

The Central Communicator Newsletter- Dec 1,2021

Central United Church

628 Ouellette Windsor Mailing Address is

699-30Tuscarora Avenue N9A 6Y6

Phone (519) 253-4641

<https://centralunitedchurchwindsor.com/>

Services Sunday at 11:15 am



Announcements and News

Our ability to fellowship as a congregation has been interrupted by COVID restrictions, church closures and everyone trying to be safe. Those who have the internet and those with an email address registered on file at the church office are more informed and are easier to communicate with than those who are not. The internet however is not available to all. This newsletter is an attempt to keep everyone informed of the going on in and outside Central United Church. You should expect news, updates, financial stuff, prayers, scripture verses, humour, cartoons and some serious talk. From a cost-savings point of view, the printed newsletter will only be sent (via snail mail with a postage stamp) to those without an email address on file. A digital copy of the newsletter will be posted to the church webpage.

Church Office -

659 Dufferin Place Wed 1:00 - 3:30

Thurs 9:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 3:30

central@mnsi.net

Our History

The first Methodist preaching took place in the Windsor area on August 15, 1804, when Nathan Bangs, a saddle-bag preacher sent to Upper Canada by the New York Conference of the American Methodists, gathered together a small company of seekers after Christ and constituted the first Methodist society, as it was called. We are the spiritual descendants of that early 19th Century meeting. Our present church is the second Methodist Church built by this congregation in the city, the former sanctuary on Windsor Avenue having burnt down in 1904, exactly one hundred years after Nathan Bangs' arrival here.

PRAYER

Holy One,

Give us the courage to welcome Christ into every part of our lives, so that, like Mary, we will hope for a better world, like Elizabeth, the Shepherds, and the Holy Family, we will be brave and bold in our living, like the Innkeeper and animals, we will be welcoming of others, and like the Magi, we will present our best selves. May we always be ready to welcome Emmanuel, Christ with us..

Amen.

VOLUNTEERS

The Downtown Mission is looking for a few volunteers.

Apply <https://www.downtownmission.com/> or 519-973-5573 ext 280

News from Council November 18, 2021

Rev Olav kitchen who has been a shepherd over our flock informed us we will soon be receiving a new overseer. Rev Olav is heavily involved with planning the next General Council and to be fair with his workload his health and private life cannot continue shepherding Central. His wisdom and knowledge, kindness and positive attitude will be greatly missed.

Musical instruments left over from the Downtown Music Initiative have now been in storage for several years. It is unlikely that there will ever be another DMI and accordingly, the Trustees and the Council have approved/recommended an orderly disposition of the instruments. The committee of Dan Bryant , Shirley Whitefield and Henry Eldacher will be looking at methods to sell or otherwise dispose of the remaining instruments. They are looking to sell at the market price for used instruments. No low ball offers from insiders.

We received a request for an AA group to use our facilities on Saturday night's - decision is pending..

The Trustees are again looking at cleaning up the registration of our building at 628 Ouellette .. It seems the building is still registered in the name of “Central Methodist Church”. There were many churches who did not change the registered ownership for a number of reasons and our situation is not all that unique.

Visioning Committee

The visioning committee is investigating the possibility of a Sunday Evening Service in addition to the regular 11:15 am service. The details are scarce, and matters of personnel, hour, music, outreach are presently up in the air. The idea is to start in early January. Members of the Committee are Dan Bryant, Charmain Bailey Foutner, Donald Colwill, John R. Calhoun, Shirley Whitfield, Wayne Whitfield, Harold Greene, Stuart Allan, and Joyce.

FINANCES

We are holding our own, which means we still have a little money left in the bank. Central has a long history of putting off repairs as long as we can and we continue to do this.. We still have some roof issues, eavestrough issues, air conditioning issues (not working) and a broken drain on the south side of the building. Actually finances are getting tight. COVID has not been a friend. Donate if you can. Tax recipes are free.

