



WILMOT UNITED CHURCH

May 6, 2018

6th Sunday of Easter

Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.

At the points marked * - those who are able are invited to stand.

Presider: Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin

THE GATHERING

Organ Prelude:

Andante

(Merkel)

Welcome to the Church

Call to Worship:

In wondering, in affirming, we come to this service,

and God welcomes us.

As individuals, as a faith community, we come to this service,

and God's Word speaks to us.

With rejoicing, with sorrow, we come to this service,

and the risen Christ is eternal hope for us,

as we worship and as we live.

David Sparks, Okanagan Falls U.C., Okanagan Falls, BC

We Light the Christ Candle

Opening Prayer:

Most Holy God,

we come to this holy place,

in celebration and in sorrow.

To this holy place,

We come with praise and prayers.

We come in crisis and in calm,

knowing that we are the sheep of your pasture.

knowing that in you alone,
we live and move and have our being.
We thank you for this sacred place,
which is sustained by your holy presence.
We thank you for devoted members,
who choose to worship in this place,
in ups and downs, in change and unchange,
in flood, in famine, in feast.
We come to this holy place.
We come to worship you, most Holy God. Amen.

Gail Corbett, Mark Street U.C., Peterborough, ON

* **Opening Hymn:** Joyful, Joyful We Adore You VU #232

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

Peace before us
Peace behind us
Peace under our feet
Peace within us
Peace over us
Let all around us be peace. (Haas)

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Connecting to Our Hearts' Longing: Wisdom 7 VU #891

Assurance of God's Love

Prayer of Preparation:

Join with us, Living God,
As we meet around your Word
And reflect upon it.
Encourage us, inspire us! Amen.

David Sparks, Summerland, BC

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 11: 17-26

Congregational Response:

One: This is the witness of God's people.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem: Open My Eyes (Scott)

Sermon: A Serious Misunderstanding? Rev. R-H Gaskin

* **Hymn:** One Bread, One Body VU #467

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

* **Doxology:** VU #541

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

* **Prayer of Dedication:**

**Holy God –
you are life, and light,
and grace.
We give you thanks,
and we offer you our lives
in return.
Accept these gifts;
they represent our commitment
to live as an Easter people.**

Frances Flook, Emo/Devlin P.C., Emo, ON

Prayers of the People



Congratulations to **Jeanette Jarvis** who celebrated her 90th birthday yesterday. Wishing you all the best, Jeanette.

WIN A LOVELY UCW GIFT BASKET FOR MOTHER'S DAY! Maggie's Muffin Mania Cookbook has been a tremendous fundraiser for UCW. A special pop-up promotion will be taking place at Coffee and Conversation today with a goal of selling 100 cookbooks. For each \$15 cookbook sold, the purchaser will be entered in a draw to win a beautiful gift basket overflowing with specialty ingredients, deluxe muffin pans and kitchen tools needed for many of the items in the cookbook. See it on display! The draw for the basket of goods worth over \$100 will take place at the end of the Quilters' Tea on May 12th. Congratulations to our own Maggie Clarke for producing such a popular book and generously donating all proceeds to UCW!

COFFEE & CONVERSATION: The summer is just around the corner and services for Downtown United (St. Paul's and Wilmot) will begin here at Wilmot on July 1 for five weeks. During the year, our various Committees graciously take on Coffee and Conversation. THANK YOU! However, in the summer, we simply ask for some volunteers. (tea, sweets, breads and conversation - perfect.) Let me know if you are able to help us out with one of the Sundays. Thanks, Ellen

TODAY: There was good participation in the four Lenten discussion groups last month. Now we are thinking about following up on some of the ideas generated. After worship **today** you are invited to come to the parlour with your coffee for a discussion on "next steps" around these 4 topics: Building relationship with our Muslim neighbours, the United Church's protest against brutality towards Palestinian youth, good nutrition for everyone and elimination of poverty in our province. We recognize that we cannot act on all of these. What green shoot is already sprouting in the garden? What door is opening in our community? Is there an emerging project we can collaborate with and add our energy to?

UPCOMING GRADUATES: It is time for us to gather the names of our 2018 graduates. If you, your child or grandchild is graduating this year from High School, College or University please let Ellen know. Her list has already begun.

WILMOT SENIORS: If you think you would enjoy some fun playing games such as 45's and Scrabble and more, plan to come out to Seniors on Tuesday, May 15th at 1:30 p.m. in the parlour. As usual, our afternoon will conclude with a refreshment time, this month provided by Group 1. All seniors and retirees are very welcome! **Looking Ahead** - June 5th is our annual Mystery Day. \$20 per person for a chauffeured day with two stops which will include, among other things, lunch and a whole lot of fun! If you would like to join us, please contact Susan (450-4072) or Brenda (363-3388).

