

# Summer Newsletter 2017



**Central United Church, 131 Main Street, Unionville**  
**[www.centralunitedchurch.com](http://www.centralunitedchurch.com) 905-474-0183**

## ANNUAL UNIONVILLE FESTIVAL

This annual community event will take place during the first weekend of June as usual and, thanks to Vida Bridgeman, we will “open our doors” for self-guided tours of the sanctuary on **Saturday, June 3rd**. (Call Vida at 905-471-4614 if you would like to help be a friendly greeter for this event.)

Then on **Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>** our worship service will be held as usual (and includes Communion that day in celebration of Pentecost); however, Main Street will be closed north of the railway tracks. Please enter the street from the south (i.e. Hwy. 7) and proceed north to the church. You may see “Road Closed” signs but we have been assured full access to our parking lot on Sunday. (Don’t come too early though as there will be no access prior to 9 a.m. due to a community run.)



## LEMONADE ON THE LAWN



We do hope you have enjoyed the fellowship time provided at “Coffee Hour” after worship each Sunday. With the beginning of summer, we will move to Lemonade on the Lawn, beginning with the Victoria Day weekend in May. Volunteers are needed to serve – just sign up at the church bulletin board!

## FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK...

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching ...*

*Acts 2:42*

Last December, William Falk, Editor-in-chief of *The Week* magazine, wrote the following short column: "A recent Yale study that tracked 3,635 people over 12 years found that book readers lived an average of two years longer than non-book readers; the more time spent reading books, the study found, the better." I am not sure if two additional years of life has you reaching for a book to read, but if it does I know an exceptionally good book well worth the energy of reading. Likely you can guess *The Good Book* I have in mind.

Summertime affords, for many of us, the opportunity for some down time; an opportunity to do some reading that we couldn't get to at busier times of the year. In the church year Christmas and Lent and Easter are busy times. It is interesting to note that our summer falls in the church year during what is called Ordinary Time. It is good to note that "ordinary" time does not mean "unimportant" time.



In Luke's account of the early church (Acts) he relates exciting stories like Pentecost when 3,000 joined the church and the Apostle Paul's vision on the road to Damascus that turned him from persecutor of the church to Apostle. He also gives summary statements of what were the ordinary habits of church life and in one such summary noted that study of the Apostles' teaching was of the ongoing and ordinary stuff of church life.

So if you have some reading time this summer I would encourage you to take up the Apostles' teaching; take up one of the gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke or John and read it through from start to finish. Or visit our church library and borrow a book or two that helps you understand the scriptures. In addition Central United offers access to [RightNow](#) media that has wonderful video material exploring the teaching of the Bible. (Check out the item in the newsletter to learn how to get access.) It is a great way to supplement scripture reading. And there is a great children's (grandchildren) section.

There is nothing ordinary about God's love for us announced by apostles and prophets. Summer is a great time for some Bible exploration!

Every blessing

REV. DR. JAMES CLUBINE

## **S.C.A.W. GOLF AND DINE DAY**

FORE! FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY, JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup>

Registration: 2:30 p.m., Tee off 3 p.m., Dinner at 6 p.m.

Once again, come on out and play nine holes of golf at the picturesque Heather Glen Golf Course on the Oak Ridges moraine in Pickering. Scenic views, picturesque holes, and loads of challenge and fun.



Price includes golf and cart for nine holes, prizes, and a delicious meal (choice of chicken or steak) with a baked potato, corn on the cob, caesar salad and dessert. \$70 for golf with a steak dinner, and \$65 for chicken. All taxes and gratuities included. Vegetarian dinner also available on request.

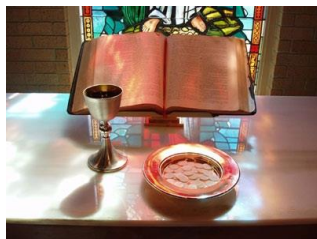
If you would like to join the golfers and come for the dinner only, costs will be available upon request.

