

The LINK

The Quarterly Newsletter of Collier Street United Church
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www.collierunited.ca

March 2011

PALM SUNDAY COMMUNION SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2011

10:30 a.m.

**We do this in Remembrance of Jesus ~
our Saviour, Brother, and Friend**

The LINK is the Congregational Newsletter
of Collier Street United Church.
It's Collier's way of keeping in touch.
Read it. Enjoy it. Pass it along.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue
and to our Elders and Visitors
who bring it to the homes of our Collier family.

Harry Emerson Fosdick wrote: *"The life of Jesus was lived like music ..."*

What a wonderful way of describing his life. What a wonderful way of describing any life.

"The life of Jesus was lived like music ..."

And what was the music Jesus lived?

What was the song he sang?

What was his tune people danced to?

To the sinner, Jesus sang the song of forgiveness ... and those who heard it were sung into the love of God, and that love swept over them like a benediction.

To the lost, Jesus sang the song of a better way ... and those who heard it were sung into a new life where they experienced the truest kind of living they could know.

To the hurting, Jesus sang the song of comfort and courage ... and those who heard it were sung into a surer life where the presence of God became their strength.

To the lonely, Jesus sang the song of God's friendship ... and those who heard it were sung into an assurance that let them know they were not alone, they were never alone.

Song after song Jesus sang ... and life after life that heard it was sung into the heart of God.

And the wonder of it ... the glory of it ... the miracle of it ...

is that Jesus still sings that song to those who have ears to listen for it,
and hearts to welcome it in, and lives to live transformed by it.

Jesus sings his forgiving, better way of living,
comfort and strength, friendship of God song
to you.

The Rev. Dennis Posma + Easter 2011

At this time of the year, it is hard to believe that those involved in our ministries for Children & Youth are already planning for the summer as well as for our Fall programs. As life becomes increasingly busy for families with soccer, baseball, & summer vacation soon upon us and with fall plans for lessons for swimming, dance, karate, etc. or hockey practice and games just around the corner again, we invite you to stop and think about what time you have set aside for church activities in the life of your family.

When we decide to start a new hobby or sport or join a community group, we try to be intentional about making a commitment to give our best, as much as we can, to that activity or group. As your family strives to give the best of themselves to their leisure activities, we invite you to also consider what part of yourselves you are able to give to participation in your church?

Perhaps you can make a family commitment to attend worship and the Sunday programs for at least 2 Sundays a month. Perhaps one person in your family will make a commitment to volunteer in the coming year in a program for our children & youth. Perhaps you will make a commitment to be a part of our Vacation Bible School as either participants or leaders. Perhaps your family can volunteer together at a church event such as the Auction. Perhaps you can come by and visit our church library once a month so that everyone can take home a book that they might not find anywhere else.

Perhaps you have other suggestions of ways to ensure regular involvement in your faith family. If your family would like to meet with me to talk about ways we can help to make it easier for your family to commit the best of themselves to your church family, let me know. Remember that we are the church together!

Blessings, Andrea Wheaton, DLM
Christian Education for Children & Youth

Pastoral Care and Adult Ministries

Well, the first you heard of me was in the last issue of the LINK. That issue was announcing my arrival to Collier Street United as Minister of Pastoral Care and Adult Education – a new title, a new name and a new face! Now, four months later we are more than just names to each other – we are partners with each other and with God as we seek to embody the love of Christ in our world.

I am blessed to be working with Dennis, Andrea and Don and so many of you who put your heart and time and love into God's work at Collier Street United. Thank you to so many who have welcomed me into your homes and lives as you are going through difficult health issues, losses and grief. God's grace comes to me through you.

I feel like I am getting to know those who attend the Fellowship Luncheons, Mom's Need a Break, Fellowship Bible Study and Jesus Walk and I am so grateful for the leaders of each of these groups. There are still some groups I need to get around to visit – Stories of God, and some LIFE Groups, but I will get there eventually! I am also grateful to be part of the group that is gathering together for the season of Lent to reflect on the life of Jesus in the context of 1st century Palestine. These are sacred gatherings as we grow to trust each other and honour each other's experience of God.

I am excited for the upcoming Book Fair and Library Launch April 3-10. Mark your calendars and be sure to drop by some time that week to check out what books, devotionals, cards, children's books and other merchandise are available for sale. 10% of our sales go toward our Library! In the library, come in and browse around and sign out a book using our new library technology. Our library elves have been working hard!

Ever wonder how eating and growing food can be one of the ways we live out our faith? Come to our Field-to-Plate Banquet on April 9 to eat locally grown food and learn about the Canadian Food Grains Bank and their work around the world. Rev. Debra McGill will come to share her story of their work in India after we eat. I am so grateful for our group of committed organizers who have a passion for educating us about how we can care for our earth through how we eat and making us aware of the work that is being done around the world to create food justice for all.

I am filled with joy for the opportunity to be a part of the life at Collier Street and the work of God here. May God bless our partnership!

Submitted by Rev. Ruth McDonald

RECEPTION DESK

Hello from the Reception Desk!

We wish to thank all the volunteers for their work on the phone over winter. We hope you had a good winter. We are still looking for volunteers. Training is there for those who need it. Some of us would like a little break!

A luncheon for Reception Desk volunteers is being planned for May 11/11, so keep that date open!

If you would like to help out at the desk please call F. J at 726-1612 or Jane at 705-728-2695

Sincerely,
Frances Jean St. Clair & Jane Craig
Reception Desk Co-ordinators

United Church of Canada **Mission & Service Fund**



At Collier St. United our Mission & Service Fund goal for 2010 was \$13, 698. We didn't just reach our goal but exceeded it with total donations of \$15,844. Well done!! At the Annual Meeting of the Congregation the goal for 2011 was set at \$15, 844 but hopefully we can again exceed our goal!!

