



Colborne Street United Church

# Communiqué

Spring 2024 Issue



Colborne Street United Church  
**Communiqué**  
 Spring 2024 Issue

## 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

**Church Office Hours** - Please note that the church office will be moving to summer hours: Monday, June 24 to Friday, August 23, 2024, inclusive. Hours will be 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

### 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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<http://colborne711.org>

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## From Rev. Frank's Desk

### Summer's almost here!



Rev. Frank  
Staples

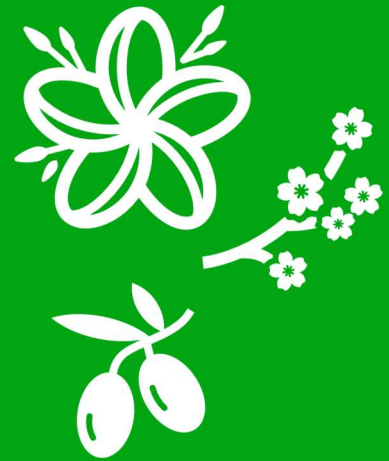
Where has the time gone? It's 9:43 am on May 15, and here I sit at my desk, wondering what to include in my message to you this issue. It's hard to believe, but over a year and a half has passed since Susan and I first arrived at Colborne Street United Church!

**And what a wonderful time we've been having! Folks, you have been so inviting, so welcoming, so much fun to be around that we're happy at least, to have been able to offer one small measure in return.** We have managed to get most of your names straight! Of course, one of us is doing a little better than the other (chuckle!). For Susan, Howard will always be Harvey and for me Emily is finally no longer Jo! But it's all good!

Being with people, learning their names, learning their stories, and seeing where God has been present in their lives—does it ever get better than that? And church is a place where we can make that happen, a place where we can learn and share together, have fun and enjoy one another's company. Colborne offers so many events, committees, and activities in which to participate and enjoy. Never underestimate how important these are to the life of the church and in building community.

**It would be impossible for me to single out any one group as more important than another, nor would I ever want to, for as the apostle Paul once said, "The body itself is not made up of only one part, but many." Which is why I want to recognize all of you as the valuable members of our church family that you are.** I recognize you *not* as being associated with any one group, but as the individuals that you are, who by your very presence week to week offer love and support to others. Because beyond all the activity we create and the work we do, there is something we bring which is far more important. In fact, it should undergird everything we do. And that is our capacity and willingness to love others. Each time we meet in our groups, we are given an opportunity to share God's love with one another and with the community at large. **We are given an opportunity to be vehicles by which God's love can be shared and windows through which God's love can shine.**

**So let it shine, my good friends, and have a great summer!**



**"I slept and dreamt that  
life was joy.**

**I awoke and saw that  
life was service.**

**I acted, and behold  
service was joy."**

**Rabindranath Tagore**





## Reflections

### Greetings from our recently established and the newly named governing body – Church Council.



**Stephen  
Chambers**

I thought I would coin the title of this report as **“Reflections”** as it seems an appropriate way to describe for you, what the Council is all about.

Looking from the outside in, many folks see only bricks and mortar, stain glass windows and large wooden, main doors to our Church, no matter how appealing. **However, as we refer to ourselves as being a “Community of Faith”, we are truly more of a living organism made up of many integrated parts.** These parts of course, are all of our members, our Ministry, our programs, along with Church support staff all working together. A great many of our members volunteer to participate in our formal standing committees and working groups, as well as helping with special events. **Through their participation, they are truly enabling our community to not only survive, but to grow and thrive.**

The Council can be viewed as a reflection of all the committees and groups that provide the forum for interaction between its many different parts; it considers, and reaches decisions as a whole for the maintenance, development and growth of our community of faith. **So, while it is positioned as the overall governing body charged with making decisions about the life of Colborne, it really is a bottom-up process beginning with individual volunteers working in groups in all of the specific areas that make up our Church community.** They provide the input, ideas and ongoing programs that are the life of Colborne, many of which you see described elsewhere in this publication.

**One objective over the coming year is to lessen any inhibitions that are preventing our members from stepping up and getting involved.** There is a certain part of demographics that we have no control over – we are all getting older and it has been a slow rebound from COVID, but you might be surprised how invigorating it can be to attend Services in person, work with your fellow members on projects and events, and to contribute your talents to the betterment of our Colborne Community. There are lots of exciting activities being planned this year and all of that is possible when our members get involved.

**Your Council is here to represent the Congregation in its pursuit of Faith and Community, in exploring new ideas and ensuring our doors are not just kept open, but to see more people enter through them to experience Colborne Street United Church life, what it has to offer, and what it is all about.**

#### 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



#### Missed a Sunday Service?

Watch our Sunday Services on YouTube!







## Margot Roach

### Margot Roach---- Bequeathed a large gift to the Colborne Street United Church Trustees!

By  
Michael Boucher &  
Brian Cunliffe

We are honoured and thrilled that in her Will, Margot bequeathed a large donation to the Colborne Street United Church Trustees.

