



Colborne Street United Church

Communiqué

Easter 2024 Issue

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Come For a Visit; Stay for The Journey



About US:

Colborne Street United Church presently has over 400 members involved in the life of the Church with 200 actively participating.

The Congregation comes together as a church family, supporting each other in faith and through our connection to the community.

We laugh as a community as frequently as we cry together.

(We also have a bit of a thing for cake!)

Located in the heart of London, Ontario, the Church consists of a beautiful Sanctuary, Church Hall, and meeting rooms. The Congregation is committed to programs both within the Church and as part of the community.

Sunday Worship

Doors open at 10:00 am; service begins at 10:30 am / Coffee hour 11:45 am - 12:45 pm

Office Hours

Monday - 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Tuesday - 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Wednesday - 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Thursday - 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Friday - 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Saturday - Closed
Sunday - Closed

How to Contact Us

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From my heart to yours, Happy Easter!



**Rev. Frank
Staples**

I pray that during this festive season your troubles will fade, if only for a spell, and your heart find its way to a place of great spiritual hope and joyful anticipation.

Indeed, resurrection is in the air! First and foremost, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus of Nazareth. But this year we also celebrate the resurrection of our newsletter, Communiqué. And in a spirit of celebration, I hope that you find everything in this new issue uplifting, empowering, and informative! A great big “Thank you!” to the Communications Group who made this issue a reality!

A great big “Thank you!” as well to God, that in God's strength and sacred presence we managed to come through Lent! We challenged ourselves. We challenged ourselves to think about our actions toward others and what we believed to be true about our faith. It wasn't easy, but we managed. We managed to survive Good Friday and Holy Saturday, again in God's strength and presence. In our hearts and minds, we relived Christ's anguish. We watched from the base of a Roman cross how the forces of corruption, greed, and self-interest—how the forces of human sin—crushed a good and full-Spirited man. It wasn't easy, but we managed.

But fortunate for us we know that this is not the end of the story. Christ rose from the dead! Christ rose into the nearer presence of God. In effect, Christ rose into God, as we shall, too, when our time comes.

This is good news! This is the good news of spiritual resurrection, the good news that what lies ahead for all of us is infinitely better than anything we have experienced thus far or anything we can dream for the future!

With the resurrection of Jesus, we live in great hope of our own resurrection, not just our spiritual resurrection at the end of our days, but an infinite number of resurrections between then and now. **Wherever our spirits are at, however low or desperate they may be, we live in the certain knowledge that dawn always follows the night and that light always has the power to pierce the darkness.** And so, amidst any ill you may be experiencing—any pain or anxiety or fear you may be facing—live into an Easter hope! **Live into a resurrected hope! Let your spirit rise. Let your heart become full once again.** I pray that for you the station of ‘normalcy’ is coming back into sight. I pray that for you the roller coaster is slowing.

Easter Blessings to all!



**Light a candle for a
guaranteed livable
income!**

**Light a candle for
an end to
discrimination!**





Greetings to Colborne Street United Church's family, its members, and friends. Happy Easter!



**Archie
Wright**

As I sit down to create a piece once again for the “New Communiqué”, I do so with many mixed feelings. Of course, I'm excited about the prospects of having Marcie Wenn offering to serve as Communications Coordinator and Communiqué Editor. Kudos to you Marcie and thank you. Your professional experience in this field will benefit us all.

I'm also aware that this will be my last offering as “Chair of the Official Board”. When I agreed to accept the position three years ago, the World was struggling with the challenges of a pandemic. At Colborne, we were faced with providing in-person Church services when possible and scrambling to offer online services during periods when our Church was closed. The Rev. David and Joan Carrothers carried on valiantly until Andrew McKinlay with his audio and video expertise, came to the rescue. Richard Rodgers and Norma-Jean Greenslade went far and beyond our expectations to accommodate the ongoing required adjustments in programming.

During this time of transition, ministerial support was provided by various supply ministers including the Rev. Ann Corbet, the Rev. Susan Cameron and of course, our own Mark Richardson.

Ultimately, after more than forty years of dedicated service, we bade farewell to the Rev. David and Joan Carrothers.

During the previous year, our Search Team had been meeting regularly in a concerted effort to find a replacement for David.

In the Fall of 2022, we welcomed the Rev. Frank and Susan Staples into our fold. During the past year and a half, the Rev. **Frank has been warmly received by our congregation and has brought a fresh perspective to family worship on Sundays and during his regular visits within the larger community.**

It has been an honour and a privilege to work with the Official Board of Colborne these past three years. The cheerful dedication and profound skills that the Board members have contributed to keeping Colborne functioning daily has been divinely inspiring and heartfelt.

I can't express enough how appreciative I am for their efforts offered freely to us all as they serve our Lord through their service to the Colborne family. (Our Board Secretary, Trish Ashbury, takes detailed Minutes of all Official Board meetings and they are posted outside the Church Office).