We Are United through the Mission and Service Fund

The life and existence of The United Church of Canada depend on the Mission and Service Fund. It's who we are and what we do. Without M&S our church would not be. It's as simple as that. See the following letter dated Feb. 10, 2011 from Doug Flanders at the national office.

Thank You Dear Friends: Once again, you have blessed the work of our church with your generosity. This year gifts to the United Church through the Mission and Service Fund totalled \$29, 760, 784. Your gifts on the offering plate, through Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR), from the United Church Women and your gifts sent directly for M&S are truly making an ongoing and tangible difference in people's lives.

In 2010 many of you reached out to brothers and sisters in areas in the world struck by disasters. Your emergency donations to Haiti and Pakistan reached almost \$4 million. Thank you!

We also know you gave generously to your congregations both in weekly offerings and in special gifts for new projects. You donated both time and money to local outreach programs and to Extra Measures projects. You made gifts to other church funds and to the United Church of Canada Foundation. Many have remembered the church in their wills. United Church people are generous indeed!

This year's emergencies reminded us we are only able to ask for help in crises and deliver your gifts effectively when we have a strong annual Mission and Service Fund. Furthermore we can only support our ongoing ministries and develop and maintain trusted partnerships when givings to M&S are strong. Your gifts fund the ministry and mission we do together in Christ's name and as the United Church.

A special thank you goes to all the official and unofficial Mission and Service Fund Enthusiasts who champion the work we do together as The United Church of Canada and who work within their congregations to lift the need for financial support to carry on God's mission in the world. In your local church you shared stories of need and of triumph. You did the difficult job of asking. Your work is vitally important and we thank you.

Thanks goes also to those who facilitate contributions to the church: our church treasurers, M&S treasurers, office administrators, committees and the UCW who support our church's work through M&S throughout the year.

The 2010 M&S amount exceeded 2009 gifts by about \$836, 616. We are thankful for the generous and sacrificial gifts that we receive from so many committed members of our church.

Our Mission and Service Fund goal for 2011 is \$30, 200, 000. Please continue to serve in 2011 with your generous gifts and promotional efforts. The work of The United Church of Canada is as important as ever. Society would be poorer without our voice; our partners' work would be diminished without your gifts. We all benefit from the support we offer each other.

Blessings to your congregation. And thank you again for your renewed support of the programs and mission of the wider United Church.

For more information on the M&S Fund see The United Church website www.united-church.ca/funding/msfund)

COLLIER'S BOOK FAIR AND LIBRARY LAUNCH

Sun., April 3 to Sun., April 10

Be one of the first to sign a book out with our new library technology. Take the opportunity to buy books as gifts, buy books for yourself, **buy books for our Church Library!!** A great selection of books will be available as well as United Church gift merchandise!! 10% of all sales will be used to buy books for our Church Library. So check us out in the church foyer and in the Library.

U.C.W

I am writing this before March 17th and I found this Irish blessing to pass on to you. I hope you enjoy the words as much as I do.

*“May there always be work for your hands to do,
May your purse always hold a coin or two;
May the sun always shine on your window pain;
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;
May the hand of a friend always be near you;
May God fill your heart
with gladness to cheer you.”*

This has been a very long winter for me, and I keep telling myself how fortunate I am to live in this great country of Canada. Spring brings new challenges and with it job opportunities.

We were asked to help host a roast beef dinner for the Jesus Walk on Monday March 21st. Steve Harding donated the beef and some pies, and with help from many of our church family to set up, serve and clean up, the evening was enjoyed by all.

On Sat April 16th we will host dinner for the A.A. Spring Round Up. This is their all day event and always well attended.

Our Ladies are always prepared to help with the Silent Auction as well.

We have had some discussions around the Maytime Tea or Luncheon. Response from the questionnaires was varied with some good suggestions. The majority still want the event to continue. We will keep you informed in the near future.

At the time of writing this we have two more Out of the Cold dinners to prepare for this season. With the weather being so cold along with so much snow our guests are so thankful

for the hearty stew we prepare for them. Rarely is there any food left over but if there is it is taken to Youth Haven. There is never any food wasted!

The Amicae unit hosted the Pancake Supper and had a fun night while raising \$826.53.

We enjoy the work we do and always appreciate your help and continued support. We are always prepared to host funeral receptions when asked.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter,
Blessing – Ruby Cox, President

MUSICAL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR PEWS

It is LINK time again! The choir does not have much to report, as it seems only yesterday that we were submitting a report for the Collier Annual Report. That being said, the choir is now preparing for the Services of Lent and Easter with special music and perhaps guest musicians, though that is to be confirmed at this writing. Our Choir is somewhat depleted during January and February, with our Choir Director away as well as several choir members who “fly south” for the winter months. We are indebted to Matthew Clark for filling in as Director of the Choir during Judy’s vacation time. Matthew will be posted to Victoria, B.C. quite soon and we wish him well. The Choir will be singing at a couple of the Tuesday Lenten Services, as will soloists from our choir. We look forward to having a full choir in attendance for Palm Sunday and Easter. Though some of our singers will still be away, the choir rises to the occasion. I am proud to be the Director of such a wonderful choir.

What a devoted group of singers we have! They attend regularly each Thursday and Sunday and give support to each other in a personal way, as well as musically. We always welcome new members!!

The Music Committee will be meeting in April to hear of the plans for music for the upcoming Church services during the Spring. Communion will be held on Palm Sunday April 17th leading to the Tenebrae Service on Thursday evening April 21st followed the next morning by the Good Friday Service April 22nd. We then look forward to the Glorious music of Easter Sunday on April 24th. Your Choir will be participating in music and worship for these services.

Nothing has been planned as yet for any "Concert" performances for the springtime but we will look forward to our Mother's Day Choir and Father's Day Male Chorus. Why not plan to make a memory with your daughter, granddaughter, son or grandson by singing together for these "special" services.