And, Oh Yes Council decided to fire up the newsletter, the kind that is sent out to people by way of snail mail and a postage stamp. The primary recipients are those without email, or access to the internet. A copy of this newsletter will be posted to:

<https://centralunitedchurchwindsor.com/>

Three Sisters Soup **By Pastor Charmain**

Greetings in this time of Advent! I hope this letter finds us all in a time of preparation for the birth of our Christ. Please look out for my Advent reflection letter to be mailed out, or picked up during services these next weeks. Below is a lovely experience I wanted to share, based on my studies..

A few weeks ago I participated in a Right Relations circle where my seminary joined with the United Church Indigenous theological seminary located in Beausejour Manitoba, for a week of learning together. We learn about treaties, Indigenous customs and ceremonies, but most of all, we learn ways to foster right relationships with our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

This year featured a ‘hybrid’ Right Relations learning circle, where some of the students and staff of the Centre for Christian Studies seminary joined the students at Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre in person, while most of us joined by Zoom. The circle was fantastic, rife with much learning, and opportunities for building right relationships, but none was more powerful than the afternoon we all cooked together, right across Canada. We were sent the recipe for a staple Indigenous soup weeks before, so we could gather the ingredients, and on the designated afternoon we were divided into rooms of six people. We were a mix of both seminary students, and we brought our devices to our kitchens, had engaging conversations with each other, and prepared Three Sister Soup.

Below is the recipe for this delicious soup, that brought together people of different cultures and races, in an intentional quest for building right and respectful relationships with each other. The soup is delicious and filling. Perhaps you could have a Zoom cook party and share in the preparation and eating of this meal with family and friends.

First, a story of Three Sisters in Indigenous culture: In a three sisters garden, corn, beans and squash are planted together to help each other grow strong. The first sister — beans — takes nitrogen from the air and uses it to keep the other sisters healthy. The next sister — corn — grows tall stalks that the beans can climb, holding the plants together. And the last sister — squash — grows big leaves that cover the ground, keeping weeds from growing and making the ground moist. The spiny squash also keeps away any animals that would eat the sisters.

Recipe:

6 cups fat-free, low-sodium chicken or vegetable stock
16 oz. canned, low-sodium yellow corn or hominy, drained, rinsed (kernels, or frozen)
16 oz. canned, low-sodium kidney beans (drained, rinsed)
1 small onion (chopped)
1 rib celery (chopped)
1 butternut squash (peeled and cubed, say 2 cups)
5 fresh sage leaves

Directions

Bring chicken stock to a slow boil.
Add corn/hominy, beans, onion, butternut squash and celery. Boil for 10 minutes.
Add sage leaves, and simmer on medium-low heat for 20 minutes. (serves 4-6)

O Come all ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore Him, (3×)
Christ the Lord.

God of God, light of light,
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore Him, (3×)
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, glory in the highest:
O come, let us adore Him, (3×)
Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him, (3×)
Christ the Lord.

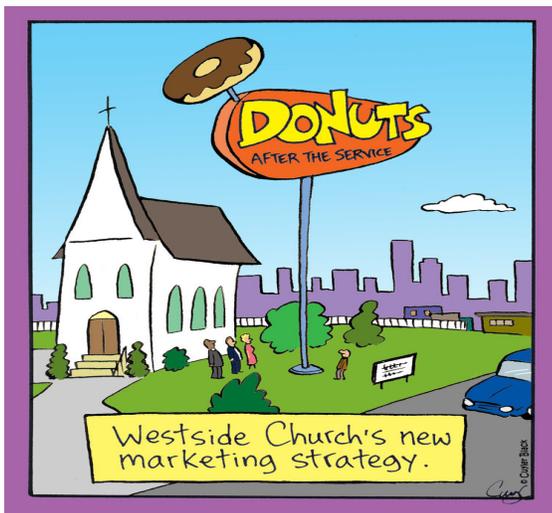
Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let Earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.



Please consider writing a note or thought to be included in future newsletters.

Share this newsletter with a friend

If you have email and are not receiving emails from the office please send us a note and we will add you.

If you have a friend who has email, ask if emails can be sent to them and you can read them there, (saves us postage) The Pastor's Reflections and video of the service could also be viewed there. Bonus.

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."