**In addition to a distinguished and full career as a professor, researcher and physician Margot was a steadfast and faithful member of Colborne and even conducted the Sunday service from time to time.**

Margot was born in Moncton, New Brunswick and earned her Bachelor of Science degree with Honours in Mathematics and Physics from the University of New Brunswick. **She was intrigued with biophysics so she joined the summer intern program in biophysics at Western University (formerly University of Western Ontario) and so she found a home.**

What followed was a distinguished career here in London and internationally. Margot was the past chair of Medical Biophysics at the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry at Western and remarkably was the first female chair of the Department of Biophysics in Canada. **She was on Western University's Dean's Award of Excellence and on London's "Women of Distinction". Internationally she was recognized by the American Physiological Society.**

Despite all her career accomplishments, **at her core was Margot's love for the Maritimes and her unwavering faith.**



Her lifelong dream was to return to the Maritimes, and she often remarked that on retirement she had to return home since "the sea was in her soul"

**Over the years she had generously funded two Margot Roach Scholarships in medicine at the University of New Brunswick and one at Dalhousie University and true to her sentiments she retired to Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia. In retirement Margot became licensed as a Lay Worship Leader and conducted many services at her home church Sharon United Church and other local churches.**

Sadly, Margot died on August 24, 2023 in Nova Scotia. In her honour, and for her 30 years of distinguished service, Western University lowered its flags to half mast!

**Margot's generosity reminds all of us to remember in our Wills those causes so dear to us.... perhaps also including Colborne Street United Church Trustees as a way to enhance the future and legacy of our beloved church home.**

**Thank you, Margot....a life well lived!**





## Music @ Colborne

It has been such a great year for music at Colborne!



Kennedy  
Kimber-Johnson

We've had so many wonderful musicians participate in our worship services, and I am so grateful for our music-loving community!

While our musical groups go on summer break, I'll be busy planning all of the musical activities for next year. **We have some instruments sitting around that I'm hoping to make use of soon... ukuleles, hand chimes, etc...**

Please don't hesitate to reach out and find out more about our various choirs and activities! **New members are always welcome.**

### Performances were by:

- ✓ Members of the Colborne Street Ringers
- ✓ Members of the Colborne Choir
- ✓ Lynn Heinitz
- ✓ Together We Sing Group
- ✓ Sig Strings
- ✓ Leah Bondy





## Anyone for Pickleball?

### Pickleball Feasibility Being Studied by the Stewards



Laverne  
Kirkness

The Stewards would like to know if you are interested in playing Pickleball at Colborne in the gym. According to the Sport and Fitness Industry Association (SFIA), pickleball has been the fastest-growing sport in the North America. in the last three years. Only biking and running have higher participation rates. **The pickleball paddle market is estimated at over \$152.8 million and is**

**forecasted to grow by almost 8 percent through 2028. Pickleball is widely recognized as one of North America's fastest growing sports with an estimated 250,000 players, 10,000 courts and 3,500 places to play. It is excellent exercise for fitness and social interaction.**

Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong using a paddle and plastic ball with holes. It is a game that is appropriate for players of all ages and skill levels. Rules for pickleball are simple, making it a great introductory sport.



Over the summer, Colborne is investigating the interest of the Colborne Community in playing Pickleball. The intention is to have the gym set up with a professional net and pickleball floor lines for September 2024. **Players would supply their own racquet and bring their own water.** It is anticipated that the daily sessions would be 2 hours long and would be held in the late afternoons during the weekdays, and afternoons on the weekends. **Cost would be approximately \$5.00 per session. On line scheduling would be available.**

If you are interested in participating, please email Norma-Jean at [church@colborne711.org](mailto:church@colborne711.org) and she will put your name on a list with your preferences for when, and for how long, you wish to play. Thank you.

### Planning Summer Vacations?

You've made sure someone will pick up your mail, water your flowers, and mow the grass.

Please make sure to include in your vacation plans, arrangements for your donations to be made to the church. The building doesn't go on vacation and your support year-round is how we budget our ministry for you, and for our community.

**You can plan to have your regular donations made to the church by signing up for Pre-Authorized Donations through the United Church of Canada, by setting up a monthly/weekly donation through your own bank's electronic transfers, or simply leaving postdated cheques with the church office.**

Thank you for thinking of us when making your plans this summer.







## Local Outreach

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



Jill  
Bell

### **Parking Lot Fundraising Initiative**

Summer is fast approaching, and Local Outreach is once again planning its annual parking lot coverage fundraising.

Sadly, this will be the last year that Auburn Developments will make its parking lot on Wolfe Street available to us. The building is to be demolished in November to be replaced by a residential hi-rise building.

We plan to cover two events that are taking place in Victoria Park this summer,

- ✓ ***Sunfest, July 4 to July 7, 2024***
- ✓ ***Ribfest, August 1 to August 5, 2024.***

As this will be our last year at the parking lot, we are hoping to make it as successful as in previous years, or even more so! Let's hope the weather cooperates this year.