WATCH FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE SUMMER MILITARY BAND CONCERTS BEING HELD AGAIN THIS SUMMER, THE 1st CONCERT BEING IN MAY.

THINK SPRING EVERYONE!!
EASTER BLESSINGS TO ALL!!

Submitted by Judy Rodger and Tom Loney



ATTENTION ALL ZEHR'S SHOPPERS

Please save all your Zehr's receipts to help Friendship Bible Study and place them in drop box in foyer. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

GOLDEN YEARS. REALLY?

Confused, depressed, anxious, need an advocate? Can you be your own advocate? Has the healthcare system left you traumatized? Are you caring for a "golden" family member? Do you know what community support exists? Do you know what your choices are?Come to M5 after church on April 17 (Palm Sunday) for a short gathering of those with common experience and common questions. Collier Street United wants to know if there is something we can do to help those of you who are on this journey.

CANADIAN FOODGRAINS BANK PROGRAM

We are having a SPECIAL dinner on **Sat., April 9 at 6:00 p.m.**, "A Field to Plate" Banquet with Rev. Debra McGill speaking on her experiences with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank Program. Mark the Date - dinner made from local farmer's products – education about the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and proceeds going to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Tickets are now on sale for \$12.00 Single, and \$25.00 for a family from the Reception Desk.

COLLIER GARDENS

*"Like a mighty river flowing, like a flower in beauty growing, Far beyond all human knowing is the perfect Peace of God."
{#267 Voices United 1st verse}*

The little snowdrops are up and blooming and tulips have burst through the cold ground to welcome another beautiful spring.

- Two *Rose Daphne* have been ordered from the Barrie Garden Club to be planted in the front bed. Rose Daphne is an early shrub with pink spikes of fragrant flowers.
- It will be the second year going 'biological' in the gardens
- Welcome interest in a plant exchange
- Plant sale in May – watch for further information postings in the reception area.

Gardens are ever changing. Plants need to be rearranged from time to time and perennials have to be divided. The red lily beetles have discouraged the continued culture of the beautiful Asiatic lilies. We hope they don't develop an appetite for any other species.

Spring is a happy time; full of beauty and promise. Enjoy!

Submitted by Elisabeth Weber & Leona Appleby



STORIES OF GOD: COLLIER'S READING CIRCLE

Join us every other month on the 4th Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the lounge for some interesting conversation and good food!

Now that I have your attention, I'll fill you in on the details: We are a group of people who love to read and we're ready to read anything. Part of the challenge of this group has been to read a book that would normally not appeal to your taste. It's surprising how many of these books have turned out to be favourites for some.

We take turns choosing the titles and leading the meeting with general reviews of the book and then discussion time. Some have been older, well known novels, some are brand new. Quite a few of our books have turned out to be written by Canadian authors. How nice to be introduced to "some of our own".

No matter what the content, we have been able to find God's word in each novel and have been surprised at the influence that the church has had in many of the storylines.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, March 23rd where we will be reviewing *Kit's Law* by Donna Morrissey. This is a story set in Newfoundland and involves a family that definitely has some challenging dynamics.

New members are always welcome. Come, pull up a chair, and read along with us!

Susan Storning

JESUS WALK

Jesus Walk is a group designed for adults with disabilities. We are a Christian based group meeting every Monday evening from September until June. We get together for an enjoyable evening of friendship, prayer, devotionals, singing and an activity.

Jesus Walk held their 34th annual Christmas Dinner on Dec. 3 and enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings, prepared for us by the UCW and their helpers of Collier. We enjoyed singing some Christmas Carols and had a visit from the jolly old elf himself. The rest of December we took a break and celebrated the season with our families.

We welcomed everyone back on January 3 when everyone had the chance to share about their Christmas holidays and tell Sharon all about all the chocolate candy they received and didn't save for her. This was also our first quarter night of 2011 with our charity being "Friends of We Care", as was suggested by one of our young leaders. The first Monday of every month our members bring in any quarters, loonies, or toonies they would like to donate and this is dropped into the model of Collier church. It is collected at the end of the meeting, deposited and given to our charity in June.

The Joy Bells came to entertain us with some beautiful Christmas music played by hand bells. We sang in church on January 9, singing "I've Got The Joy" one of our favourites. Rev. Ruth McDonald came and did a story time with our members, and we enjoyed a craft night and following that a movie and popcorn evening.

We sang again in February, singing "This Is The Day", and drew some cartoon characters with Bob Kain, a cartoonist who attends Collier. We

had to cancel our Valentine dance due to threatening weather, but held it in March. We enjoyed a pancake and sausage dinner prepared by Keith and Shirley Richards with the help of our leaders. A big thank you goes out to them, also, a big thank you to Pat Hadley who cooked all the sausage at home on Monday. We had a couple of our leaders take some time away for surgery; Bridget McDonald had foot surgery and Joyce Stratton had a knee replacement. We are happy to say both leaders are well on the mend.

In March, we celebrated Valentine's Day with our postponed dance and sang in church again, singing "He's Got The Whole World In His Hands". We enjoyed a spring craft night, and a talent night where our members had the opportunity to shine while displaying their many talents. We also enjoyed a roast beef dinner which was generously donated by Steve Harding, the father of one of our young leaders, Jillian. Thank you to Steve and the UCW for their hard work in preparing and serving the meal. Also thank you to all the Collier members who generously donated their time to help in the preparation and serving.

As we close we are always looking for interesting activities and visitors to stimulate and entertain our members. If you know of someone or something that might prove fitting for our group, please contact Sharon or Doug at 719-0164. We thank the Collier congregation and the Collier ministry team for their continuing support and encouragement, allowing Jesus Walk to look forward to Monday evenings together.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you, our Collier family a Happy Easter as we celebrate the return of Spring and the start of new life after a long cold winter.