Finally, I would again like to emphasize to everyone the importance of attending regularly on a Sunday morning. Not everyone is able to sign up to serve on a committee, or task force. However, by being present in the Sanctuary, you are being a witness to the importance of others seeing you filling the pews, and providing an opportunity to share your loving fellowship with others who are looking for support and comfort.

I can attest as to how much that has meant to me, especially during recent times of dealing with my own health issues. I have been overwhelmed by the caring and concern offered freely.

It's vitally important that we strive to continue offering that love and support going forward in the months and years ahead. I look forward to finding other ways of serving our Lord through new endeavours at Colborne.

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Hebrews 13:16





Trustees' Message

May you be blessed with our Lord's love and peace this Easter!



**Brian
Cunliffe**

The Trustees administer the Church buildings, contents, and a \$795, 000.00 investment portfolio. **Where did that money come from?**

Over the years there have been estate bequests, investment returns, and also significant capital received when we merged with Empress and Robinson United Churches.

Where does the money go? The Trustees will transfer to Colborne, monies for large capital expenditures such as the new boiler but increasingly we are transferring funds on an ongoing basis to cover day-to-day operations. Since Covid, unfortunately, our Sunday offerings have not covered our expenses.

Specifically, the Trustees transferred the following amounts to the Church:

- 2022 - \$ 105, 000.00
- 2023 - \$ 236, 000.00

Sadly, if this trend continues, the Trustees will be out of money in 5 years. All that would be left would be the building and its contents.

So, let's all think about positive things we can do to:

1. **Increase our Sunday offerings.**
2. **Increase attendance.**
3. **Implement fundraising events.**

On the expense side, the Stewards contribution is to continue being *judicious with their spending*.

As a first step, if you are able, please consider increasing your regular offerings this year. Any amount over and above your regular contribution, would be warmly welcomed and appreciated. Consider 'digging deeper' so we can avoid having to resort to a shrinking Trustee Fund this year.

Let's have a vision this year where we rally and increase funds flowing into the Church; by so doing, the Stewards will not need to ask for additional operating funds from the Trustees in 2024 to maintain the Church building and grounds.

We do not want to lose this beautiful place and all it means to so many of us.

Thank you!



Give Now

Through your offerings, we can do so much.

GIVE NOW





Wishing you a Blessed and Holy Easter!



**Kennedy
Kimber-Johnson**

Last spring and summer, as I reflected on the previous year and started making plans for the next, I decided that one of main focuses this year would be **OUTREACH**.

OUTREACH through HANDBELLS....

Last May, I ran a free 5-week music program called “Learn to Ring”, which was open to both the Congregation and wider community. It was a fantastic success... 11 participants joined us for the program, 9 of whom were not members of the Colborne congregation! Out of the program, we had 4 new ringers join our Bell Choir in September!



In December, the Bell Choir packed up our handbells and went to Windermere on the Mount to perform a Christmas concert for its residents and staff. They were all so appreciative of the concert — it was a great afternoon!

OUTREACH through SINGING...

One important way Colborne reaches out to the community is through our Choral Scholar program. Each year, we connect with Western University’s music program to find one or two voice music students who are interested in taking a voice leadership role within our choir. This year, we are very fortunate to have Leah Bondy singing with us!

Together We Sing group is another way that we connect with our community. The goal of this group is to bring members of the Congregation who love to sing together! We have a wide range of ages and levels of experience who participate, and the joy they bring as they sing is palpable!

We had hoped that the **Together We Sing group** would sing at retirement/long-term care homes last fall, but unfortunately, because of occurring illnesses at the time, we had to postpone. Perhaps in the spring?

OUTREACH through MUSIC...

One of the absolute joys of being the Director of Music at Colborne is bringing others to share their musical gifts with the Colborne community! We’ve had a number of superb musicians join us this year...

Alex Drozd played a remarkable rendition of the Last Post and Reveille at our Remembrance Day Service. A number of our own singers performed as soloists, and members of our Bell Choir played in duets and trios. Sig Strings joined us at the beginning of the Advent season, sharing a lovely variety of pieces. Ensemble Cordiale, led by Peter Bartley, played beautifully during Lent. Leah Bondy, our choral scholar, introduced her wonderful voice to the Congregation by singing several lovely solos throughout the year.



And upcoming ... more special guests will be joining us for some exciting music on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday!





From the Stewards

“Happy Easter and God bless.”



**Paul
Wiancko**

The Stewards sincerely thank the members of the Congregation for their continued faith and generosity in supporting the upkeep and other operations of the Church.