You can sign-up as a foursome, a twosome, or as an individual golfer and you will be placed in a group. Sign up at Sally's bulletin board or email Mark Ono.

Donations and /or prizes would be greatly appreciated. You can also be a hole sponsor at \$35.00 per hole. Talk to Mark for more details.

All proceeds will go to S.C.A.W. (Sleeping Children Around the World)

For more information or questions, please call or email Mark Ono at 905-295-5644 or [mpono@rogers.com](mailto:mpono@rogers.com)



## **THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

There will be opportunities to celebrate in the Sacrament of Communion in the next few months: on Pentecost Sunday, June 4th and on Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup>. Volunteer servers needed.

## OUTREACH NEWS

### Lenten Outreach Project

Our 2017 Lenten project was Ontario Christian Gleaners.



The Ontario Christian Gleaners is an Interdenominational Christian organization that seeks to visibly demonstrate God's love and grace by working with volunteers to collect, process, and make available surplus agricultural produce for the relief of the hungry in overseas nations. Over 6.2 million servings of vegetable mix, 3793 bags of dried apples and 16,915kg of other dried products were sent overseas to 26 countries with 31 mission groups/ organizations in 2016.

The 'Gleaners' is a volunteer driven organization, with over 1100 donated hours each week. Each day, the volunteers are currently trimming 5000+ pounds of vegetables, providing the ingredients for 30,000 servings of soup. The trimmed vegetables are diced and then dried in a dehydration oven – later to be combined with other ingredients to constitute the soup mix. The soup is donated to partner organizations who have the necessary infrastructure for effective distribution, who are committed to sustainability and development, and who combine the gospel message with humanitarian aid.

Shelley Stone, Manager of the Ontario Christian Gleaners, spoke at our March 12, 2017 service. **Our congregation generously supported this project by raising \$5,100.**

### Other Donations

At its April 20, 2017 meeting, the Committee approved disbursements of the Outreach funds in the amount of \$500 each to the following organizations: Freedom House Orphanages in Haiti, Shangilia Children's Home in Kenya, Camp Big Canoe, Teen Challenge GTA and Reg Reimer's Ministry. Most of these charities have been former Lenten projects of Central United and we wish to continue to support their good work.

Thank you for your continuing support that enables Central United to reach out to people in need throughout the world.



ELIZABETH GAFFNEY, Chair

## SLEEPING CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD (SCAW)

Thank you for your continued support of this 100% charity that provides bedkits to needy children in third world countries. Did you know that, in the last 18 years, Central has donated funds for over 2,500 bedkits? Check out the plaque (found opposite the coffee station in the church narthex) on Sunday morning some time.



As many of you know, Katie Sandiford (Sally's daughter) will spend part of her summer break in Sri Lanka again this year (for the third and possibly final time for a while), leading a team of 6-7 other Canadian volunteers who will deliver 5,000 bedkits, including over 100 from Central! Be sure to watch for the pictures of the many happy children who receive your gift.

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## DID YOU KNOW?

For many years now, through your donations to our Outreach Fund, Central has sponsored three foster children (all boys) through Plan International Canada and Compassion Canada: Brandon (age 13) in El Salvador, Alan (age 10) from Colombia and Gradus (age 10) from Indonesia. Members of your Outreach committee write to these children on a regular basis and we receive letters in return. In one of the letters, one of the children has asked that we pray for him. We would encourage all of our church family to pray for all these children and their families as a way for us to express God's love to them and that, by prayer, support and letters, we can help them to reach their God given potential.



## SHARED SUMMER SERVICES WITH OUR CHURCH NEIGHBOURS

The tradition continues...our church neighbours Bethesda Lutheran Church will join us here for worship at Central on Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Then, on August 6<sup>th</sup>, in lieu of a service at Central, we will be worshipping with them at their church located just around the corner from Central. We look forward to sharing worship and fellowship with our church neighbours at these annual services.