Yours In Christ
Doug & Sharon

COLLIER L.I.F.E. GROUPS

L.I.F.E means Living In Faith Everyday.

The Days of warmer weather and sunshine make me think about the renewal of life on our garden, our hearts and our spirits.

The women’s L.I.F.E. Group continues to use the Season’s of the Spirit adult study which follows the lectionary passages for March 13 to June 12, which covers Lent and Easter. Through this study we will continue to explore the intimate relationship that God has with us. The colors white and gold used in this season express our joy and thanksgiving for the gift of the new life that Jesus brings. We recognize and respond to the risen Christ. With the first disciples and the growing of Christian community, we are empowered to respond faithfully as the body of Christ and bring Christ’s message of peace to a troubled world. (from Seasons of the Spirit – Adult)

The Thursday 7:00 am group has had about 15 years of weekly study. The men’s L.I.F.E. Group has just finished their study – Stranger on the Road to Emmaus, which they enjoyed. A possible next study will be Understand the End Times for the 4-5 men who attend.

There are 14-17 people in the three L.I.F.E. Groups. The 7:00 a.m. Thursday morning Ladies L.I.F.E. Group, started for working women, would be delighted to welcome early risers who may or may not have to be at work early.

If you wish to have fun and fellowship and lean more about the Bible contact the Collier L.I.F.E. Group Coordinator, Carol Duckworth at 705-424-5408 or contact the group leader. If you would prefer to meet at another time or have a group of friends you would like to meet for a short 6-8 week session or on an ongoing basis, please contact the Carol.

Sincerely, Carol Duckworth

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|------------------------|---|--|
| Men’s L.I.F.E. Group | Wednesdays 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. Debb’s Restaurant, Huron Rd. | Contact: Al Perttula 728-0741 |
| Women’s L.I.F.E. Group | Thursdays 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. Midway Diner, Bradford St. | Contact: Leona Appleby 726-1884 |
| Women’s L.I.F.E. Group | Tuesdays, 9:45 - 11:45 a.m. Collier Street United Church | Contact: Leona Appleby 726-1884 |

Kindness is a language
which the blind can see
and the deaf can hear.
(Author Unknown)

If you miss Sunday Worship, you can still check the weekly announcements on our website www.collierunited.ca

SILENT AUCTION 2011

2011 Silent Auction is almost here!

THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH—4:00 PM to 9:00 PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH—11:00 AM to 9:00 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH—9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Good News!!!

How can you enjoy yourself at the Silent Auction?

GALA DINNER
Thursday, April 28
6:30 p.m.



**Oscar's Restaurant serving
main course!**

\$30 a ticket, tables of 8, 10 or 12
(Individual tickets sold)

BOOK ROOM

Friday & Saturday
(lots to choose
from)

PIE AND ICE-CREAM

served all day
Friday and then
Sat. until 1:00 pm
at the Men's Pie

LUNCH Fri & Sat

(11:30am - 2pm)
Soup, Sandwiches,
Hot dogs, burgers,
and salad

PLUS! Something New!

Friday night
Pasta dinner
5:00-7:00 p.m.

(Italian sausage, Bread, Salad
and beverage)

\$8.00 for adults and
\$6.00 for children under 12

The men will have ice cream
sundaes at their table for sale.

BID ROOMS

So many items to bid on!!!

CHILDREN'S BID ROOM

lots of fun items to bid on
and fudge and candy!

BAKE TABLE: Fri & Sat
Come buy some great Collier
baking

Better News!!!

How can you help make this auction happen!

- Bring in bid items - plan to do a service, host a dinner, a night at your cottage, a ride on your boat, etc. etc.
- Find your old books for the book table
- Bake, bake & bake or bring in extra preserves , pickles or some deli items
- Find items for children's bid room or make some candy or fudge
- Make a financial contribution to help pay off any costs.
- Plan to work in one of the many areas of the Auction
- Plan to eat out at the Auction
- Bring someone in for pie and coffee
- Bring your whole family to the spaghetti dinner Friday night
- Bring friends to the Auction
- Advertise where you can - at home, at work, in your neighbourhood

Best News!!!

By coming out to the event and helping, in any way you can, we will have a great Silent Auction time again this year!



RETIREMENT OF THE REV. DENNIS POSNO

The following letter was received and read by Larry Murray, Secretary of the Official Board, at the March 22nd, 2011, of the Official Board and subsequently at the Sunday Service on March 27, 2011.

Mr. Larry Murray, Secretary
The Official Board
Collier Street United Church
Barrie, ON

Dear Larry:

Having advised the Official Board and Living Waters Presbytery of my intention to retire on June 30, 2012 after 40 years of ministry, it is important for me to express my feelings as this time of transition begins to unfold for Kim and myself and the congregation I will have served for 16 years.

I have been blessed through the years to have served wonderful congregations – from our beginning days on St. Joseph Island (I was 25 and Kim was 24) where I served a two point charge ... to associate ministry at Islington United Church in Toronto ... to lead ministry at Central United Church in Welland ... to lead ministry at Central United Church in Sault Ste. Marie ... and to ministry at Collier Street United Church for these many years.

To the people of Collier Street, I want to express my gratitude for the welcome Kim and I were given when we arrived in Barrie on July 1, 1996 and for the privilege of serving our outstanding congregation. It has been my joy to share the ministry of the congregation with the late Rev. Doug Muir, The Rev. Dr. Don Jay, Bob Boden and most recently, The Rev. Ruth McDonald, who have provided a ministry of loving pastoral care to the Collier Street family, as it has been my joy to share the ministry and my friendship with Andrea Wheaton who, with exceptional gifts and a loving heart, has provided leadership in the educational ministry of the congregation. I consider myself, among all people, most richly blessed.