Last spring the four split system heat pumps in the Sanctuary that provide air conditioning in the summer, and heat in the shoulder seasons, were not performing well. Black & McDonald during their regular spring maintenance, were able to put three of the four systems into proper working condition. These three systems, for the most part, were able to maintain a reasonable temperature throughout the summer. The fourth system, the northwest system, had suffered a major mechanical breakdown and needed to be replaced. Because of the timing, it was decided to include the replacement system in the 2024 capital budget. In late September, the two split systems on the south side of the Sanctuary were vandalized. A portion of the exterior copper tubing was ripped out. Black & McDonald performed emergency repairs and insurance covered most of this cost. However, after testing, one vandalized system was found to have also suffered major internal mechanical damage and needs to be replaced. Insurance is expected to cover the replacement costs of this system. Both non-functional split system heat pumps are expected to be replaced later this spring.



The new lending library, just outside the Sanctuary door that is adjacent to the pulpit, is now in full service. Congregational members are encouraged to make use of this facility.

Last year we were able to find a firm specializing in masonry restoration of larger buildings, like our Church. They repaired and repointed the Church chimneys and some areas that were leaking rainwater. This year, we expect to have them repoint the brickwork along the south and east sides of the Sanctuary. Several other maintenance issues are also being addressed.

The Church facilities are now being rented by several outside groups throughout the week, both in the daytime and in the evening, helping to minimize the Church’s financial deficit.

A very generous donation (by an anonymous donor) was received late last year. Thanks to the donation, the cost of our Sunday bus service will be covered for the 2024 year.

Scrimgeour and Associates, a public accounting firm, was retained by the Official Board to conduct a financial review of our 2023 finances and they will be presenting their findings and recommendations to the Stewards and the Official Board towards the end of March.

The Stewards generally meet the second Tuesday of each month except in July and August. **However, the number of people on the Stewards’ Committee is below the number usually on this Committee. Please, if you are able to help out by joining, contact the Church Office.**



**Miss a Sunday Service?
Watch it on YouTube!**

WATCH NOW





May this beautiful springtime bring you the greatest feelings of gratitude, love, compassion, hope and faith.



**Katie
Turnbull**

Our UCW group, at Colborne Street United Church, continues to plan events, raise funds, and decorate the Church for special occasions. This update includes some of our recent past activities, and some information about what we are planning for the near future.

Our Church decorators for 2023 included Gayle Fluter and Wendy Scilley at Easter, Helen Bell and Barb Webster at Thanksgiving, and Gail Lamers at Christmas. Christmas includes more decorations than any other time of year with the Christmas tree, garlands, wreaths, and lights! Gail Lamers had many decorating helpers at Christmas including Sheryl and Jim Lodge, and Richard Rodgers. Jo-Anne Psiuk-Rodgers also helped in 2022 to find Christmas decoration materials to refresh

the Church's collection. Gail is looking for more help to share the Christmas decoration responsibilities, and we welcome any interested members to get in touch with the UCW.

This spring, we will enjoy some fresh flowers to celebrate Easter Sunday. As we do at Christmas, many of the fresh flowers will be delivered to those on the Pastoral Care list to bring them some comforting springtime joy and cheer. **Thanks to Gayle Fluter for ordering the Easter flowers, and to all the volunteers who deliver them.**

Anne Obright faithfully sends cards to recognize significant happenings in the lives of our Congregation. Recipients appreciate these cards that help maintain a connection with the Church, especially those in Pastoral Care who can no longer attend the Church regularly. If you know someone in the Congregation who has experienced joy or grief, please let us know so that we can provide a card.

We have exciting events planned for this spring! Firstly, our annual Spring Rummage Sale will be held on **Saturday, April 27th** this year. Please donate items for the sale and put them on the Church stage up until Friday, April 26th! **As in the past, we will not accept live plants or furniture. The UCW also asks that donors donate only spring and summer clothes to help manage the volume of clothing this year.** If you would like to help either on the day of the sale, and/or with set-up on Friday, April 26th, please contact Linda McKnight, Laurie Dunn, or Gayle Fluter.

Secondly, we are planning a spring UCW dinner for Monday, May 6th. The dinner will take place in the Upper Hall and Linda Arthur will provide her exceptional catering skills for our Congregation to enjoy again. Make sure you remember to **buy your \$30 tickets during coffee hour after Sunday Worship, or contact Norma-Jean in the Church Office, to reserve your spot!**





May God shower you with blessings, love, and peace this Easter!



Jill Bell

Local Outreach continues its path to identify worthy initiatives and organizations to support in our community.

LONDON'S MOVEMENT FOR CHANGE INITIATIVE:

One such initiative is a **“Whole of Community System Response to Health and Homelessness”**, supported by **“Movement for Change”**. Its purpose is implementing a roadmap to helping the most marginalized in our London community. A local system solution built on two foundational elements, HUBS and HOUSING, as a response to one of the most severe crises in our community’s history. HUBS is a step in the way to supportive housing.

