

The first part of the paper discusses the importance of understanding the cultural context of the research. It highlights the need for researchers to be sensitive to the values and beliefs of the communities they are studying. This is particularly important in the field of education, where cultural differences can significantly impact learning outcomes. The paper then moves on to discuss the challenges of conducting research in culturally diverse settings. It notes that researchers often face difficulties in establishing rapport with participants and in interpreting their responses. To address these challenges, the paper suggests several strategies, including the use of local researchers and the development of culturally appropriate research instruments. The final part of the paper discusses the importance of sharing research findings with the community. It argues that research should not be conducted in a vacuum, but should be a collaborative process that involves the community from the beginning to the end. This approach not only ensures that the research is relevant and useful, but also helps to build trust and capacity within the community.

ALMONTE UNITED CHURCH

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Sunday, December 8, 2024 10:30 am Advent 2

*We gather today on the traditional and unceded territory
of the Algonquin Anishnaabe Nation.*

May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

The Musical Prelude

Welcome and The Announcements

The Call to Worship:

One: In a farewell passage for the ages, Jesus said:
“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let
your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

**All: As our Advent journey continues, may we feel the
peace of Christ in our hearts, our words and our actions,
for we pray in the name of the Child born in Bethlehem.**

The Lighting of the Second Advent Candle: Peace

Hymn of Response:

Hope is a star that shines in the night, Leading us on till the
morning is bright.

***Chorus: When God is a child, there's joy in our song;
The last shall be first, and the weak shall be strong; And
none shall be afraid.***

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth, Giving a promise of
safety and worth.... Chorus....

Gathering Prayer:

O God, you who desires peace for all the world's people, we pray that the peace of Christ might fill our hearts, our minds, and our very souls during this time of worship. And we pray that you might enable us to become peace-makers in our own families and our communities, for we pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Opening Hymn: #1 in MV "Let Us Build a House"

The Children's Time with Gus and Gloria

The Choir Anthem: "An Advent Alleluia"

The Scripture Lesson: The Song of Zechariah with Sung Response. Page 900 in Voices United

Meditation:

Hymn: #29 (VU) "Hark the Glad Sound"

The offering is collected-

***Sung Response: MV#191**

"What can I do? What can I bring?

What can I say? What can I sing?

I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.

I'll bring my love. I'll do my share" x2

Dedication of Offerings

The Pastoral Prayers and The Lord's Prayer (page 921 in VU)

The Closing Hymn: 426 (vu) "Saviour, Again to Your Dear Name"

Extinguishing the Advent Candles and the Benediction

The Musical Postlude

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Pyjama Sunday is Almost Here!

On December 15, as part of our Children's Advent Service, everyone is invited to stay comfy and come to church in your jammies, a bath robe, bring your favourite stuffies or pillow... you get the picture! We will also be collecting new children's pyjamas for Lanark County Interval House. Thank you for once again making a difference in our community.



Important Notices:

- The 2025 envelopes will be available for pickup on Sunday, December 15th
- Please Note that there will be no potluck following next week's service, December 15th.
- The office will be closed from December 23rd onward, and will re-open on Monday, January 6th, 2025 at 10:00 am. Virginia will be on holiday. For any urgent matters please contact Rev. Heather at 613-619-5966 or grovesprings@sympatico.ca

Canadian Food Grains Bank: Did you know...?

Here are a few pinpoints you may or may not know about the Canadian food Grains Bank:

- 1974 western wheat farmers began the process of shipping wheat to Bangladesh with help from the Mennonite Central Committee of Canada
- 1983 other churches and church agencies were invited to join. This was the beginning of The Canadian Foodgrain Bank
- 1984 the United Church of Canada partnered with CFGB
- 2024 is our 26th year growing a crop for CFGB
- Global Affairs, previously known as the Canadian International Development Agency, continues to match donations 4:1
- CFGB does assist with immediate emergency food aid
- CFGB is heavily committed to helping individuals and communities help themselves gain food security. Because our growing project is harvested in the fall, in more recent years this was when we initiated an awareness campaign. Donations to CFGB can be submitted through our church. The total of all donations, personal and crop sales, to CFGB are donated at year's end.

Since 1998 AUC has donated thousands of dollars to CFGB through our personal donations and our growing project. With 4:1 matching funds from Global Affairs, it is mind boggling to think of the amount of aid we have helped provide to end world hunger.

Brad Lowry reported that eight acres of corn were planted on May 19th and harvested on November 8th. He planted 0.38 bushels per acre and harvested nearly 540 bushels per acre! A whopping great crop!

We wish to thank Brad and the Lowry Family for making this crop possible; Merv Hilliard who, for more than 20 years has harvested the crop; and Andy Ross of BTLF for his donation of seed for the past 8 years.

When the various expenses associated with growing corn are totaled, we will have a final dollar figure for you of the amount to be forwarded to the Food Grains Bank.

Please consider making a monetary donation to this worthy cause which feeds the hungry people of our world. Remember that all donations are matched 4 to 1 by the Canadian government; donations are welcome until Dec. 27th.

Decorators Needed!

Ron and Mary MacMeekin are giving up their decorating creativity after many years of diligent work. When you see the church building transformed during the various seasons, you know that Mary and Ron have been working their magic! Many, many thanks to Mary and Ron for their dedication to AUC!

So.... we need new volunteer decorators...one person or a team, who would like to continue the MacMeekin's legacy. They are willing to help you find the storeroom, decorations, etc. Our church building would look very sparse without the seasonal decor. If you or a team are interested, please speak to Rev. Heather or Peter Mansfield.

New volunteer decorators are needed for January 2025.

Christmas Market

Thank you to all for making cookies and baskets, for helping with the packing of the cookies, the set up and take down of the tables, for assisting with the sale of our wares and to all those who purchased tins of cookies and gift baskets. We had no tins of cookies left and the few gift baskets left were gratefully accepted by Interval House for distribution to women and children in need and our knitted shawls, lapghans were donated to Country Haven for the residents. Your generosity and that of the community will help AUC continue our good works. We made \$2449. Thank you

Marvellous Monday Meals

In October, we announced Marvellous Monday Meals (3Ms) on a trial basis for November and December. We are pleased to announce that they will continue in 2025 on a monthly basis. The next one will be January 6, 2025. A big thank you to those who commit the time to prepare these meals and to those who are purchasing the prepared meals. December's meals realized \$335 to assist AUC in moving forward together. Thank you.

WHAT'S ON AT AUC THIS WEEK

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday from 10 to 2

Thursday from 10 to 3

Friday 10 to 12 noon

Monday, December 9

5:30 Taekwon Do

Tuesday, December 10

10:00 Mom & Baby Physio Workout

6:30 Almonte Embers

Wednesday, December 11

1:00 Carebridge Pilates

5:30 Taekwon Do

7:00 Choir Practice

Thursday, December 12

10:00 Mom & Baby Physio Workout

6:30 Rhythm & Song Choir

Friday December 13

9:30 Lisa Kmiel Yoga

Saturday, December 14

8:00 Erin Carmichael Yoga

Sunday, December 15

10:30 Sunday Worship : **ADVENT 3 Pyjama Sunday**

Sunday School

Youth Group

7:00 Lindsey Lambden Yoga