Ministry has provided a wonderful life for Kim and myself and our family. From my young days as a boy and then teenager when I was mentored by The Rev. John Stinson and The Rev. Bob Trimble, when I was encouraged by them to consider ministry as my life's work, there has been nothing else I have wanted to do or felt called to do. From the time of my ordination on May 25, 1972 to this day, I have embraced ministry with joy

and enthusiasm. I have had my share of sorrows and worries but they have been outweighed by the joys and blessings that have come our way. I have counted it a privilege.

I would be remiss if I did not say that Kim has shared the journey with me. We grew up in the church together and have worked in the church together – from our teen years to this day. Kim's support for and partnership in my work and her own abundant gifts has been shared by her with that same sense of calling. How thankful I am for her. I could not have done any of this without her. There would be no Dennis Posno without Kim at his side or in his heart. Kim will continue to be involved in church leadership into 2013 where she will serve the church as President of Toronto Conference United Church Women.

The church, and the church's people, and most recently the people of Collier Street, are what I have given my heart to. I thank you for giving your hearts to both Kim and myself.

My ministry has been wrapped in the wonderful message of the love of God - made real in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus - as well as Jesus' call to each of us to "Love each other." It is a profoundly simple message which, when embraced, has changed lives and can indeed change the world. I am thankful I have had the privilege of sharing that message.

I pray that God will continue to bless both the ministry and the church family at Collier Street and that this place and its people will continue to be something beautiful for God.

With loving affection ...

The Rev. Dennis Posno

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

At the Official Board Meeting Dennis' letter was received with regret. Inasmuch as our congregation recently approved the report of the Joint Needs Assessment Committee and established a Joint Search Committee to call The Rev. Ruth McDonald to her half-time position as Minister of Pastoral Care and Adult Education, and believing that the current Joint Needs Assessment report is up-to-date, the Official Board subsequently passed a motion respectfully requesting that Living Waters Presbytery declare a vacancy for the position of Co-ordinating Minister at Collier Street and that a Joint Search Committee be established, with representatives from Presbytery and our congregation, to seek Dennis' successor.

Confirmation Class

This year we have 5 teens in our class and we have been having very interesting conversations so far in our Sunday morning gatherings. We have already attended one of the two Presbytery Confirmation weekend Retreats. We had a great time learning with young people and leaders from other congregations. We look forward to our next weekend at the beginning of April. We are also looking forward to a few more regular classes, a Passover Seder Meal with our families, and attending the Tenebrae Service.

Our final time together before the Confirmation Sunday on June 12th will be the rehearsal dinner on Saturday, June 11th. This is for the class members and their families. The New Member Committee of Session and the Elders of families with teens in the class will host the dinner along with the members of last year's class.

Andrea Wheaton & Dennis Posno

EASTER FLOWERS

A Way To Remember Loved Ones
A Way To Add Beauty To Our Sanctuary

Collier's Flower Committee will be decorating the sanctuary for our Easter Sunday services at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The flowers will add more beauty to an already beautiful sanctuary, and following the services will be distributed to the sick and shut in.

If you would like to make a donation towards the purchase of the flowers to honour someone, or as a memorial to a loved one, **please make your donation** (along with the name(s) of those you are remembering or honouring) at the Church Reception Desk or Church Office by **Monday, April 18th**.

News From Barrie Out Of The Cold

"Barrie Out of the Cold provides nutritious meals and emergency shelter for the homeless in a safe, welcoming environment from November to April".

The current season of the Out of the Cold program began on November 13th, 2010. Since that date, we have seen approximately 60% more guests than last season.

Although the capacity figure of 35 has not yet been reached, we are averaging 25 or more guests and the lower hall is a busy place on a Saturday and Sunday night.

Each of the eight teams at Collier is comprised of meal makers and four different shifts, spanning the time period 5 p.m. until 8 a.m. the following morning. The volunteers on these various shifts ensure that anyone needing shelter on a Saturday or Sunday night is welcomed and fed.

Volunteers come from all walks of life but share one thing in common; they believe that help must be offered to those who are homeless.

We are grateful to the 350 volunteers who willingly give of their time to Collier's Out of the Cold program.

We are also thankful to have the support of Rev. Posno and the members of Collier, who partner with us in providing this necessary outreach program during the winter months.

We end this season on the morning of April 30th. In September, we will be evaluating where we need extra help for 2011/12.

If you would like to become involved, please check out our web site: www.barrieoutofthecold.org or call 705-331-1396

Submitted by:
Karen Sanderson
Coordinator, Barrie Out of the Cold



Rainbows is a program for adults and children experiencing grief due to death, separation, or divorce within a family. Rainbows will be back again this fall at Collier St. United Church. This program is both for us and our community.

Least year we had a very full attendance with 65 children and 35 adults. This takes a lot of people to give leadership and to help assist in this program. We have many facilitators returning but as always are in need of more. Training will be available this spring and anyone interested should contact Susan Storrington or Kim Posno as soon as possible. There is also an opportunity to be a helper - assisting with snacks and washroom breaks. Let us know if you are interested.

Our program runs Monday evenings from 6:30-8:30 pm and will begin in September and go through to the middle of December.

Perhaps you or your family wish to register in the program or you know of families that might be interested. If so, please tell them about our fall program. Just a reminder our program includes children from senior kindergarten to teens, grade 9 to grade 12 and adults (which we have 2 programs for - 1 for those experiencing separating or divorce and 1 for those experiencing death of a family member).

It is our hope that our program can be a help to you and to others or you can help with our program. Rainbows has been and will continue to be a wonderful program for our church family and community.

