirement Announcement Letter*

May 6, 2021

Dear Colborne Family:

Forty-five years ago, this month, I was ordained and for the past forty years, I have been blessed to be your minister. During that time, we have travelled many roads together and dealt with challenges and opportunities along the way. This past year, dealing with the restrictions of the pandemic, has been extraordinary and one of the greatest tests of what it means to be a member of a congregational family. Yet, though our Church doors may have been closed, our hearts have remained open as we found new ways of being a Church and one in the Spirit. Though physically apart, virtually we stayed connected in ways we didn't think possible – but then, that is what a Church family does in demonstrating its resiliency and ability to carry on.

I wanted to stay and help make that happen which brings me to the point of my writing.

Two and a half years ago, after having a significant health scare and wakeup call, after much prayerful thought, my intention had been to retire.

I knew I could not leave Colborne during such stressful days. I have tried my best through the weekly worship videos, emails and contacts to keep ministering to you, in the hope that better days lay ahead, but knew that I could not carry on doing this indefinitely. I feel the time is now right. And so, as I am turning 70 in June, I am announcing my retirement effective October 31. Speaking for Joan, Laura and Sandeep, Brent, Kelly and Hudson, Natalie and Hawkar, Colborne has not only been our Church home, but you have been our family.

*God bless you all*

*David*

### **Editor's Note:**

The Church has arranged for Mark Richardson and Bruce Whitmore to lead some Sunday services during August, September and October, allowing David to take his well deserved holidays.

## **From The Stewards**

The Stewards sincerely thank the members of the congregation for their continued faith and generosity in supporting the operations of the Church, even though we cannot actually meet in the Sanctuary.

Earlier this spring, the contractor who installed the split system air conditioning system, came back and installed drainage tubing from the refrigerant line covers, hopefully preventing condensation from dribbling down the exterior brickwork this summer. A roofing contractor has been retained to repair and upgrade the roofing, flashing and eaves in early June. Investigation into repairing the exterior brickwork continues. Over the summer needed upgrades to the boiler room are planned and a working group of Stewards will be looking into the longer term heating system needs. Repairs to the exterior stair from the Youth Room to the parking lot should also be completed shortly.

Some other items the Stewards are working on include: Repairs to the interior walls of the Sanctuary, investigating improvements to the Church ventilation system; replacing the fencing along the back (west side) of the parking lot and upgrades to the Church audio/visual system and website.

The Church would like to ask the members of the congregation for suggestions for a website developer to assist with changes to the Church website.

The Stewards would also appreciate the name of a company for snow plowing of the Church parking lot. Please pass on any suggestions to Norma-Jean at the Church office.

The number of people on the Stewards' committee is well below the number usually on this committee. Please, if you are able to help out by joining, contact the Church office.

### **Footnote:**

The Christmas tree committee has received the new price list for trees and will be placing an order soon.

**Paul Wiancko**

## LERC Update

### A Success Story

On December 12th, 2005 a refugee family, sponsored by LIRSA, arrived from Colombia. What an introduction to Canada for Enrique Martinez, his wife Diana, two-year-old daughter, Estefania, his sister Ludy and her eight-year-old son, Camilo, as December 12th was the coldest day that winter at -17 C.

Enrique was studying to be a Catholic priest in Colombia but shortly before finishing his studies he began to question some of the teachings of the Catholic Church - the role of women in the church, the attitudes towards homosexuality, celibacy for the clergy, the way finances were distributed by the church, etc. He left the seminary and became a high school teacher, teaching Spanish and Ethics for five years.

At that time in Colombia there was a continuing armed conflict accompanied by widespread violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. All actors in the conflict - guerrillas, paramilitary groups and the armed forces committed serious violations such as massacres, assassinations and kidnappings.

When Enrique called the police to report human rights abuses against some students at the school, the police passed on his name and location to the guerrillas. His life was immediately in danger and the principal of the school drove him out of the school in the trunk of his car. Within a year the family moved five times - from city to city and eventually to Bogota, a city of eight million, hoping that he could escape the guerrillas there, but his life was still in extreme danger. They felt very blessed when they learned that they had been sponsored to come to Canada as refugees.

