



**Carlisle
United
Church**

Newsletter



1432 Centre Road
Carlisle, Ontario
LOR 1H1
(905) 689-8630
www.carlisleuc.ca

Summer 2015

Minister's Reflection

On top of the book shelf in our living room are three signs: "faith", "peace" and "love." A good friend, who makes these from old Scrabble letters and racks cut to size, gave them to us one Christmas. I like the way they quietly remind us of these qualities that are essential in our lives.

A few months ago I was cleaning house in a hurry and when I'm doing this I dust using the vacuum cleaner with the small brush attachment. I picked up the little sign, "faith", and before I knew it, the last two letters disappeared into the vacuum cleaner. I sighed and held the brush in one hand and the sign in the other, amazed at the speed with which this had happened. Needless to say, I did not continue to dust the other two signs that way. When I had finished cleaning, I removed the bag from the vacuum cleaner, tied it into a small plastic bag and placed it in a safe place in the basement.

One day several weeks later I decided that I had some time to tackle the unpleasant task that was waiting for me. I cut open both bags and began to sift through the dust and dirt. Because the letters were heavier than these, they were lying at the bottom of the bag. I picked them out and disposed of the garbage. Then I washed the letters and glued them back in place on the rack.

This little incident has made me realize some truths about faith. There are certain events in life that can suck it away and leave only remnants. At least that's how it feels in the moment. And there will be a period of time when faith remains broken. It takes time and work to put it back together. And it is in the "dust and dirt" of our ordinary lives that we find the pieces that will mend it and make it whole once again. This incident also reminds me that faith needs to be treated gently, to be handled with care.

Reflecting on all of this, I remember difficult times in my life when I struggled with faith and was upset with Creator God for the hurt I was feeling. And yet I came to see, especially in hindsight, how I was being supported, loved and cared for. This revived both me and my faith, and I began to feel whole again.

Perhaps you can reflect on similar times in your life. I hope that each day you and your faith are supported and cared for.

My faith has been nurtured during my time with you, as I have worked with you and witnessed the many ways you live out your faith in Creator, Christ and Spirit. I wish you Godspeed and God's rich blessings in all the adventures that lie ahead!

With gratitude for this opportunity to serve,

Martha Reynolds
Sabbatical Leave Supply Minister

Migrant Workers' Dinner

You may already have seen them in our local farmers' fields planting the vegetables that we will enjoy in late summer and fall. They are our migrant worker friends from Mexico, the Caribbean and Philippines who are bravely battling our strange hot and cold Ontario climate, black flies and homesickness as they labour at their work, so vital to our economy.

Their employers, our area farmers, also have their share of difficulties, as increased government bureaucracy continues to make the hiring of migrant workers difficult.

However, on **Sunday June 14**, our Carlisle United Church community will once again help these men to forget their troubles for a time and they will gather at our church for a fun-filled evening. With your help, our guests will enjoy a spirited game of soccer, our famous turkey dinner and desserts, receive gift bags, prizes, and clothing and have some fun with their colleagues.

In some communities in Ontario, migrant workers are often victims of harsh treatment by their employers and are even vilified in public because of a mistaken belief that they are "stealing" jobs from Canadians. In contrast, our events give us the opportunity to welcome them to our area, to express our gratitude for the work they do in support of our farmers and to treat them with dignity. Our church is now the initial member of a network of local churches who embrace the spirit of hospitality by welcoming the migrant workers to their many special events throughout the season.

If you have never experienced a migrant workers' dinner, I invite you to come along on **June 14**, be part of the party, play football with the Mexicans and Jamaicans, experience their spontaneity, their sense of fun and their simple, sincere gratitude. You will be especially welcomed if you speak any Spanish, can entertain, organize the games, serve the meal or help with the cleanup. We will gather at 4:30 pm to set out the food and set the tables. The

soccer game will start at 5:00 pm and we will start serving dinner at 6:00 pm.

Catherine Swatten
905-690-7472



Gone to the Dogs

Throughout the winter and early spring, a sub-committee sought to formalize a Carlisle United Church policy regarding dogs on our premises. The committee's recommendations were brought to the Board and approved at the May 12 meeting. A copy is available at the office for everyone interested and affected. In essence, the policy's aim was to formalize current practices and ensure that other provincial and municipal by-laws are adhered to throughout the facility. The aim was not to introduce hardship to dog owners, but to ensure that those who love dogs and those who find it harder to love dogs due to health or personal reasons can co-exist in harmony.

Andrea McRae

Why are the Bells Ringing?

On June 9, The United of Church of Canada is celebrating 90 years of the union between the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church and Congregational Churches of Canada which created the largest protestant church in Canada. The Evangelical United Brethren church joined the United Church of Canada in 1968.

Come and join us at 10:30 am on **Tuesday June 9** for coffee and muffins. Let us celebrate our history and share the stories that formed us and our community.

Marilyn Irish, Chair of the Board

Carlisle United Church choir sings
The Lord is My Shepherd
Sunday May 31, 2015

see it on YouTube

https://youtu.be/NrTDxL_TjO0

Wesley Urban Ministries Case for Kids

June 7 - 1:00 to 4:00 pm
at Bayfront Park, Hamilton

You are invited to join the Walk, Run or Ride to End Child Poverty.