The homeless are our neighbours, families, women, men and those who identify as women and men, immigrants, the Indigenous, youth and, as specifically mentioned by Glen Pearson of The London Food Bank, “farmers who have lost their farms”.

It is a collaborative effort by 200 individual representatives of 70 local organizations, community health & social services, institutional healthcare, education & academia, emergency services, business & economic development, land & housing development, and multiple levels of government. The Movement was started by an initial donation of \$25 million from an anonymous donor family. **The Health and Homelessness Fund for Change** is administered by the London Community Foundation for use in support of the implementation response.

In his recent State of the City address, Mayor Josh Morgan spoke of the health and homelessness crises and the progress made in the past year. A new system to help marginalized Londoners; approval of London’s HUB Implementation Plan; the opening of London’s first health & homelessness HUBS with Atlohsa and YOU; the creation of 69 new highly supportive housing units. He also mentioned a partnership between Tricar, Auburn Group, Drewlo and Sifton Properties to transform a vacant, long-term care residence into 40 supportive housing units with services from INDWELL.

- **\$4.1 million has been raised in the community for the Fund for Change, close to the community match goal of \$5 million.**
- **For every \$1.00 donated, it becomes \$2.00 up to a matching \$5 million donation made by an anonymous donor.**
- **The community goal is a total of \$35 million raised.**

“Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord and he will repay him for his deed.”
[Proverbs 19:17]

We are nearly there! More information can be found at <http://www.movementforchange.ca> Please consider donating in support.





Local Outreach

519 Pursuit -Our donations are dropped off at a City Centre storage unit, off Horton Street, at days and times previously arranged. The photographs are of their volunteers, donations they have received and their drop off area. This organization has no building or office location, has a storage locker for donations, and uses a downtown business address that is associated with Pillar Nonprofit Network, for mail. Its work with the homeless is conducted from a vehicle driving around the streets, most often at night, handing out food, clothing and other necessities.



The Caring Cupboard - Following the deliberately started fire in its storage and distribution areas in the apartment building, the work to rebuild and restock is on-going. The photographs are of the two Co-ordinators, Fran and Mary and special volunteer Anne, the new freezer that was donated to replace the one lost in the fire with Anne and Mary sitting on top, and some of the non-perishable food items received to restock the Cupboard.

The fire caused such a devastating loss especially at a time of year when food supplies where most needed to help the residents get through most of December and for January, until their next support cheque was received at the end of the month. 146 residents are now seeking help each week. **Non-perishable food items are still needed and can be placed in the White Box in the Narthex.**



Refuge Ministries Canada - Please also remember Refuge Ministries Canada and its ongoing need for their five small, care package items, **small toothpaste & toothbrush, deodorant soap, comb, pen** and put them in baggies with slide lock zip. **There is a basket on the table in the Narthex to receive these.**

London Community Chaplaincy - Our new meals program at the London Community Chaplaincy, Southdale Site, (LCC) is going well. It replaced Northern Hospitality. We have now provided meals for low-income participants with diverse backgrounds, children, youth and families, attending its programs, and also before and after school, for the last three months. Food choices are being respected by our partners, Growing Chefs! Ontario Society and reports received on the food served, have been positive. **This change was considered a better opportunity for Local Outreach to carry out its mission by reaching out and serving a wider representation of impoverished individuals within the community.**

There are other agencies and organizations that provide meals each day in the week for our Northern Hospitality guests to use, most of whom had vehicles. There was a shift in the needs of those attending. An additional consideration was that the numbers of guests attending Northern Hospitality each month was uncertain, and as a result costs were uncontrollable. We found a well deserving and grateful alternative.





Local Outreach

Recently the United Church of Canada published an article in which it described one of its Mission & Services partnership. It has 72 partners in 21 countries, but this one is closer to home, with the London Community Chaplaincy. Funding supports the LCC's program that provides a safe, social setting for adults to build a network of support, to grow as parents or guardians, while raising children in a low-income environment. United Churches across Canada join together and share, giving to people and places through a unified fund called Mission & Services. Colborne's contributions are made in accordance with Sunday offerings.

UCW Spring Dinner -Feast and Fellowship

Monday, May 6, 2024, At 6:00 PM.

We are pleased to announce that, for the first time since 2019, we are planning a UCW Spring Dinner which will take place May 6th.

Ladies, break out your spring finery and join us for fun and fellowship, with a delicious meal catered by Linda Arthur.

Mark your calendars for Monday, May 6th and look for posters with further details.

Buy your \$30 tickets during coffee hour to reserve your seat.

Pastoral Care

Please remember to contact the Church Office if you know of a Colborne 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.





April 27, 2024, 9:00 am till 11:30 am
Church Upper Hall

Preferred items

- Toys
- Books
- Housewares
- Shoes
- Purses
- Linens
- CD's
- Accessories
- Jewelry
- Knick Knacks
- Small Appliances
- Sports Equipment

We will not accept live plants or furniture. The UCW also asks that donors donate spring and summer clothes only to help manage the volume of clothing this year. If you have any questions, please contact Linda McKnight, Laurie Dunn, or Gayle Fluter.

