

HARMONY PASTORAL CHARGE
February 2022 Newsletter
Caring for Each Other by Worshipping Online!

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***“All beautiful the march of days
as seasons come and go...”***

These lovely words were written by Francis Whitmarsh Wile of Rochester, New York, written about 1907. They speak of the beauty of God’s



creation at every season of the year. During these February days, life may feel a bit slow and wearisome. Wile’s words invite

us to look at creation around us, to see the beauty of a winter’s day and feel the promise of spring hidden beneath it. They invite us to offer our weariness to the One who says, “Come to me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” They invite us to live with gratitude for a love which will not let us go. May it be so for you!

NEWS FROM HARMONY BOARD

Harmony Board met on January 5 to discuss reopening after the Christmas break. With Covid-19 outbreak numbers still high, it was decided to worship online for the time being. This decision was reaffirmed on January 27. Stay tuned for updates!

At this point, recording will be done for two weeks at a time at Centreville Church. We are grateful to Lenore and Justin, Gordon and Barb for their work

in helping bring worship to the congregations during this time.

A discussion took place about updating the website. Some of the information goes back to 2020 and is out of date. The Board received a report about updates and this work will be ongoing. Thanks to George Obey at Computer Solutions Plus. The website is an important tool for keeping the congregations in touch with one another and with the wider community. Please visit it at: www.harmoniypastoralcharge.com Feedback is welcome!

The 2022 Budget was presented and approved. Thanks to Dorothy for her ongoing good work in this regard.

Bailieboro Springville Board asked Harmony Board to have some conversations about the future of our individual congregations and of the whole Pastoral Charge. Rev. Lynda and Rev. Bob have been planning an event to help begin this conversation. It will be a Zoom gathering on **Tuesday, February 8 at 7.00 p.m.** Details are at the end of this newsletter and a reminder will be sent out in a special note from Barb Ramsay. Please mark it on your calendar and plan to attend – we’re going to have great opportunities for sharing. Everyone’s voice is needed! This is an information meeting, not a decision-making meeting.

The Harmony Board decided to meet monthly for the time being as it continues its good work of taking

mindful thought for the life and work of the congregations during these Covid-19 days. We are grateful for the dedication of our Board members.



Please wear red when you come to worship on February 13!

NEWS FROM MILLBROOK CAVAN

A contract has been signed with the Cavan Millbrook Community Centre for the months of February, April, and June to use the Community Room for worship at 9.30 a.m. It is a beautiful facility and all are welcome. Spread the word!

The Annual Meeting for the congregation will be Sunday, April 24 following worship. We are hoping to be back in-person at that time.

The Board approved the purchase of six 6' park benches from Taylor Plastics at a cost of just under \$6,000. These will be placed at Cedar Valley Road playground, Bruce Johnson Library playground and Edgewood Park Road parkette (2 in each location). These will be delivered to the sites in the spring of 2022.

The cost was just under \$6,000. The remaining balance of just over \$4,000 was donated to Millbrook Food Share.

BAILIEBORO SPRINGVILLE

Combined services will be held in Centreville Presbyterian Church in March and May, Covid-19 permitting. We look forward to being in that welcoming space once more.

Bailieboro Springville annual meeting will be Sunday, May 1 following worship.

Robin Maugham reported on the Frasersville Habitat project. The congregation's generous support of \$100,000 is significant. The application for lot severance is moving through the steps, and it is hoped the build will begin in September 2022.

BS Board had a conversation about future faithful sustainability. It made a motion inviting the Harmony Board to enter into these conversations.

OUTREACH PROJECT HELP NEEDED!!!

Can you make a sandwich?



The One Roof Community Centre in Peterborough helps feed folks in Peterborough who are experiencing food insecurity. We have been invited to help. Let's try this and see how it goes.

We will make sandwiches on the **first and third Thursday of each month.** Our first sandwich date will be Thursday Feb 17th.

To begin with, we are looking for folks to volunteer to make a loaf of sandwiches in their own home with the hope that in a month or so a small group of maybe 4 or 5 people could gather to make sandwiches together.

Sandwiches are picked up in Millbrook early Thursday afternoon. If you can't get out to deliver your sandwiches please call Rev. Lynda.

If you can't help with the sandwich making aspect of the project, maybe you could consider making a donation to help cover the cost of the supplies?