The electronic sign-up sheets for the shifts' coverage, thanks to Norma-Jean's ever welcome help, are now available. **Please consider signing up to cover a shift or two or call the Church office; without the help and support of the Congregation, Local Outreach would not be able to make use of this opportunity to raise funds and to continue its Local Outreach work.**

**Signup Link -** [Local Outreach Summer Parking 2024 — Signup Sheet | SignUp.com](#)

### **New and Continuing Initiatives**

Local Outreach continues to seek out new initiatives while continuing to support our on-going commitments. In the Narthex, nonperishable grocery items may still be donated and deposited in the White Box for delivery to The Caring Cupboard, and others. **The small, care, zip lock bag packages for Refuge Ministries Canada to distribute to offenders released from prison, may also be left in the basket marked for that purpose.**

Similarly, toiletry and personal hygiene items may also be left in its basket for distribution to My Sister's Place and to the London Community Chaplaincy.

We hope to extend our association with the London Community Chaplaincy while continuing to provide our meals support program to the residents of the social housing complex who face lack of food and financial insecurity on a daily basis, and where struggles with mental health issues, addiction or abuse are common.

**Please keep Local Outreach in your thoughts and extend support as you are able.**

### **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.





## I Didn't Know This

### Reading Up at Cardinal Books



**Mark  
Richardson**

Looking for a little slice of bibliophile heaven? The next time you drive north on Highway No. 4 and pass through the village of Birr, turn in at the sign for Cardinal Books.

**Once the village schoolhouse, the building housing Cardinal Books is now the home of one of the region's best places to find used, and rare, reading material.**

On a recent outing with a friend, for example, I found a beautifully illustrated, 101-page authorized biography of Cardinal John Henry Newman. It had been published to coincide with the 2010 beatification of the great man.

When I showed this little gem to my fellow Christian book hound, he, like me, said he had never seen it before, even though he was well up on the subject.

For a mere \$9.50, then, I became the proud owner of my own little slice of Newmaniana.

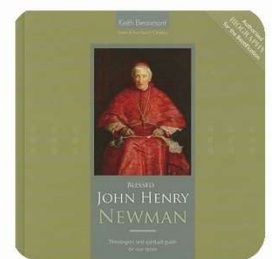
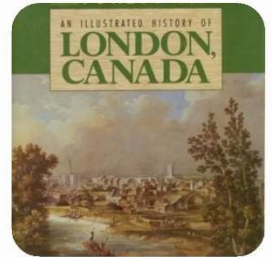
You don't have to be a believer to enjoy browsing the overflowing shelves of Cardinal Books, however. After my purchase, I chatted with proprietor Philip Prins about an idea I have been exploring, that is, looking at the southwestern Ontario connection with *"The Charge of the Light Brigade"*.

**Did you know that Richard Airey, the man who issued the fateful order at the Battle of Balaclava in 1854, was the nephew of our own Thomas Talbot?**

Airey came to this region years before, I knew, to explore the possibility of taking over Talbot's estate. Uncle and nephew clashed however, and Airey returned to the old country to fulfill his military career but not before painting some of the earliest landscapes we have of our region. As an example, see the front cover of Frederick Armstrong's *"The Forest City": An Illustrated History of London, Canada* (1986).

Cardinal Books specializes in local history, too, I learned, and Prins told me he would keep an eye open for anything on Airey. Suddenly, I felt I had an ally.

Cardinal Books is open Tuesday-Saturday, 11:00 AM-5:00 PM. Telephone 519-854-0006 or email [sales@merebooks.com](mailto:sales@merebooks.com). Or better yet, visit the store's website [www.merebooks.com](http://www.merebooks.com) to see if Philip Prins has that lost treasure you have been looking for.





## Refugees = Blessings

### A History of Refugee Assistance at Colborne Street United Church



Anne  
Alton

Forty-four years – that’s the number of years that Colborne Street United Church has been involved in **sponsoring and assisting refugees**. You may remember the stories and pictures of the “**Boat People**” of Vietnam leaving a Communist regime in their crowded, unsafe little boats. 70,000 of them came to Canada in the late 1970’s as refugees. **Colborne, under the leadership of Madeline (Hardy) McMurray stepped up to sponsor the La family of five siblings – two girls in their early twenties and three teen-agers who arrived in**

**December, 1979.** Their parents were able to join them a couple of years later.

The family did really well. The youngest daughter went to university and got a job in a government office in London. Several of the children of the five siblings have graduated from university.

With the success of this sponsorship, the committee members continued to help refugees by working with the **Cross-Cultural Learners Centre in the Host program**. Each committee member was matched with a government sponsored refugee family who had been in Canada a few months. The role of the volunteer was to help them adjust to life in Canada by helping them learn English, teaching life skills, advocating for them, mentoring and introducing them to the community. **Over the years, 30 families from 18 countries were helped in the Host Program by Colborne volunteers.**

In 1997, Colborne sponsored a paraplegic man and his aging parents from Bosnia. It took 18 months of faxes, phone calls and 200 letters written by church members to bring them to London to be reunited with Jasmin’s two bothers and their families. Imagine how happy the family was to be reunited.

After that, Colborne was involved in four Joint Assistance Sponsorships with the government, of families from **Croatia, Kosovo, Burundi and Myanmar**. You may remember the Eh family of five from Myanmar (the former Burma) who fled their village through the jungle as the army was burning it down and spent 12 years in a refugee camp in Thailand. Within a year, three of Rebecca’s sisters and their families, and her parents arrived in London (all government sponsored), so we **had 22 Karen (an ethnic group in Myanmar) attending Colborne**. Except for Say Ra’s family who still come to Colborne, they all moved to Regina a few years ago to find work.