Easter Flowers

In the spirit of the Easter celebration, the Colborne Street United Church family remembers those on the Pastoral Care list with a flowering plant.



Funds have been collected through generous donations from our Church members and the plants and cards will be delivered by volunteers.

Take a Break

Wednesday Morning is a time to get together and enjoy coffee and conversation.



Bring along a craft to work on, or to show and share a completed article. It is a nice break in the week to meet, to catch up with other members of the Congregation and to share ideas.

Take a Break gets together from 9:30 am to 11:30 am each Wednesday morning.





New Sunday School Curriculum



**What's New
IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

**A brand New &
Exciting Curriculum!**

**New Class for our
Junior Students!**

**Special Event
Days!**

Come join us to explore some of the exciting things happening in our Sunday School program!

Colborne Street United Church: 711 Colborne St.

Give Now

Through your offerings, we can do so much.

GIVE NOW

Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to. Deuteronomy 15:10

Yoga @ Colborne

Saturday Mornings Biweekly:



- Chair Yoga begins at 10 a.m.
- Gentle Yoga begins at 11 a.m.

Check the posted Schedule for the Dates and the form of Yoga being offered on each of the two Saturdays in the month.

Yoga @ Colborne takes place in the Upper Hall. It is a holistic practice that offers numerous physical, mental, and emotional benefits.

It combines physical postures (asanas), breathing techniques (pranayama), and meditation to promote overall well-being.

Key benefits of yoga include:

- Improved Flexibility & Strength
- Stress Reduction
- Better Posture and Body Awareness
- Enhanced Breathing
- Increased Energy and Vitality



Chair yoga, is a modified form of traditional yoga, offers similar benefits while being accessible to individuals with mobility issues or those who may find it challenging to practice yoga on the mat.



In summary, both traditional yoga and chair yoga offer a wide range of benefits for physical health, mental well-being, and overall quality of life, making them valuable practices for individuals of all ages and abilities.





Secret Valentine Program

February 10, 2024

The Secret Valentine Program is the highlight of our Sunday School each year. Members of our Congregation are matched with a child and are provided with their age, favourite colour, animal, activity, character, and candy. For two weeks, the Secret Valentines secretly place small gifts into their partners' mailbox and the children also provide small gifts, letters, and crafts that they have made for their respective Valentines. In the third week, we have our annual luncheon which is organized by the UCW. They provide sandwiches, mini pizzas, fruits and veggies and an entire dessert table with the help of their generous volunteers. The luncheon takes place immediately following Sunday Worship in the Upper Hall, where it has been decorated to look like a Valentines' Wonderland! The excitement builds during Sunday School as the children try and guess who their secret matches have been for the past three weeks. They find out who their match has been and get to share one last final gift and have a wonderful lunch with their partners. We had 12 matches this year, so 24 participants, and over 35 individuals attended our luncheon as all families were invited to attend. This program brings joy and laughter to the young and to the more mature members of our community, and one that we hope to see continue for years to come.



Dayna Munro



Harmony Club - Robbie Burns Supper

January 22, 2024:

"Great Chieftain o' the Puddin' Race".

A first for us at Colborne Street United Church was a dinner in honour of Robbie Burns, Scotland's National Bard.

On January 22nd, we celebrated the 265th anniversary of Robbie Burns' birth, January 25th. Helen Bell and Andrew McKinlay were the brains behind this grand celebration which included much laughter, a delicious dinner catered by the Sticky Pudding Catering Company, together with music, poetry, stories, and the piping in of **The Haggis, the pièce de résistance** of the evening! This wonderful evening concluded with the joining of hands and the singing of Auld Lang Syne. A huge thank you goes to Helen, Andrew, Kennedy, Barb Baskerville, Joe Adams, members of our Church choir, Sig Martin and his friend Derek Lane – Smith, Ryan Cunniworth (the piper) and David Grassie (the caterer) for sharing their talents with us on this occasion. We listened, learned and enjoyed good fellowship, with lots of fun and laughter.

Bonny Shawyer & Andrew McKinlay





Organ Recital - Kennedy Kimber-Johnson Sunday, February 25, 2024

On February 25th, we had an afternoon organ recital at Colborne performed by our very talented Director of Music, Kennedy Kimber-Johnson. **There was a fantastic turnout at the event, with around 125 people of all ages in attendance, and over \$500 was raised for the Colborne Music Program!** The program included a wide variety of music, such as: classical, film/theatre, jazz and blues, which showcased the different sounds and colours of the instrument. A live video was projected onto the screen, so that the audience could watch Kennedy while she was playing the organ – it made such a difference to the concert experience! All in all, it was an exciting afternoon of music at Colborne, and it was wonderful to see so many people from our Congregation and the London community there. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped make the event possible and thank you to Kennedy for a superb performance.