The family arrived with no English so the adults attended ESL (English as a Second Language) classes for two years. Enrique loved being a student so acquired an Arts and Science Certificate from Fanshawe College, followed by a Computer Systems Technician course, and later a year of Finance at Fanshawe. To support the family through his years of studies, Enrique had many part-time jobs. His very first job was delivering the London Free Press, followed later by cleaning offices at night. He set up a little Grass Cutting and Gardening business and had many customers for several years, and fixed computers for several of the same clients. More recent jobs include being the custodian at Riverside United Church for three years, driving a school bus, driving a truck to make deliveries for local businesses, delivering groceries via Uber, parking cars at Hotel London, and working in the luggage department at the airport. For many years the family lived in a large apartment building where Diana was the apartment superintendent.

Enrique decided to follow his long-time dream of becoming a minister so enrolled at Huron College where he

has graduated with a Master of Divinity Degree. His dream has come true, as on June 24th he will be ordained at St. Paul's Cathedral and has been appointed as the Rector of the Parish of Long Point Bay which includes five charges - Port Ryerse, Woodhouse, Turkey Point, Vittoria and Port Rowan where the family now lives. In addition, the Bishop would like Enrique to work on an Outreach Program for any Spanish speaking people in the Diocese of Huron which will include people living in cities or towns in the Diocese as well as the large number of migrant workers from Mexico.



A few months after being in Canada Enrique told me he wrote his mother and told her he was "living in paradise." I guess after fearing for his life in Colombia, and despite the hard work ahead to learn a new language, etc., to feel safe here and have opportunities must have felt like paradise.

Enrique and his family have fully embraced life in Canada. A few years after being here, he and three other Spanish speaking friends started a Soccer Club for Spanish speaking people which has grown to a club of 200 members. Coaching kids' soccer games also kept him busy.

Enrique's nephew, Camilo, has graduated from Western in Business and has secured a good job. Diana has started online courses at Fanshawe in Social Work. Estefania has graduated from high school and is applying for university and son John Diego, born in Canada, is graduating from Grade eight. Indeed, a very successful family!

After many years of hard work, Enrique has achieved his dream. We wish him congratulations on his amazing accomplishment and God's blessings in his new role as Rector. Best wishes to all the family members in their future endeavours.

**Anne Alton, Refugee Assistance Committee**

## *A Pandemic Casualty? A Non-Performing Music Program?*

This has been a strange 15 months from mid-March 2020 to early June 2021. We all recall the cancelling of congregational worship in our Colborne Street United Church sanctuary a year-ago March. We all recall losing those important Easter-tide services Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday in 2020. We did not know then that we would be losing Easter again in 2021. Now we are hoping that the constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic might be lifted sometime in July or August, that schools will re-open normally in September, that we can again come together for worship in our Colborne Street United Church sanctuary. Will this be a novel Labour Day celebration?

Yesterday, the June edition of *The American Organist* (TAO) arrived in the mailbox. This is the journal of the American Guild of Organists, and it can come as part of membership with the Royal Canadian College of Organists. The TAO has been of great interest and a source of musical ideas during my other life as a director of music at a number of churches and it continues to be now that I am a retired music director. I always look forward to the regular articles penned by the Honourary Chaplain for the American Guild of Organists. The chaplain at the present time is Rev. Judy Fentress-Williams; she is also associated with the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia, which is across the Potomac River from Washington D.C.

This month's "From the Chaplain" starts with an inspiring poetic version of a well-known passage authored, sometime between the third or fourth century BC, by someone named, or bearing the title of Qoheleth, a Hebrew word or name for someone who has the authority of a teacher. We know the passage as "Time for Everything" found in Ecclesiastes (3:1-8).

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven:

- a time to be born, and a time to die;
- a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what was planted;
- a time to kill, and a time to heal;
- a time to break down, and a time to build up;
- a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
- a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
- a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
- a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
- a time to seek, and a time to lose;
- a time to tear, and a time to sew;
- a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
- a time to love, and a time to hate;
- a time for war and a time for peace.

Fentress-Williams notes this passage of wisdom "has been an inspiration to artists and a focal point for religious reflection thinking about our own existence in terms of time is natural." She notes, "Our life is not just measured by the number of days but by their pattern (that) in due time, one season will give way to another with a rhythm that may or may not make sense to us." As she says, "The structure of the poem offers hope that there is a pattern to the seasons of our lives," We mourned the impact of health unit prescribed constraints to stay at home, avoid gathering together, wear masks, and socially distance ourselves two metres apart. Now we feel like dancing as we enter this post-pandemic season.