## Refugees = Blessings

In 2004 Colborne joined LIRSA (London Interfaith Refugee Sponsorship Alliance), comprising a group of five churches, and we've been involved with the last 10 families sponsored by LIRSA – from Sudan, Colombia, Eritrea, Myanmar, Syria and Afghanistan.

**I think Refugees = Blessings.** Working with refugees has been a great learning experience and has brought me many personal blessings. I've made wonderful new Canadian friends, learned about many other cultures and religions, and tasted some delicious ethnic foods. I have had the pleasure of seeing them flourish as they learn English, become productive members of Canadian society, and becoming very proud of their children learning skilled trades or attending college or university, and getting good jobs.

**One of the thrills was seeing them become Canadian citizens with such pride.** For the Karen families from Myanmar, Canada is the first country in which they have been recognized as citizens, something that they were denied in the country of their birth.

**I think that refugees bring our country many blessings as they bring their talents and skills, courage and work ethic.** Refugee families have also received many blessings from coming to Canada. When I asked one young woman what blessings she had received from coming to Canada she said – “feeling like a human being and having human rights, being safe and secure, being free, meeting so many warm, kind and caring people, and knowing that my son will be able to get a good education.”

**The success of these sponsorships would not have been possible without such a supportive congregation.** Every time a new family arrived and an appeal went out for donations of money, furniture, and household goods, congregation members opened their hearts and were very generous. Of course, the **success also depended on many dedicated committee members over the years who so willingly committed their energy and many hours of their time and expertise to this cause.**

**Colborne Street United Church can certainly be proud of its commitment and hard work over forty-four years in helping refugee families from around the world find a better life in Canada.** I have certainly enjoyed the experience.





## Colborne...New Members

### Welcome!

We are so excited to have the following members join the Colborne Community! We thank the grace of God that they chose to join our community. We hope that their time with us offers them the chance to explore and deepen their faith and enrich the love they have for the Lord.

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| ❖ <b>Fredeswendo Miguel Butron Cruz</b>    | ❖ <b>Mark McIntosh Sholdice</b>     |
| ❖ <b>Oshin Baisac Cruz</b>                 | ❖ <b>Mary Ann McIntosh Sholdice</b> |
| ❖ <b>Mary Anne Forret</b>                  | ❖ <b>Andrea Michele Wilson</b>      |
| ❖ <b>Laureen Debb Villanueva Santillan</b> | ❖ <b>Daniel Murl Servos</b>         |
| ❖ <b>Roel Fuentes Junior Santillan</b>     | ❖ <b>Holden Forret</b>              |







## Colborne Events

### Amabile Da Papa Choir and The Junior Amabile Singers



By  
George  
Croft

The Amabile Da Papa Choir and the Junior Amabile Singers performed *The Sky and the Dawn and the Sun Concert*, on Sunday afternoon, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, in the Church Sanctuary. **It was extremely well performed and attended.**

Numerous musical solos showcased the talent of their singers. **Quinn Tufts and Violet Borger provided violin accompaniment, while Wendy Pauls did so on the flute during some of the numbers, in addition to the piano accompaniment throughout.**

The Sanctuary and Balcony were filled with the supporters of these wonderful choirs. The Amabile Singers also have several other local choirs.

**It was mentioned during the Concert, that Colborne was the first location of the Amabile Singers when they formed 39 years ago; they were very glad to have the opportunity to return to Colborne for their rehearsals, and for this concert.**

Other similar concerts at Colborne by these choirs would encourage more people to attend and could see for themselves the Church's beautiful sanctuary and other facilities. **It also offers an opportunity for Colborne to generate more community publicity by becoming a concert venue and raising additional revenue.**

**We should support future initiatives of this type.**

### Food For Thought

By  
Carol  
Royle

As we recall past Mother's Day Celebrations, many happy times and memories come to mind.

My friend Lucy, otherwise, a therapy clown who brings joy, comfort and laughter to residents, recalls meeting a dear, aging mom in a care home. As Lucy entered Emma's room for the first time, she noted its sparse surroundings. Emma smiled broadly as she realized that an actual clown had come to visit her. Lucy immediately felt a kinship with this lady.

Lucy's visiting time was limited, but she happened to notice a framed photo on the wall. The photo brought back to Emma, memories of family members and Mother's Days of the past. Noting the long line of the adult "children" pictured, Lucy asked her new friend Emma, if she would name for her, each of the family members in the photo.

Emma's smile broadened as she raised her hand and counted on her fingers five names. She looked at the photo of her nine children and appeared to be a wee bit puzzled. Then she looked at Lucy with a big smile and said; "Well, that's pretty good isn't it – for one who is 99 years old!"

Emma extended wide open arms to Lucy for a hug. Both Emma and Lucy were happy to share that hug. Lucy was reminded of a learned lesson. **One must "live in the moment" sometimes and save your prepared programme for another day!**

It also proved acceptance and smiles are contagious! Remember to give others credit for trying! **God bless All.**







## Colborne Events

### UCW Spring Dinner - Feast and Fellowship: Monday, May 6, 2024

Colborne's UCW broke out their spring finery and organized an evening of fun and fellowship. Linda Arthur catered a delicious meal. This was the first such dinner since 2019.