Submitted by Co-ordinators,
Kim Posno & Susan Storrington

Friendship Bible Study

Friendship Bible Study offers a Bible Study for adults with physical, developmental and emotional disabilities and we meet every Sunday morning in M5 at 9:15am. We have 19 members and they are all eager to meet and read verses from the Bible each week. The gospel message is explained in a way that is easy to understand. Bernie McLellan is our co-ordinator. Rosanne O'Regan, Cheryl Tizzard and myself, Hilary Cowan, help where we can. We all do our best and our group really appreciates each one of us.

I'm sure most of you know by now that I am saving 'Zehrs receipts'. Zehrs has accepted our group into their 'Save-a-tape' program. That means, if we save enough receipts, we can exchange them for cash. Already we have been able to provide our class, back in December, with a delicious Christmas dinner and a beautiful chocolate cake for dessert. Our Christmas photograph taken that day, was posted on the Church bulletin board, maybe you noticed it. Hopefully, we can have a summer barbeque and a dinner next Christmas again, but we need your help. Please keep saving your receipts for us, large or small. Remember, ONLY Zehrs and not receipts from affiliated stores. There is a collection box in the foyer. I pick them up each Sunday. Truthfully, it's the outings, the treats and special meals like this, that makes our group so happy. Thank you for all your help so far, we appreciate all that you do.

At the time of writing, we have two of our youngest members away on holiday. Adele is in Vancouver and Jacklynn is in Florida. We pray that they will have safe journeys and a wonderful time. Also, our own athlete Raymond, competed and earned 'gold' in the Special Olympic Winter Games earlier in the year. Way to go Raymond! We are very proud of you.

Please continue to keep our Friendship group in your prayers. Thank you.

Love and Blessings, Hilary Cowan

Sunday Programs for Children & Youth

Junior & Senior Program

It certainly feels like it has been a long and snowy winter as we all look forward to seeing the early signs of spring. We are excited to be in the season of Lent and looking forward to Easter. We hope that those of you who wanted to, picked up your Lenten calendar and bank and have been able to use the calendar as a vehicle for family discussions. Don't forget to bring the banks back on Easter Sunday.

The At-Home Leaflets, which are at the bulletin board outside the Nursery, also provide a good opportunity for you to participate in discussions on various topics with your family. We hope you find these useful.

Please remember that the children in the Age 3-SK group need to be signed in and out by an adult and that the children attending the multi-age program need to be picked up by an adult each Sunday morning.

Please remember that at the 9:00 a.m. service on Easter Sunday we will only offer child care in the Nursery for children up to SK. Our full program will be offered at the 10:30 a.m. service.

Thank you for bringing your children to church and for showing your support to us and our leaders.

Tanya Kent and Carol Bartlett, Co-ordinators

Celebrate

our

Children

Sunday,

June 26th, 2011

10:30 a.m.

*Please join us for a very special time
of worship,*

prepared and led by

the Children, Youth and Leaders

of our

Sunday Programs for

Children & Youth!!

Easter Breakfast

Your help is needed with the set up and serving of the Easter Breakfast which follows each of our worship services on Easter Sunday beginning with the Sunrise Service. If you can help with set up on Saturday, Apr. 23 or the set up, serving and clean up on Sunday, Apr. 24 we would appreciate it. See the sign up sheet at the sign up board to fill your name in to help with your preferred task and time.

Are you ready for fun, food and fellowship?

Then join us for our annual
Congregational Picnic
on
Sunday, June 26th
after worship
in the Church Hall!!

There will be something for everyone!!!
It will be a Carnival of Fun!!

Watch for sign up sheets to attend or to
be a picnic helper.

Get Ready for Camp!!

Camp Big Canoe is an overnight nature camp for children ages 6-16 located on a 240 acre wooded site surrounding a private lake, Hart Lake, in the beautiful Muskoka District. Campers are given every opportunity to experience the challenge and rewards of outdoor living and to appreciate their natural environment. Centred on the development of a greater appreciation for the natural world and the wisdom of the spiritual pathways of Canada's First Nations, the camp's Rediscovery explores the Christian pathway and is respectful of all faith traditions. Find out how your child can go to camp. This camp is owned by the United Church of Canada and is supported by

our Presbytery, Living Waters. **Registration forms and camp information are available at the Front Desk. A representative from the camp will be visiting us on Sunday, May 15.**

Camp Simpresca is a United Church summer camp situated on the wooded shore of beautiful Georgian Bay about 5 miles north of Midland. Since 1949, many boys and girls have come to share the joys of camping and the lasting memories it brings. They have experienced the magic, shared the dreams, and made lasting friendships. Camp Simpresca provides an atmosphere, which invites campers to challenge themselves physically, mentally, spiritually and socially. This camp is owned by the United Church of Canada and is supported by the Northern Waters Presbytery. For more information and to download a registration form go to www.simpresca.net.

Sponsor a child for Camp

How about sponsoring a child for Camp? Donations can be made through the church office to help sponsor children for Summer Camp. Any amount helps.

Homemade Chocolate covered Buttercream Easter Eggs

\$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

Get them while they last.

For sale after the service in the church hall
beginning on Sunday, April 3

All proceeds go to the
Youth Special Activities & Trip Fund.



FUNDSCRIP SHOPPING CARDS

Why not think about combining your shopping needs & church fundraising by using our Fundscrip shopping cards. These cards make a great gift or just use them for your own shopping needs – groceries, gas, etc.

Please grab a form from the reception desk and I'm sure you will find a card(s) that you would be able to use. The order form also indicates the percentage of funds that is contributed to the church for each of the cards so you can see how quickly funds could accumulate with regular use of the cards.

News Flash! Your favourite Canadian Tire, Shoppers Drug Mart & Grocery Shopping Cards are now available for immediate purchase during regular office hours.

Let's make shopping cards our new way of shopping and help in our fundraising efforts!