Cheryl Vance

Colborne Quilters



Recently, the Quilters purchased three Sherpa blankets which we have donated to Ark Aid to help someone feel loved and warm during these cool nights. We have just completed two “crazy quilts” which are single bed size. These have found a welcoming home in a cottage where they will keep a couple of grandchildren warm.

Most Sundays during coffee hour, a couple of Quilters can be found at a table in the Upper Hall selling a variety of handcrafted products at very reasonable prices. The handmade special occasion and seasonal cards have been especially popular. Please stop by and check out all of the items we have to offer and remember that all proceeds go towards church and other charitable projects.



Norma Stokes





Poem: God's Hands by Edward Bok

This poem was originally published in the 1916 March issue of the Ladies' Home Journal

Father, so gentle, take Thou hand,
Deep are the waters, I know not the way;
Sleepless the nights, confused is the day;
All is so empty, so lone do I stand.

God, I believe, but the burden is sore,
Faith and fresh courage are all that I implore.
Give calm to my heart, that will banish all fear,
Open Thou my eyes, that Thy purpose may be clear.

Answer my wonder, dispel all my doubt,
Teach me the lesson of doing without;
Tho' hard may be the cross, with help I can stand,
Father so gentle, I reach out my hand.

Harken, my child, believe in my Word,
Surrender thyself to me, I am thy Lord;
Earth's deepest sorrows, they last but a day;
Fresh courage I will give you; I am the way.

Look up and trust! For the sun shines on high,
No shadow lies there: clear blue is the sky.
On guard are the stars, bringing calm to thy sleep;
Learn peace: have faith that thy watch I will keep.

Dry now thy tears: make thy heart bright and cheer,
Grief cannot blind thee, thy way I make clear;
Have faith I am near, at thy side do I stand,
I am thy Guide: put thy trust in my hand.

In God's Hand Carving

Philip J. Orchard's wood carving In God's Hands
Died in May 2013



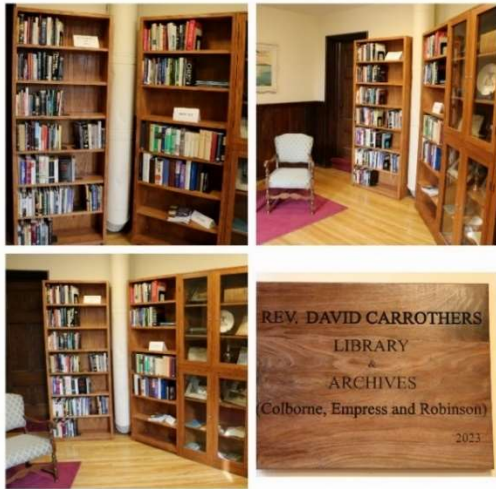
For more information about our Church and its history, please visit our website: <http://colborne711.org/our-history>.





Rev. David Carrothers Library & Archives

The Rev. David Carrothers Library & Archives was established and installed at an ideal location within the Church. It welcomes both readers and history



buffs alike. When the Rev. David retired, leaving much of his library to the Church, the quest for a new home and shared space for library and archival displays was set in motion.

In May 2023, the Stewards set aside funds for the project; over the following few months, the room which already housed archival cabinets, was chosen. Library bookshelves were built, furniture installed, and lighting updated. Located inside the Church, through the Parking Lot entrance, this cheerful open space invites everyone to browse the bookshelves and ponder artifacts which represent historic, noted elements of the merged Colborne, Empress and Robinson Churches. The library collection has a system of simple access, with borrowing and return policies indicated beside a transaction binder. On January 21, 2024 the Rev. Frank Staples dedicated the room during morning Worship.

Edith Richardson

The Resurrection (1985)

Given to the glory of God by their children, Ken and Susan, Gary and Sue, Karen and Kevin and in loving honour of their parents Mr. Herb and Mrs. Ellen Lyon.

Herb and Ellen Lyon and their children were members of Colborne Street United Church from 1972 to 1994. Ellen will be remembered for her lovely smile and her dedication and service to the UCW. Herb served as Chair of the Property Committee and put his many skills to use around the Church, and so he became fondly known as "Mr. Fix-it". It was appropriate that the children dedicated a window to their parents as Herb also worked with stain glass. Many will remember him for his sense of humour. An example of which can be found in this stain glass window. Within the window can be found the image of a lion. See if you can find it. If not, all will be revealed in the next addition of the Communiqué.



Anne Obright & Cathy Cull





Colborne's Community...Introductions



Meet June and David Wenn

My name is June Wenn. My husband, Dave, and I, have lived at Fox Hollow Retirement Residence for over two years. I am now in Memory Care and Dave in his apartment in the floor below mine.