### United Church Of Canada News - Celebrating 100 Years 1925 - 2025



On June 10, 2025 The United Church of Canada will celebrate its 100th anniversary. There is a year long celebration planned. Throughout the year we will share the latest news, stories, opportunities and event updates from The United Church.

The theme for the Centennial is **DEEP** Spirituality, **BOLD** Discipleship, **DARING** Justice.

**“Deep Spirituality: Is the heart of our identity, not just as a church but also as individuals.**

**Bold Discipleship: Is living the call to love our neighbours no matter the cost.**

**Daring Justice: Is the commitment to join others in changing the world”.**

A special Worship Service was held on June 9, 2024 at Metropolitan United Church in Toronto to ring in the Centennial Year. The Moderator of The United Church of Canada, The Right Reverend Dr. Carmen Lansdowne preached at the Service.

**“We are in exciting and uncertain times,” says Moderator Lansdowne. “While the Centennial is an opportunity for us to acknowledge the good and not-so-good things in our past, we will not live there. This is very much a time for us to look forward, and to celebrate the emerging church—one filled with hope, resolution, reconciliation, and healing.”**





## Colborne Events

### UCW Rummage Sale - April 27, 2024

It was a success once again, thanks to the many donations and hours of volunteer work and, of course, the many donations we received! We even had a group of Junior High Montessori Students come and help with the set-up. We donated the remaining items to Mission Services who gladly came with a truck to pick it all up.

# Thank You!

**We raised \$3860.00!!!**



### Colborne Quilters Donation

On Sunday, May 12, 2024, two new floral arrangements created by The Garden Club of London, brightened the Sanctuary.

The Colborne Quilters donated them in affiliation with the UCW.

The project was overseen by Julie Boucher and Bonny Shawyer.







## Colborne, Our Organ

### Colborne's Pipe Organ – How Does It Work?



Ian  
Seddon

When we hear Kennedy playing on Sunday mornings, and during other occasions, what is happening?

Wonderful music is heard, yes, absolutely! But how?

Colborne's organ has four main components: **the console which enables Kennedy's playing, two cases of organ pipes, and an electric-motor-driven blower, without which we would need**

**hand-powered bellows.** When J.S. Bach was alive and playing an organ, bellows were usually paired, each having step-pads upon which those hired to maintain air pressure, could step up and down on – an easier task than trying to work an organ's bellows by hand!

**Air pressure is what makes an organ sound.** Colborne's blower motor is in the church basement, tucked in behind the boiler. So, the first thing Kennedy has to do, if she wants to play the organ, is turn on the blower using a switch located beneath the left-end of the console's keyboards.

**The blower delivers air at about five pounds per square inch of pressure into two air ducts.** One air duct goes up behind the back of the chancel to the organ case on the **right-hand side of the chancel**. The other duct can be seen in the library; it goes up to the organ case on the left-hand side of the chancel. In 'organ-speak' the cases are called pipe lofts.

**Why are there two pipe lofts? When the organ was first installed in 1936 by the Woodstock Pipe Organ Builders, it was necessary to divide the pipes into two cases, each on either side of the large stained-glass window at the back of the chancel wall. In 1936, that really was a window.** When the church hall was added much later, that window was removed and that is why this stained-glass artwork is contained in a case with fluorescent lights taking the place of daylight! It is also why the pipe work is divided into the two pipe lofts.

**Organs universally contain pipes that are principals, reeds, and flutes (and stopped flutes).** They have names such as trumpet, clarinet, flute, string,

diapason and bombarde – and this is because the history of organ making aimed at providing pipes that mimicked orchestral tones. Some pipes even are voice-like, for example the pipes called "Vox Humana!" Organ builders generally group these differing pipes into divisions – **Colborne's organ has four divisions of pipes. This is done since these differing pipes require differing air pressures to ensure good tone and pitch, and to simplify the grouping of pipes so they integrate well with the organ's console.**



Right-hand side of the console showing the Great & Pedal Division draw-knobs (stops).



Left-hand side of the console showing the Swell & Choir Division draw knobs (stops).