## RIGHT NOW MEDIA

In the "From the Minister's Desk" at the start of the newsletter, Rev. Dr. James Clubine wrote about accessing Right Now Media on a computer/laptop/electronic device where you are - at home, on vacation, visiting family or friends, etc. Among the 32 topic areas, there are hundreds of program choices available to suit all ages and topics, from



programs for children that are parent (and grandparent) approved, to a study you can watch yourself, with a family member or a few friends, to other topics of interest, such as history or science. Through Central United Church's membership in Right Now Media, all members and friends of our Church have access to this valuable website at no cost. It's easy to get access, just send an email to

[sally@centralunitedchurch.com](mailto:sally@centralunitedchurch.com) for a link to the invitation. Happy viewing and please tell your Church family about what you've watched and recommend!

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## OUR "OVER 80 BOARD"

We, at Central, are very pleased to honour our special members who have reached the respectable age of 80 (or more) by placing their names on our "Over 80 Board" at the church entrance. If you would like to be included, just call the church office and give us your name and the month of your birthday and we'll be happy to post it for you.



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## ABC NEWS



**Appreciation** to everyone who helped out with our Annual Beef Dinner last month – it was a lot of work but a great success, both in ways of community and church fellowship as well as a fundraiser, raising over \$4,700 for our general and outreach funds. Special thanks to Jim Wright who did an outstanding job organizing and leading this event.

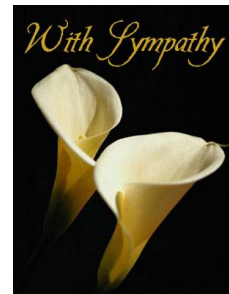
## ABC NEWS (continued)

And we also had our second annual silent auction at the same time – raising over \$13,000 for our Capital Fund. The auction itself raised just over \$7,000 with an additional \$6,000 given by a very generous member of our congregation who matched



the first \$6,000 raised in the auction. Capital Fund dollars are used in the continuing refurbishment of Central United Church's historical building and some upcoming initiatives of an online directory of Church members and adding video recording capabilities to the sanctuary. Thanks to the organizing committee of Ruth Duffield, Scott Wetmore, Gary Crosby, Linda Patterson and Mark Ono, as well as everyone for their donations of goods and services and to those who did the "bidding". Good fun for all!

**Blessings** to those of our church family who have lost loved ones in recent months: Geri Middlebrook for the loss of her father, Lynn Pulenzas for the death of her mom, and Mark Scarrow for the death of his mother. We extend our most sincere sympathy to these church members and their families.



**Congratulations:** to Andrew & Alison Lynde for the birth of daughter Danielle (grandchild to Scott & Marjorie Wetmore); Garth & Liz Dynes for the birth of granddaughter Kinley (daughter to their son Brennan); Doug & Vicki Carson for the birth of their grandson Ethan (son to their daughter Elisabeth); Tom & Linda Patterson for the birth of their granddaughter Lillyah (born to daughter Lisa); Jarrod & Mary Charron for the birth of daughter Emma, a sister to Grace; and to Don & Esmeralda Newnham for the safe arrival of son Christian, a brother to Faith and grandson for Marein Newnham.



We were pleased to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism recently for Danielle Lynde (daughter of Andrew & Alison); Caleb Hodgson (son of Lara) and Brayden Benincasa (son of Paul & Kendra, grandson of Ardith & Garry Knechtel and great grandson to Bill Atkins!). We will have another Baptism in June for Emma Charron.



## SOME HOLY HUMOUR

### DID NOAH FISH?

A Sunday school teacher asked, Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark? No, replied Johnny. How could he, with just two worms?

### THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know.

### SAY A PRAYER

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his Grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away. Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer, said his mother. I don't need to, the boy replied. Of course, you do his mother insisted. We always say a prayer before eating at our house. That's at our house. Johnny explained. But this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook.



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*Central News is published quarterly for the congregation of Central United Church. Material for future editions is accepted anytime. **The next deadline for the Fall issue is August 1, 2017.** Place material in Sally Sandiford's mail slot or email to [sally@centralunitedchurch.com](mailto:sally@centralunitedchurch.com). Thank you.*