**How to get in touch with
Collier St. United by email ...**

Church Office

churchoffice@collierunited.ca

Dennis Posno

dposno@collierunited.ca

Andrea Wheaton

awheaton@collierunited.ca

Ruth McDonald

rmcdonald@collierunited.ca

Monica Peckham

officeadmin@collierunited.ca

Your Youth Group

The members and leaders of the Youth Group have been once again having fun as well as engaging in service projects. We had a great time with a Cookie Walk fundraiser that was held during the Family Christmas Festival at which we raised \$150. Our Christmas potluck party had to be postponed until January due to a snowstorm. We were having so much fun that we couldn't believe the time when parents arrived to pick people up - we hadn't even started dessert.

In February we were most grateful for those who joined us for our 2nd Annual Chili Cookoff and Crokinole Challenge. Thanks to the 13 contestants who donated their pot of chili, those who donated homemade dinner rolls and biscuits, those who helped out as extras in the kitchen, to the lenders of the crokinole boards, to those who attended the cookoff and crokinole challenge, to the potter who made the Chili Champ bowls and to those who bought the packaged leftovers. We made a profit of \$630.00, but most importantly, you gave us a fun night of fellowship.

We also had a great night attending *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* together. One night we made 40 food paks for the David Busby Street Centre to distribute at night through their Street Van. We also got to enjoy a Barrie Colts game and we won!

In the coming months we will have a *Superhero Night* and a *Night of Glee*. We will also help with the Silent Auction set up for the Gala Dinner, play sports and games,

help host the Easter Sunday Breakfast and also make and sell our famous Buttercream Easter Eggs.

In August we are hopeful that some of the older members of our group will be able to attend rendez-vous in Toronto.

As of March 23 we have also welcomed those in grade 6 to join us. Our regular gatherings are on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:30 p.m. and would gladly welcome new members and leaders.

Youth Group Leadership Team



rendez-vous

Aug. 11 to 14

at Emmanuel College,
University of Toronto

A national gathering of United Church of Canada youth, young adults and their leaders.

www.united-church/getinvolved/events/rendez-vous-2011

Ask Andrea Wheaton for more information or see the Youth bulletin board.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

The 2nd Annual Chili Cookoff Winners

This year we had a tie between

Annette Bowman

with Nana's Special Chili with Nachos & Cheese

and

the 1st Barrie Girl Guides

with their Sweet Chili.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will take place the week of July 11th to 15th this summer. Come join us at our kid friendly café full of chef's hats and aprons, pots and pans, checkered tablecloths, and chalkboard menus.

Children and adults alike will **explore the Bible** as a cookbook filled with recipes for **living out God's word**. Through **interactive lessons**, that are easy for kids to **apply to their lives** today, we will celebrate **biblical festivals** that reveal ingredients for being a follower of God.



Children that have completed junior kindergarten and older are invited to join us. Adults and teens that love children and having fun are also welcome to join us as leaders. We will also need help with decorating, craft preparation, and baking. There will be sign up sheets in the foyer for volunteers. As always, volunteers are the key to the success of our Vacation Bible School!! We look forward to seeing both familiar and new faces. Registration forms will be available soon in the foyer. Look for more information to follow in the Sunday bulletins.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee has undergone some changes for the New Year and I would like to welcome our new members Chris Tarrant, Blair King and Terry Tizzard. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to our past members Peter Magill and Frances Jean St. Clair for both their time and dedication to the committee and trust they are enjoying a well deserved break.

As we move into a new year the Property Committee will be working towards the ongoing maintenance of the Church as well as working towards the completion of some new projects. Thanks to the Silent Auction who are contributing funds for the installation of a new water softener system for the building. The committee is currently receiving quotes for the work. In addition, the committee is currently receiving quotes for the replacement of the main auditorium exterior doors.

The Property Committee would also like to put out a call to trades persons and handymen who would be willing to lend a hand from time to time to aid in reducing the financial burden of having to contract out small projects to outside sources. Whether it is fixing a cupboard door, a piece of molding, painting a wall or patching a hole any help would be appreciated. Remember YOU are the church! The Property Committee would like to close by reminding everyone to please support our worthwhile shopping card program.

Respectfully Submitted by
Bill McGregor, Property Chair

The Gift of 85

Submitted by: Andrea Wheaton

In 2010 the United Church of Canada had been celebrating its' 85th Anniversary. This celebration of the church's life and work is a very good way to give thanks to God and make a special over-and-above gift. So on the United Church's Anniversary Sunday, June 6, here at

Collier we began a special fundraising project in which everyone was invited to participate.

Everyone was encouraged to give a special offering of 85!!

85 pennies (.85), 85 nickels (\$4.25), 85 dimes (\$8.50), 85 quarters (\$21.25), 85 loonies (\$85.00), 85 toonies (\$170.00), 85 \$5.00 bills (\$425.00), 85 \$10.00 bills (\$850.00) or even higher!!!!

Every contribution would add a slice to Collier's symbolic anniversary "cake". We set a goal of reaching \$8500 by the time we reached the 174th Anniversary of Collier St. United on Nov. 14.

As of Nov. 14, 186 slices of cake had been posted and \$21, 585.00 had been given to the "Gift of 85" Fund.

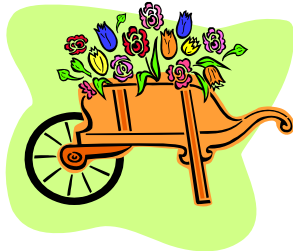
So with that kind of response, we continued receiving contributions and posting slices of cake until year end.



Wow!!! As of Dec. 31, 238 slices of cake were posted and \$24, 387.00 was given to the Gift of 85 Fund.

Gifts of 85 were given by adults, children and youth, members and visitors, groups and individuals. Donations were made in memory of loved ones, in honour of colleagues, friends and volunteers, in celebration of birthdays, anniversaries and Christmas. Gifts ranged in amounts from .85¢ to \$8500.00. Through all of these gifts, the joy of the anniversary celebrations will continue in the work done in our church, in the community and in the world! 10% of the donations were given to the United Church Mission & Service Fund and to the Collier Mission Fund and the remainder was used to support the ongoing ministry of this congregation!!