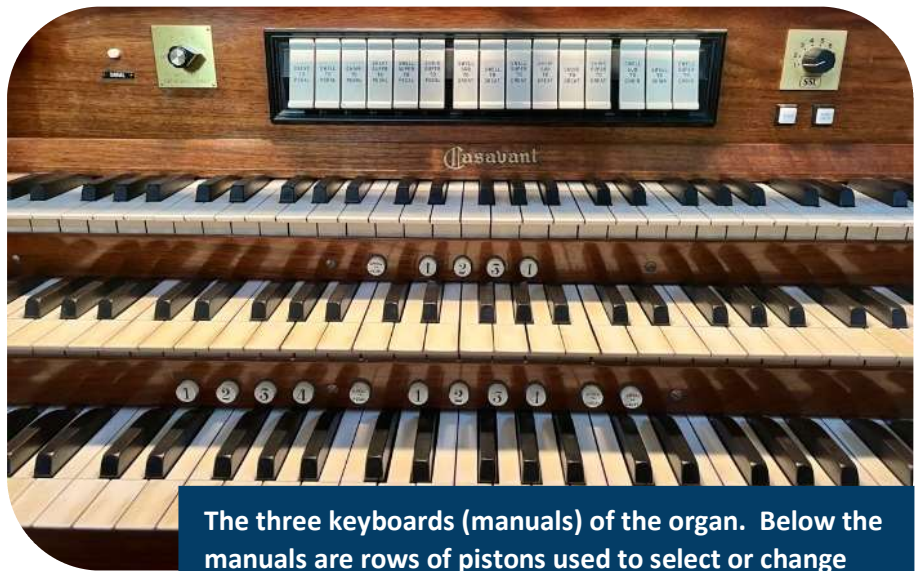
## Colborne, Our Organ

Colborne's pipe divisions are called Great, Swell, Choir and Pedal. The Great Division contains those pipes that produce the classic organ sounds. As the name of the Division suggests, its pipes provide the grounding or centring foundation tones of the organ. The Swell and Choir divisions contain pipes that provide differing colour tones which are used to enhance, or highlight musical passages being played. The Pedal division, as its name suggests, has pedals that Kennedy plays with her feet, and it has the longest, deepest sounding pipes of the organ.

Two of the Divisions, Swell and Choir, are in the left-hand pipe loft; the Great and the Pedal Divisions are in the right-hand pipe loft. Having two pipe lofts can add interest to Kennedy's performances: a good ear may notice that, at times, the organ's sounds are coming predominantly from the left side of the chancel, and at others from the other side, much like listening to a stereo set. This stereo effect depends upon what stops Kennedy has set and which manuals she is using at the console. Stops? Before we get to them, **we need know that each Division of the organ has separate air reservoirs (often referred to as wind chests) which provide air pressure to the pipe chests of the Division's ranks of pipes.** A rank of pipes refers to the set of a

particular "stop" of pipes. The clarinet stop, located in the Choir division, has a pipe chest of its own, as does the trumpet-like cornopean stop in the Swell division. **The air coming from the blower in the basement, as already noted, has ductwork going to each of the two pipe lofts. At each loft, the ductwork further divides to those wind chests which feed air to related pipe chests.** Each wind chest is carefully weighted (often simply with bricks of varying heft placed on top of them) to adjust the air pressure to suit the pipe chests it serves. Pipe chests of reed pipes (e.g., the trumpet, nasat, cornopean, clarinet stops) require a higher air pressure than do chests full of flute pipes. All the duct work and chests are hidden from view by the grills of the two pipe lofts.

Stops? Kennedy controls each stop of the organ by pulling out one of those round knobs ("draw knobs") that are found either side to the console's keyboards. **Pulling out a stop causes air supply to be routed to a particular pipe chest so that air pressure is present beneath each pipe in that chest. Then, when Kennedy presses a key on the keyboard, or sets her foot down on a pedal of the pedal-board, a valve opens beneath the corresponding pipe allowing it to "speak" (organ-talk for the pipe being played).**



The three keyboards (manuals) of the organ. Below the manuals are rows of pistons used to select or change the registrations and above the top manual, are the coupler tabs. To the right of the coupler tabs is the memory selector.





## Colborne, Our Organ

Complicated? Yup!! In fact, **the pipe organ is perhaps an example of the world's earliest computer!** The interconnections between the keys and the draw knobs at the console allow Kennedy to make any choice she wishes to produce the music she plays; the console allows her complete control of when, and for how long, a selection of (or perhaps all of) the organ's 2,223 pipes "speak."

**Pipes, in principle, are just large whistles. Those that are longer, and of greater diameter, sound lower tones (some pipes are 16 feet tall!) Those that are as small as a pencil, and maybe less than two inches tall, provide bright, high tones. Were a pipe to be taken out of its chest, and given to you, you would be able to blow into it just as you would a whistle. Colborne's organ is essentially a collection of carefully designed and shaped whistles to produce 2,223 differing tones and pitches!**



Ten ranks of pipes of various stops shown standing in their pipe chests: the chests are sitting on top of their wind chest. Photo from Orgues Letourneau Pipe Organs website

**Why are there 3 keyboards (in organ-speak called "manuals" to distinguish them from the "pedals") and a pedal board? Each one relates to one of the four divisions of the organ; the upper manual plays the Swell Division's pipes; the middle one the Great Division's pipes; the lower one the Choir Division's pipes; and the pedal board, the Pedal Division's pipes. But wait . . . not always! That's because the console allows "coupling" three manuals, the pedal-board and all stops! Kennedy can play all the Choir pipes on the pedals if she wished just by setting the coupler "Swell to Pedal!" The coupler tabs are aligned in the console just above the upper, swell manual. There are many ways, using these tabs, that differing divisions of pipes can be combined. The console has significant computing power in terms of selecting what pipes to play.**