Musically, our Church experience has been "a time to seek". Think of it! Our music director Kennedy Kimber-Johnson started her career with our congregation last June and never since has she had the opportunity of performing music for us, except virtually, never had the opportunity of holding choir rehearsals except virtually and never been able to meet members of our congregation or our choirs and musical groups except by email, telephone or "Zoom!" We know about

Kennedy and her musical ability from watching her contributions to Sunday Services presented by Rev. David on YouTube each week. What a tough situation in which to begin a career, especially when music is an art form that demands in-person presentation to truly achieve the emotional feelings for the listeners and other participants: these are the objectives of any musical performance or presentation.

This has been a time to throw away live music and a time to gather musical thoughts together virtually! Weekly, every Thursday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., our choir has met together on line by “Zoom” under Kennedy’s direction, assisted by Skylar, our music scholar. Choir members are encouraged to sing along as Kennedy introduces the music but no one can hear anyone else except for the melody lines presented through Kennedy’s leadership. This has certainly been “a time for every musical purpose under heaven!”

This has been “a time to break down” to mourn perhaps over the loss of making music together but yet it has been “a time to build up.” And a remarkable thing has happened: under Kennedy’s leadership, most of the choir’s members participated “Zooming” with her every Thursday evening. Our choristers may not have honed their musical presentations of the anthems Kennedy has presented, but they certainly have become familiar with an entire year’s worth of

anthems! The music program has been very much behind the scene since everyone involved had to do their music making individually, from their homes, with only virtual encouragement.

This is an astounding feat of leadership, of patience from Kennedy and an amazing response of commitment from choir members a response no doubt motivated by a desire to help support Kennedy and by a desire to maintain a musical connection with personal faith while hoping to gather together soon in person to sing.

So, it seems true that the number of these pandemic days and months is not the point! Rather, “in due time, one season will give way to another.” Perhaps it was Jeremiah who at some point between 586 and 516 BC noted, “Because of the Lord’s great love, we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness” [Lamentations 3:22-23]. Yes indeed, “Great is our Faithfulness,” and the coming season will be “time to embrace” and a “time to dance:”

Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,  
And I’ll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I’ll lead you all in the dance, said he!

*Ian Seddon*

## Prayer for the Loss in Kamloops, BC

*by Rev. Murray Pruden, Executive Minister,  
Indigenous Ministries & Justice,  
The United Church of Canada*

Creator,

We give thanks for this day and each day you grant us life to walk on this great land, our Mother.

Give us the heart and strength to come together in prayer in time of mourning, reflection, and peace.

The news we have heard these last few days of our relations, our families, the children who have been physically taken away from us and who have now been found.

And with this news, we grieve for their memory, for their struggle, for their spirit.

We pray for good understanding, guidance, and love for all our families and communities who will need direction and resolution at this time.

And we come together in prayer and ask for your light to guide us to be a part of that needed peace, support, and resolve for everyone who is reacting to this great tragedy in our Indigenous Nations of this great land.

Creator be with us, allow us to be brave. Allow us to be strong. Allow us to be gentle to one another. Allow us to be humble. But most of all, allow us to be like the Creator’s love.

Peace be with us, we lift up our prayers to you. In love, trust, and truth, peace be with us all.

*In Jesus’ name. Amen.*

# Prayer for the Students of Kamloops Residential School

by Moderator Richard Bott, The United Church of Canada

O God, we are grieving.

O God, we are shocked.

O God, we are horrified.

But, God, if we truly listened, we can't be surprised.

The Elders and the Communities had already told

the Truth and Reconciliation Commission,

told the governments and the world,

the stories of the children, dead and buried,

unnoted by the settler systems,

but never ever forgotten by their siblings, their  
parents,

their communities.

We grieve for the Indigenous children,

taken from their homes and parents by the  
government,

handed over to the responsibility of the Christian  
church,

the children who died under its care,

never to be held by their families,

never to be returned to their communities—

not only the 215 children of the Tk'emlups te  
Secwepemc

and other Indigenous communities along the west  
coast and interior

whose bodies have now been found

on the grounds of the Kamloops Indian Residential  
School grounds,

but all of those children

whose bodies have not yet been found

who died in any of Indian Residential Schools.