MAYTIME TEA



Wednesday, May 25th
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
\$8.00

Enjoy a cup of tea,
 sandwiches & goodies
 Shop at our Boutiques!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
 TODAY!**

Watch for more information!

BAPTISMS

Emmit Clark Larmon
 son of Clark & Dawn Larmon
Ethan Timothy Leal
 son of Tim & Amanda Leal
Livia Remi Haars, Kalia Meeghan Fleming,
Ryley Meagan Fleming, Tiana Morgan Fleming
 daughters of Remi & Rhonda Haars
Carter Robert Vernon Tayler
 son of Matthew & Crystal Tayler
Nicholas George Strampel
 son of Jeremy & Cindy Strampel
Marlee Jayne Neale
 daughter of Parker & Kelly Neale
Emily Grace Tarcza
 daughter of Greg & Tara Tarcza
Paige Lynda Suzanne Fisher
 daughter of Brock & Ashlee Fisher
Sophia Angelina Lee Crosby
 daughter of Diego Gutierrez Jr. & Keri Crosby
Isla Pearl Weatherston
 daughter of Jamie & Erin Weatherson

DEATHS

Paula Duff - November 12, 2010
Lorimer Clarke - December 7, 2010
Eleanor Elliott - December 8, 2010
Jean Ferris - January 7, 2011
Gladys Stephenson - January 11, 2011
Margaret Pratt - January 30, 2011
Irene Simms - February 3, 2011
Ken Peck - February 12, 2011
Ruth Winchester - February 13, 2011
Alma Burton - February 23, 2011
Margo Hart - March 22, 2011

WEDDINGS

Robert William Broley &
Nadia Roberta Fairbarn
 December 19, 2010

Senior's Fellowship Group

Spring has arrived - at least on the calendar. It is a wonderful season as we watch nature unfold and come to life. Going through Kentucky in February we saw Robins making their way north - a good sign indeed.

Our sincere thanks to those who were our guest speakers for January, February and March:

- Tom Stiff and his wife gave us a very interesting talk and picture presentation on his work with Nassau.
- Art and Janet Storey, once again delighted us with their pictures - this time of California.
- In March, we know you enjoyed Santana Ferreira and Ruth MacDonald's presentation of the Nicaragua trip. Chris and we were very sorry to miss their story.

And now we look forward to April 20th when Jeff Lehman, our Mayor, will bring us an update on the new Council's plans for Barrie. We have always enjoyed Jeff's visits to our group.

On May 18th, Mary and Frank Boddy will tell us about a very interesting project they have recently completed. They produced a pictorial and historical book on Six Mile Lake at the Severn. Mary is a sister of Tom Stiff. The Boddys are members of Collier Church.

June 15th, Brian Gibbon will speak to us on

the Brereton Wetlands. We heard his presentation a few months ago and we can guarantee it was both informative and very interesting.

Be sure and sign up for our catered luncheon, the Sunday prior to the event. The luncheon begins at 12 noon sharp. We will see you there.

Don and Chris Jay
Co-ordinators

Collier Street United Church Special Events April - June 2011

BOOK FAIR & LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, April 3rd – Sunday, April 10th

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

Friday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the M5

FIELD TO PLATE BANQUET

Saturday, April 9th at 6:00 p.m.
in the Church Hall

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 24th after each of our Worship services in the Church Hall

SILENT AUCTION

Thursday - Saturday, April 28th – 30th

U.C.W. TEA

Wednesday, May 25th
11:30 a.m. in the Church Hall, M5, Foyer

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

Friday, June 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the M5

CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL & DINNER

Saturday, June 11th
6:00 p.m. in the Church Hall

CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC

Sunday, June 26th after worship

Worship at Collier

- April 3 LENT 4
10:30 A.M.
- April 10 LENT 5 + NEW MEMBER SUNDAY
10:30 A.M.
- April 12 TUESDAY NOONDAY SERVICE
12 Noon

HOLY WEEK

- April 17 LENT 6 + PALM SUNDAY
10:30 A.M. *Celebration of Holy Communion*
- April 19 TUESDAY NOONDAY SERVICE
12 Noon
- April 21 THURSDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE
7:00 P.M. *Extinguishing of the Light*
- April 22 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
10:30 A.M.
- April 24 EASTER SUNDAY
7:00 A.M. *Sunrise Service at Heritage Park*
9:00 & 10:30 A.M. *Celebration of the Resurrection*

MAY - JUNE

- May 8 MOTHERS' DAY + CHRISTIAN
FAMILY SUNDAY
10:30 A.M. *After Church Communion*
- May 22 VICTORIA DAY WEEKEND
10:30 A.M.
- June 5 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY
10:30 A.M.
- June 12 CONFIRMATION/COMMUNION
10:30 A.M. *Celebration of Holy Communion*
Welcoming of the 2011 Confirmation Class
- JUNE 19 FATHERS' DAY
10:30 A.M.

JUNE 26 CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN
10:30 A.M.

LENTEN

NOONDAY SERVICES

our 51st year

From Tuesday, March 15
to Tuesday, April 19

**The theme for this year's
noonday Lenten Series is ~**

"He became what we are
that He might make us what He is."
(Athanasius)

**The leaders from Barrie's United Churches
will be the speakers for the day.**
The service is preceded (11:30 a.m.)
and followed (12:30 p.m.) by a
soup and sandwich luncheon (\$6.00)

AN EASTER WISH

May the glad dawn
Of Easter morn
Bring joy to thee.

May the calm eve
Of Easter leave
A peace divine with thee.

May Easter night
On thine heart write,
O Christ, I live for Thee.

(Author Unknown)