Kennedy has a lot of playing tricks provided by the console. That's because the console has memory! **There are a number of selectable memory banks which can be used to pre-select the stop selections for a particular piece that will be played.** Likely as not, Kennedy may have a number of such pre-selections pre-set before Sunday Service starts. **The memory banks are activated by pressing one, or several, of those small white buttons ("thumb pistons" in 'organ-speak' because when playing the organ, most often the thumb is free to push on them).** These pistons are positioned just below the keys of the manuals. Also, there are round chromium pistons just above the foot pedals; they are between, and among, all of the input devices, i.e., they are played by tapping them with the toe of your shoe. So, when Kennedy is playing a piece, **all she needs to do is 'thumb' a piston, or tap a foot piston, and presto, she has a new selection of stops automatically ready to play. In organ talk, the memorized stop selections are referred to as "registrations."**





## Colborne, Our Organ

Kennedy puts a lot of thought into “registrations.” **All organists need playing experience to learn the differing tones that can be produced by the differing selections of stops, that is, differing registrations.** Registrations favouring bright brass-like tones are great for a celebratory introit whilst quiet registrations of flutes and celestes are perfect for music prior to prayers.

**How are organs made to sound loader or softer?** Unlike pianos, where the amount of weight or pressure applied to a key is directly related to the strength of the sound, organ keys and pedals just turn a pipe on or off – and that pipe will continue to speak constantly as long as its key is depressed; the note will not decay as does a note played on a piano. **The loudness of a pipe cannot be varied by varying the pressure on an organ’s key or pedal.**



Examples of wood, flute pipes set in their pipe chest. An empty pipe chest is in the foreground: this shows chest holes in which pipes will be set. Photo from Organ Supplies Industries web site.

Using shutters and varying combinations of stops is how Kennedy varies loudness and softness. All of the pipes within the Choir and Swell divisions are enclosed! Yes, **their pipe chests are set within room-like spaces in the pipe-loft, at the front of which are wooden panels (“shutters” in organ talk), much like vertical Venetian blinds, that can be open or closed using one of the two pedals above the pedal board.** The degree to which the shutters are opened directly affects the speaking volumes of the pipes in that enclosure. Kennedy can cause the sound to swell in volume by gradually causing the Choir and Shell shutters to open or close, together or separately. **The other way of controlling volume is by pulling or resetting more stops. If a greater combination of stops is pulled, then more pipes will speak, thus increasing over all volume of sound coming from the pipe lofts.** Also, the organ has a gimmick called

the “crescendo pedal” – it is the right-hand foot pedal above the right-hand end of the pedal board. Pushing on the crescendo pedal causes the organ to automatically engage more pipes in relation to the stops previously set.

Overall, that’s how Colborne’s pipe organ works (as do all pipe organs). **Playing an organ well requires musically combining differing registrations using the manuals and pedal board, usually in differing sequences, whilst trying to have a foot free to activate the swell pedals as needed: the crescendo pedal is usually reserved for special crescendo and diminuendo effects.**

Lastly, organ playing requires good balance on the organ bench. How many of us could sit at the organ and have your right hand playing the upper-most manual, your left hand playing the lowest manual and both feet engaged in playing pedals and swell pedals simultaneously? Kennedy can and does! And Kennedy would be the first to say an enjoyable piece of music can be played on the organ on just a single stop and on just one manual. **Here is one of the reasons the organ (in organ speak) is called the “King of Musical Instruments:”** it’s an instrument that can provide a greater variety of tone, dynamics and sound diversity than any other musical instrument. **In times past, church officials referred to the organ as the cheapest of orchestras because it only requires one good player to be hired to play it!**