Please support this vital work for children and youth living in poverty in our City of Hamilton. We know that our city has a high proportion of children, one in 4, living in poverty. This is our opportunity to help those who provide programs for children, whether it be helping children learn to read, helping with homework, providing early learning initiatives, summer camps and March Break programmes, Teen drop-in centres, Wesley Child Care Centre, Youth Housing and Outreach. Please make a thoughtful and prayerful consideration of how you might support this ministry. All donations can be brought to the church office and will be forwarded to Wesley Centre.

For more information on the work that takes place in this ministry, check out Wesley Urban Ministries website at <http://www.wesleyurbanministries.com>.

Marilyn Irish

Hymn-Sing Sunday



Which hymns do you most enjoy singing? Which hold special meaning for you?

Please share with us your favourites for a special Hymn-

Sing Sunday at Carlisle on **June 21** at 11 am, a service dedicated to worshipping through music. We would love to have your input, so we invite you to fill out a hymn request slip available at CUC or email us the title of your favourite hymn, and we will do our best to include it in the service.

Heather Olaveson

Friends of the U.C.W.

The warmer weather and sunshine has energized all of us in the



UCW. Since the last newsletter, the ladies made pies for the Spring Festival and served pies at the Festival dinner. We continue the making and assembling of Tied Quilts for "Cares & Shares", as well as crafting Christmas ornaments, painting, sewing, knitting and crocheting the many items needed for our Christmas Bazaar. Thankfully, among our group are ladies who actually like hand-finishing! Everyone is involved, as we are often working on 3 or 4 projects at once.

Planning for the Bazaar is ongoing. At this time of year we make light and dark Christmas cakes, Christmas puddings and quiche and tart shells. As fruit ripens, we pick and freeze what is needed for pies. Now is rhubarb season and soon there will be strawberries and other fruits. We are collecting canning jars of all sizes which will be filled with delicious jams, jellies, relishes and pickles during the summer.

Our monthly Luncheons continue. The next is a Salad Buffet on **June 12**. The fall dates are September 11 (Salad Buffet), October 2, November 6 and December 11. Beginning in 2016, there will be fewer luncheons. We have decided to host these in April, May, June, September and October. I hope that we can count on the continued support of our loyal friends and neighbours for the new schedule. The day (Friday) and the time (11:30 am-1 pm) remain the same.

The UCW ladies are replacing the old chairs. Banquet-style chairs are available for events and folding chairs for Guides, Scouts, small groups, etc. Both styles were tested for comfort by the UCW ladies.

Enjoy your summer!

Judy Parkin

Summer Services

Sundays in July at 10:00 am

- Services at Carlisle United Church



Sundays in August at 10:00 am

- Services at Kilbride United Church

Fall Concert

A concert is in the works for fall 2015 featuring the beautiful voice of soprano Sarah Shelley and Carlisle United's own pianist Heather Olaveson. You might remember Sarah from last December, when she joined us at Carlisle for a special music-filled Advent service. As former students of the same piano/voice teacher, Sarah and Heather have worked together a number of times over the years and are thrilled to be collaborating once again. Please keep an eye out for further details in the Fall Newsletter.

Property Report

The Property Committee had a very successful fertilizer sale this spring. Our profit was approximately \$2,400. Thank you to everyone who bought fertilizer, sold to their neighbours and friends, and especially to those who helped deliver.

We have had a few different plumbing issues this winter and at this time we are waiting for a price to repair or replace the well pump which supplies the cemetery with water. We just replaced some parts in the downstairs men's washroom and before winter comes again we have to replace a circulation pump for the furnace, all things required in maintaining a building the size and age of Carlisle United Church.

*Dave Walker,
Property Chair*

Carlisle Festival Report

Heartfelt thanks to all for supporting this year's Carlisle Festival on May 9.

This event is the Church's major fund-raiser for the year and we are pleased to indicate that it was a financial success, with an income of just over \$15,000. We sold a total of 489 tickets and served 469 meals. This was our first year to try a vegetarian chili option, which was pronounced delicious but not as popular as Mark's famous BBQ chicken.

This year we had 346 items in the silent auction, a record number, and another 15 items in the live auction. We say thank you to the many businesses and individuals who generously donated items for our auctions. The Kids' Zone was also a big hit, with a huge book sale and a bake sale, as well as games, crafts and face-painting.

The success of the event was greatly enhanced by the contributions of Jim McCartney as auctioneer, lively music by Ria and Randy, therapy dog guests from Animal Adoptions of Flamborough and promotion from The Flamborough Review.

This year we were pleased to have the assistance for set-up and take-down of strong young men from the Waterdown-based group Cheers. We were also grateful for the assistance of the Carlisle Venturers with recycling and the Carlisle Scout troop with the sale of drinks and hot dogs.

To all those church families and local residents who continue to come and support our Festival year after year, deep appreciation. Donations from the Festival proceeds will be made to Flamborough Food Bank, Carpenter Hospice and Wesley Centre.

And our greatest appreciation goes to the many, many volunteers who gave their time and talents to make this event a success. Thank you all.

The Festival Committee

Carlisle Festival – Saturday May 9, 2015



Silent auction – 346 items this year! Jim McCartney did a great job with the live auction. Kids' Zone was a big hit, especially the book sale. Thanks to Animal Adoptions of Flamborough for bringing the therapy dog team.

Carlisle Festival – Saturday May 9, 2015



Thanks to all the hard-working volunteers who make the Festival a great family event. Special thanks to the Pathfinders for help with the recycling, and to the Scouts for hot dog and drink sales.

Volunteers make all the difference!
Thank you, each and every one.

(Photos courtesy of Mary Gilbert and Cathy Moulder)