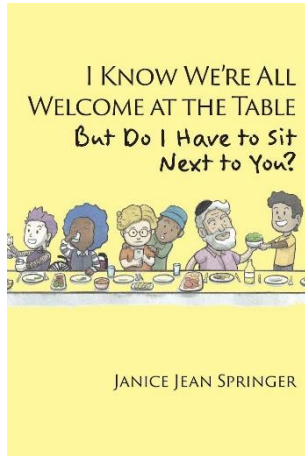
Interested? Please call Rev. Lynda at 705 559 1774 for more details.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday, March 2 is **Ash Wednesday** which begins the Lenten season and the journey to Easter. To help us prepare, Rev. Lynda and Rev. Bob would like to offer two opportunities to gather and deepen our spirituality.



The first one is a book study. It will be held Wednesdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23 beginning at 10.15 and ending at 11.45 a.m. This will be a Zoom meeting. Register with Rev. Bob at bobroot1949@gmail.com



Materials will be sent to you in advance. It's going to be a lot of fun with good discussion and time to catch up with one another.

Following Easter, Rev. Lynda will be offering a four-week April 20, 27 May 4, 11) opportunity to gather



for a 'Virtual Coffee Break' via Zoom. This will be a chance to gather virtually to chat, explore

topics of interest or explore a time of guided meditation. The group will help select topics and guide the direction of the gatherings. . For more information or to register, please email Rev. Lynda at unitedchurch@nexicom.net

CONGRATULATIONS to Otonabee South Monaghan (OSM) Fire Chief Ted Bryan who officially retired at the end of January, after a 47 year career with the fire department.



CONGRATULATIONS to Rev. Tom Cunningham who is retiring from St. Giles and Centreville Presbyterian Churches. We are grateful for the relationships formed over the years and wish you well in this new venture.



A Prayer by Anthea Brandon of Trinity United Church, Ottawa

Gratitude for being God's agents for Good

Ever-faithful and ever-caring Spirit:
 It is good that you remind us
 How following our all-loving and beloved leader,
 Jesus Christ,
 Is practised in so many ways and actions
 That mirror his all-encompassing love and concern.
 We thank you, O Spirit, for all the gifts
 You have poured out in profusion,
 Over all your creation!
 Help us to recognise the individual gifts
 With which we have been blessed,
 And guide us towards ways
 In which these gifts might be employed,
 For the betterment of our fellows
 And of the planet.

We thank you, O Spirit, for the many, many
 opportunities
 We may find to do your work,
 The hearts and heads, hands and feet
 Of Jesus on planet Earth!
 Remind us that, no matter what the action,
 No matter whether it is evident to all,
 Or not noticed at all,
 Each deed is priceless

In the work of the Kingdom,
Far above the price of rubies!
So may we continue to do your work,
Willingly following our Loving Lord,
Jesus Christ,
With love, with hope
And with Joy!



SPECIAL PASTORAL CHARGE MEETING VIA ZOOM
Tuesday, February 8 – 7.00 to 9.00 p.m.

This is a meeting of the whole Harmony Pastoral Charge and we look forward to hearing and seeing everyone! Please set the time aside as we take thought for the work of this vital and loving pastoral charge. Here's how it's going to work:

- there will be time for us to gather virtually and visit with one another
- we'll hear and tell stories about our churches and what they mean to us
- we'll hear some of the current realities of life in The United Church of Canada today
- we'll hear about congregations engaged in new and emerging forms of ministry
- we'll hear about guiding principles to have the conversation.

And all this in a couple of hours!

Following this meeting, we will be having individual congregational meetings via Zoom in the next couple of weeks and then we hope to be able to have an in-person gathering (maybe even with Covid-safe snacks!) to chat some more.

HERE'S THE ZOOM INFORMATION!



Harmony Pastoral Charge is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Harmony's Zoom Meeting

Time: Feb 8, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89408943107>

Meeting ID: 894 0894 3107

One tap mobile

+14388097799,,89408943107# Canada

+15873281099,,89408943107# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 438 809 7799 Canada

+1 587 328 1099 Canada

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

+1 204 272 7920 Canada

Meeting ID: 894 0894 3107

Just click on the link above in blue and it will take you to the Zoom meeting. If you don't have internet and want to participate, you can dial in, but be aware that, depending on your phone plan, there may be long-distance charges.

For help getting connected, please contact Rev. Lynda or Rev. Bob.

Looking forward to seeing you there!