We grieve for the survivors of the Indian Residential  
Schools,

the children who did come home,

but were changed by their experience,

the children who grew up,

and have the trauma of remembering, again,

what happened to them.

Even as we give thanks for their families and  
communities,

who hold the stories of the children,

who have kept searching,

who keep searching,

we grieve that that search is even necessary,

that even one child was taken,

that even one child died,

that even one child's death went unnoted by  
the system.

Help us to stop, to sit in silence,

to remember the names we do not know.

May their spirits have peace,

and their bodies be brought home to their lands.

And God?

Help us to take this grief,

this shock,

this horror,

and turn it into right action—

action that works for right relations—

action that works for healing and justice and  
hope.

And, please,

don't let those of us who are settlers

and descendants of settlers,

newcomers to this land,

let the horror, the shock, and the grief

just be an outpouring of words,

or tears,

or ineffectual hand-wringing.

Let this be a moment that changes,

a moment that transforms the brokenness,

that we might walk in right relations,

for the good of your children,

for the good of your world.

Please, God.

These things we pray, in the name of the one  
who brought Creation into being,

in the name of Jesus, our teacher and friend,

in the name of the Holy Spirit,

whose wings spread across the sky.

Amen and amen.

# From The Archives

The following article was taken from Colborne's Sesquicentennial year special edition *Communique* 2003

## Chronicles Of A Candidate

No, I'm not running for political office. I have no aspirations to be an MPP or mayor, or even a city councillor. I am a candidate for ministry. My candidacy became official, in the sanctuary of Colborne Street Church, in the spring of 2000. It was long before that, though, when Colborne Street encouraged me to become a minister.

Much of my family's history is tied to this congregation, and much of my own personal history is as well. I was baptized here, and attended church school in the then newly built Christian Education wing. I was always extraordinarily shy but when my teacher asked me to read Scripture from that big pulpit I was given the courage to do it. C.G.I.T. (Canadian Girls in Training) was one of my favourite activities when I was a teenager, and I recall with joy planning worship services that we girls would lead for the rest of the group. (The other favourite activity was the Hi-C group where my husband Dave and I met, but I won't bore you with those details.) The teachers and leaders encouraged my friends and me to minister to the congregation, as children and youth can do so well when given the opportunity. I did not realize until many years later, though, that God was speaking through those people who had such an influence in my life.

Since I became an official candidate for ministry from Colborne Street United Church my theological education has pulled me away from this church that has been my home for so long. During the school year I have travelled to Emmanuel College in Toronto each week to study

all the subjects that have trained me for the work of congregational ministry. Being away from home during the week meant that my involvement with Colborne was reduced. After two years of study (spread out over three for me) it was time for internship. Last year I was appointed to a half-time Student Supply position at Fingal United Church. The other half of my internship was with Southdale Chaplaincy. This year is my final year of theological training so I am back in Toronto for two and a half days a week. The fine Fingal folk asked me to stay on with them so each Sunday I lead worship there.

The process of candidacy is drawing to a close. A committee from Middlesex Presbytery and another from London Conference will interview me to establish my readiness for ordained ministry. The final step will be ordination in the spring of 2004. At this point I do not know where God will lead after that. I do know, though, that the place where the journey towards ministry began, Colborne Street United Church, will always be home to me, and the family I have here is one that has taught me about God's abundant, hospitable, self-giving love. Thank you to you all for sending me on my way.

Marybeth Wilson, Candidate for Ministry

## Footprints In My Past

What really matters in this life  
is the footprints that I leave ..  
the little steps of kindness,  
the quilt of love I weave.  
Each footprint leaves a pattern  
like a quilt, designed to last ...  
connected by the fabric  
of the footprints in my past.

Jill Lemming

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- Sunday School
- Coordinator .....Dayna Munro
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- Coordinator .....Areum Han
- Music .....Kennedy Kimber-Johnson
- Secretary .....Norma-Jean Greenslade
- Treasurer.....John Obright
- Custodian.....Richard Rodgers
- Sexton .....Richard Rodgers