In 1964, I met Dave when he was in his third year at Western University, and I was already working as an executive assistant for a large insurance company. On May 21, 1966, we were married at the Church that I attended and grew up in - Robinson Memorial United Church. Over the years, our lives have been filled with happiness, thanks to our family, friends, careers, travel and thirty great years at our cottage in Tobermory, Ontario. In addition, our involvement in Colbourne Street United Church has played a significant role in our lives.

The greatest source of our happiness and ongoing pride has been our daughter, Marcia, without whom the last few years would have been even more difficult.

About four years ago, I was diagnosed with Vascular Dementia and here we are. We are both relatively happy – the secret being to keep in touch with family and friends as much as possible.

Along with being with my family and friends, I participate in the Blossom program at Fox Hollow. It keeps me remarkably busy. I enjoy the music, art, and exercises.

An Invitation to Participate in Church Committees

Have you considered joining a Church Committee in 2024?

What a wonderful way to share your ideas and meet folks!

We are extending an invitation to each of you, to please consider participating in one of the various committees at Colborne. Contact the Church Office at: church@colborne711.org; 519-432-4552 for more details.

Wheels to Worship

The Sunday Bus offers door-to-door service.

There is no cost to ride the bus. If you would like to ride the bus to Sunday Worship, please contact our Church Secretary, Norma-Jean – 519-432-4552





Colborne's Community...Dates to Ponder...

Mark your Calendar

April

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, April 3, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

UCW General Meeting

Wednesday April 10-, 2024 / 10:30 AM 11:30 AM EST

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, April 10, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Rummage Sale Set Up

Friday April 26, 2024 / 9:00 AM 10:00 AM EST

Rummage Sale Set Up

Saturday April 27, 2024 / 9:30 AM 12:00 PM EST

May

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, May 1, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

UCW Spring Dinner

Monday, May 6, 2024 / 6:00 PM - Tickets Required

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, May 15, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, May 29, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

June

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, June 5, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, June 12, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday, June 19, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Take a Break (TAB)

Wednesday June 26, 2024 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Colborne Family and Friends

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating birthdays who are over 80 years of age.

Norma Stokes - April 4

Dorothy Riehl - April 27

Jacqueline Lownie - May 3

Elaine Rae - May 6

Anne Obright - May 14

June Wenn - May 16

David Wenn - June 01

Richard Dixon - June 16

Ann McClatchie - June 17

In Memorium

Al Taylor - February 16, 2024

Phyllis Matthews - December 1, 2023

Margot R. Roach - August 24, 2023

Oral Cameron - August 6, 2023

Isabel Zerebecki - June 22, 2023

Dwight James - June 4, 2023

Gerry Hunt - May 24, 2023

Verna Bonner May 10, 2023

Marilyn Bokor - April 15, 2023

Robert Thornicroft - March 31, 2023

John Obright - March 28, 2023

Edna Gee - January 20, 2023

Bill Frank - January 18, 2023

If you or your family are experiencing a notable life event including a birth, wedding, special 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. *Please let the Church Office know of the event.*

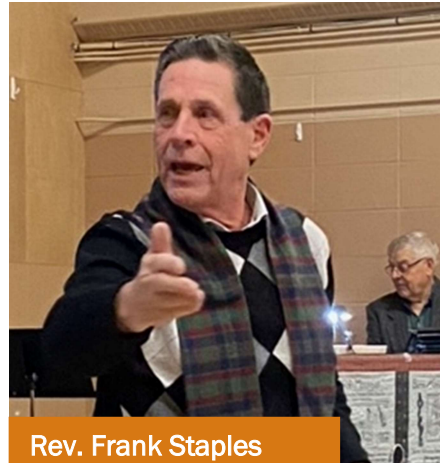




Colborne's Community... In Photos



David Grassie: Heidi Braaksma
Robbie Burns Night



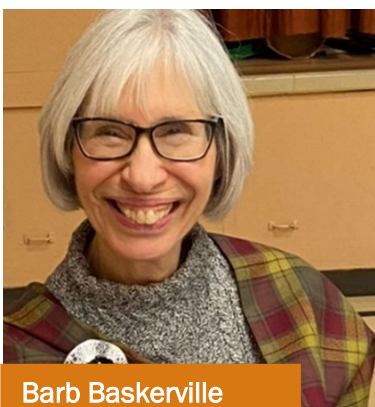
Rev. Frank Staples
Robbie Burns Night



Andrew McKinlay:
Helen Bell
Robbie Burns Night



Robbie Burns Night



Barb Baskerville
Robbie Burns Night



Eleanor Hunt
Secret Valentine Sunday



Dayna Munro
Secret Valentine Sunday





Colborne's Community... In Photos



Rev. Frank: Anne Alton: Cathy Cull



Norma Stokes



Kennedy Kimber Johnson



Ensemble Cordiale



Joanna Lui:
Marryl Ebanks



A Secret Valentine Gift
Opening



Sheila Lui: Lorenzo Ramirez



Elizabeth Wonnacott: Eleanor Hunt: Beth Firth: Barb Webster
Theresa Golem: Donna Wiancko: Anne Obright: Cheryl Vance.