## Colborne, Our Church

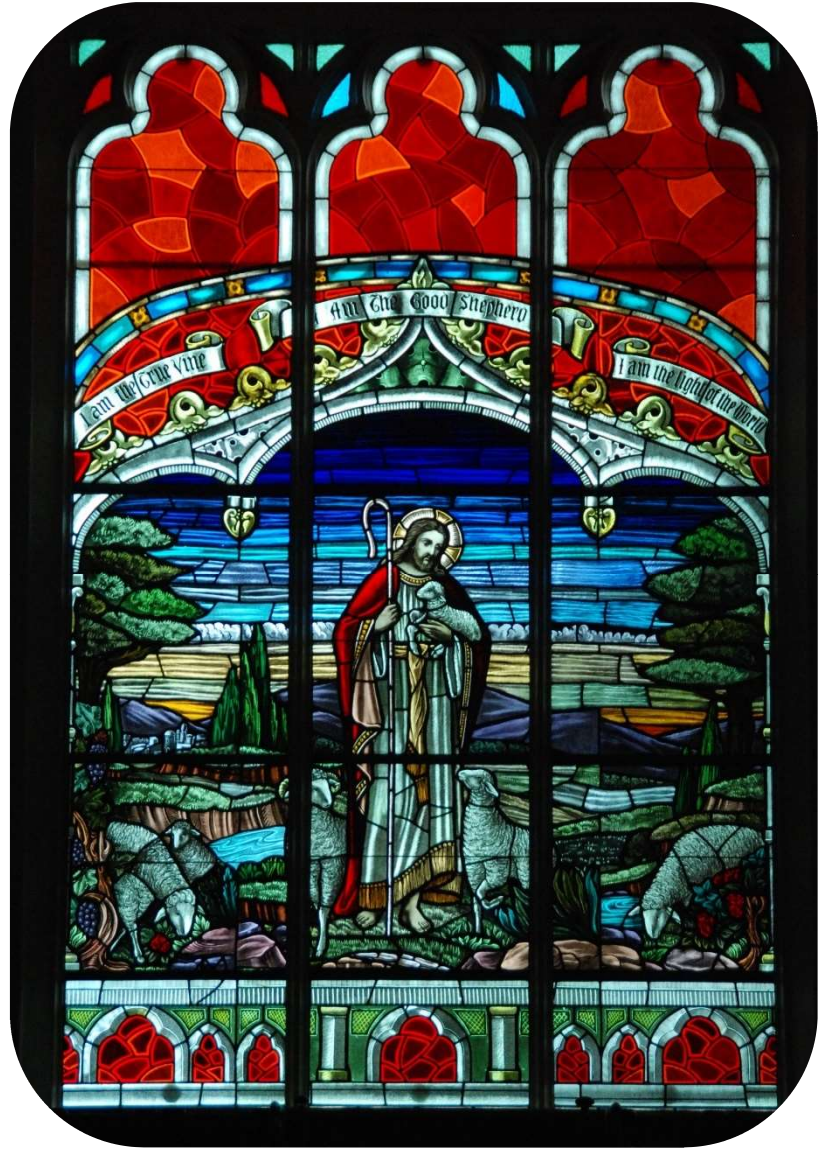
### Colborne Window - The Good Shepherd

By  
Barb  
Webster

The Good Shepherd window was originally installed over the alter at Robinson Memorial United Church in 1953. It was moved to Colborne

Street United Church upon amalgamation with Colborne, where it has become a special part of our blended congregation. **Measuring nine and a half feet high and nine feet wide, three sayings of Jesus are illustrated in the three panels.** The left panel says, "I am the True Vine." The centre panel shows Jesus as a shepherd, personifying, "I am the Good Shepherd." The right panel depicts, "I am the Light of the World." **The first and third sections were given by Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Blackwell in memory of their parents. The middle section was donated by Brigadier George Robinson in memory of his grandfather, George Robinson, for whom Robinson United Church was named.**

Originally this window was slated to be left behind at Robinson, but with June Wenn and the Rev. David Carrother's vision, and Sunrise Stained Glass' expertise, it was able to be relocated to the east wall in the balcony area. **This was a massive project, keeping the integrity of the window while working with structural considerations rebuilding the wall and roof.** Previously, the top sections of the windows weren't visible because of the ceiling line. So, the ceiling was vaulted when the Good Shepherd window was installed and sculpted over the arches of the two bordering panels, showcasing all three windows. Additional stained-glass designs were added to the base of the Good Shepherd window. The result of this undertaking is spectacular. Those of us sitting in the pews don't fully appreciate it unless we consciously turn around to look up towards the balcony area.



For more information about our Church and its history, please visit our website:

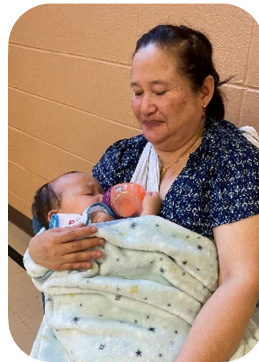
<http://colborne711.org/our-history>.







## Colborne...In Photos







## Community Information

### 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.



### Colborne Family and Friends

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

Sheryl Lodge	July 24
Margaret Otton	August 19
Elizabeth Singh	August 30
Patricia Campbell	September 8
Shirley Frank	September 20

#### In Memorium

Al Taylor	February 16, 2024
Marylin Harris	May 14, 2024

### 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



### Want to Write for the Colborne Communique?

Please submit your material to the Church office on the due date no later than 5:00 pm. The preferred method is an attachment typed in Microsoft Word and photos as attachments.

Material Due	Publish Date
September 10, 2024	October 10, 2024
December 6, 2024	January 6, 2025
May 17, 2025	April 17, 2025

### 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.



# Colborne Street United Church

# Communiqué

Spring 2024 Issue

## 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  
 Andrew McKinlay  
 Rev. Frank Staples  
 Marcie Wenn

### 2024 Church Council

Chair: Stephen Chambers  
 Immediate Past Chair: Archie Wright [Transition from Official Board]  
 Secretary: Trish Ashbury  
 Treasurer: Dan Servos  
 Antler River Watershed Regional Council Lay Representative: Susan Staples  
 Ministry: Rev. Frank Staples  
 Trustees: Michael Boucher & Brian Cunliffe - Co-Chairs  
 Stewards: Gail Hutchinson & Paul Wiancko - Co-Chairs  
 Ministry & Personnel: Greg Dickinson-Chair  
 Membership/Nominations: Cathy Cull & Eleanor Hunt-Co-Chairs  
 Worship & Music: Ron McClatchie- Chair  
 Christian Education: Barb Webster & Elizabeth Wonnacott - Co-Chairs  
 Pastoral Care: Sheila Lui - Chair  
 Local Outreach: Jill Bell – Chair Includes Communications Group Liaison  
 UCW : Sheila Lui- Chair