Rev. Frank & Sunday School
Children



Barb Baskerville: Katie
Turnbull: Maureen Cunliffe:
Margaret Campbell-Brown



Carol Royle: Carl Branch





I Didn't Know This...

Sampling the delights of Public Lending Rights



Mark Richardson

Around this time of year, I get out the candles and incense and make a little shrine. In the corner of my study, close to the bookcase and not far from the Richardson family computer, I bow down before a small statue of that patron saint of Canadian writers, Pierre Berton. Then, prayers said, I prostrate myself in front of a photograph of Margaret Laurence, the high priestess of Can Lit, at least for us **true believers**.

Why this devotion, you ask? It all started when, years ago, as a part-time archivist for the Anglican Diocese of Huron, I got a phone call while I was hard at my task in the bowels of Huron University College. During the conversation, I mentioned in passing I was in the middle of editing a glossy, table book for the diocese called *A Light in the Forest: 150 Years of the Diocese of Huron*. Impressed, my contact offered some advice: "Don't forget to register your book with the Public Lending Right Commission."

"Come again?" I said. Then he told me how, in the 1970s and 80s, Pierre Berton, Margaret Laurence and other members of the Writers Union of Canada were diligent in the creation of a Public Lending Right (PLR) in Canada. Other nations had a PLR regime, they said, Denmark as far back as 1947. It was time we did, too.

Let me explain PLR by quoting from the web site publiclendingright.ca: "Public Lending Right is the right of authors to receive payment for free public use of their works in libraries."

As a result, yours truly gets a cheque every February whenever, during the previous year, his books – I have written one on London Police history, as well - have been found in a 'Sample Partnering Library'.

Again, the PLR web site explains: "We determine PLR payments based on the presence of an eligible title in the collections of selected library systems. Our approach is to include library catalogues with large collections from all provinces, territories, and regions of Canada. We don't take into account the number of copies found in each library or the number of times a title has been checked out."

For many years, PLR sampling was done by hand with librarians going through their collections with a list of registered titles. (Can you imagine?) Now, PLR staff compare the list of all eligible titles with the library's online catalogue.

As for the size of the cheque, let's just say it is not enough to retire on: the minimum payment is \$50 and, on my fridge, as we speak, is a cheque for not much more than that. However, it makes for a nice, post-Valentine's Day surprise.

It is amazing how few people know about Public Lending Right, even literary people. When I mentioned my new-found golden goose to one of London's leading author-journalists, he was as surprised as I had been. When I told him all you have to do is register your books, he said there must be a catch. No, I assured him, there are only a few requirements: each book must have an ISBN number and you, the author or editor, must have contributed at least ten percent of its contents. Once your book is registered, it's a matter of hoping its presence is picked up during the system's annual scan of designated libraries.

It didn't take my friend long to join the cult. His first cheque was in the hundreds of dollars.

Speaking of which, I must dash. I must contact any public libraries in Nunavut which may be a 'Sampling Partner'. You never know, they might want a certain history of the Diocese of Huron.



Colborne Street United Church
Communiqué

Meet the Colborne Team!

Staff

Ministry - Rev. Frank Staples
Music- Kennedy Kimber-Johnson
Secretary – Norma-Jean Greenslade
Treasurer – Dan Servos
Custodian/Sexton- Richard Rodgers
Assistant Sexton- Gebremariam Woldemicael
Sunday School Coordinator- Dayna Munro
Sunday School Teacher-Primary - Areum Han
Audio/Visual – Andrew McKinlay

Communications Group

Jill Bell
Rev Frank Staples
Andrew McKinlay
Mark Sholdice
Katie Turnbull
Marcie Wenn

2024 Official Board Executive

Chair Of the Official Board – Stephen Chambers
Recording Secretary - Trish Ashbury
Clerk Of Session - Eleanor Hunt
Church Treasurer - Dan Servos
Ministry - Rev. Frank Staples
Archives - Trish Ashbury
Board Of Trustees - Brian Cunliffe, Mike Boucher
Christian Education - Barb Webster, Elizabeth Wonnacott
Local Outreach - Jill Bell
Membership / Nominations - Cathy Cull, Anne Obright
Ministry & Personnel (M&P) - Greg Dickinson
Pastoral Care & Outreach, UCW - Sheila Lui
Property And Management - Stephen Chambers
Regional Lay Representative - Susan Staples
Stewards - Gail Hutchinson, Paul Wiancko
Worship & Music - Ron McClatchie

Find us at -



(519) 432-4552

church@colborne711.org

<http://colborne711.org>