REDEEMABLES: I am often asked if the youth are continuing to collect cans and bottles ... and I answer: "Always! Just keep them coming. THANKS" I did learn something this week though – if you wash the labels off the bottles, they cannot be redeemed. They need the labels particularly the bar code. Don't forget - we will also come and pick them up at your house. Just let me know! Ellen

TEA AND ARTIST SHOW & SALE: Calling all Wilmot artisans!

Celebrate mom and support charity at Wilmot United Church on May 12th from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. For \$10, enjoy an elegant tea featuring fancy sandwiches and dainty sweets along with an exhibition and sale of our congregation's fine arts. Tickets are available at Coffee & Conversation today and at the Church Office. Limited tickets will be available at the door. Wilmot photographers, writers, potters, painters, quilters, knitters, rug hookers, sewing enthusiasts, wood and metal crafts and all other Wilmot artisans are warmly invited to display their handiwork at this special event in the Dr. G. M. Young Memorial Hall. To register as an exhibitor, please contact Shirley Cleave: 459-7743.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Forest Hill United Church has an 8-week position open for a student this spring/summer. The job will involve a variety of different projects, including working with our Affirm Committee to further our LGBTQ+ministry. For more details please contact Forest Hill United Church at forest.office@bellaliant.com

DRAMA and DESSERT: St. Andrews Players of St Andrews United Church in Harvey are presenting their 15th annual Drama and Dessert “Family Jewels” at the CE Center of the church on May 10, 11 , 12 at 7:30 p.m. plus a matinee on Saturday, May 12 at 2 p.m. Tickets – call 366-3599.

MAY 11: TAKE-OUT HAM SUPPER – 4 – 6 p.m. at Nashwaaksis United Church. The take-out supper includes baked ham, potato salad, coleslaw, roll and dessert for only \$10. Please reserve your take-out by Thursday, May 10th, with Mary Jane at 472-2533. Some may be available at the door.

MAY 11: The Jim Axelrod Big Little Band, an uptempo jazz & blues trio featuring our own Steven Peacock on guitar, plays Frank's Finer Diner on Friday, May 11, from 6 to 8 p.m. Come enjoy classics made famous by Billie Holiday, Ray Charles, Nat King Cole, Dutch Mason, the Powder Blues Band, and more. Cover: \$10 cash, please.

MAY 12: Grandmothers helping Grandmothers Fredericton is having a Fish and Chips Kitchen Party at the Market on May 12 from 6-8 p.m. There will be a delicious fish and chips dinner by chef Rick Huskins, lively music by local entertainers Pat and Dan Steeves, a silent auction and gifts for sale just in time for Mothers Day. Cost is \$20 For adults and \$10 for children. Cash bar. For tickets call Linda Hubbard at 457-0362 lindahub@nb.sympatico.ca Westminster books or Jean Coutu Pharmacy in Devon.

THE ‘GO’ PROJECT ADVENTURE CAMP -- For Grades 2 – 7 - July 16-20

The GO camp is a United Church Camp designed to happen right here in your own community. It is a joint effort by St. Paul’s, Forest Hill, Nashwaaksis & Wilmot to be held at Naskwaaksis. There will be trained staff and volunteers that will lead exciting programming with an outreach and justice focus. Children will spend time learning, playing, volunteering and learning about their faith. It is a full day program filled with fun activities. LIMITED SPACE so give Ellen a call to reserve a space for you or register online at WWW.THEGOPROJECT.CA

Cost is \$125 (Sponsorship is available – touch base with Ellen)

Refugee Family Update

Last July the AL Rahi family, a Mom and Dad and 2 children, arrived from Lebanon four years after they left Syria. Their oldest child Leen, five years of age, was born before they left Syria. Their younger child Omar was born just prior to their coming to Canada from Lebanon. We are financially responsible for this family for one year, ending in July, 2018.

Initially, we thought we were supporting a family of three, mother, father and daughter. However, about 2 weeks prior to their arrival we learned it was a family of four. A small apartment was rented for the family. The monthly rent for this has increased since we first rented.

Presently the parents are attending English classes daily at the MCAF (Multicultural Association of Fredericton). Fatima, the mother is progressing very quickly in the English language and has moved up a couple levels. Ammar is less fluent, but is working very hard to improve. Ammar, wanting to be able to support his family, is actively seeking work.

Leen is completing her first year in our school system, Kindergarten. She speaks English and understands the language similar to the other Kindergarten children. She is full of energy, vivacious and a great little helper with her baby brother Omar. Omar attends the MCAF child care centre while his parents are in English language classes.

However, as well as the family is doing, partially due to efforts of committee members who have purchased beds, boots, diapers, etc. at their own expense, plus the kind donations of many church members, our committee is still in need of a further \$2,000 from the three churches, Forest Hill, St. Paul's and Wilmot. We are seeking help from our congregations to help meet our commitment to this family.

If you wish to contribute to the refugee committee, record - "Refugee Fund" on your cheque or envelope, and Marlene will issue you a receipt for tax purposes. Thank you to those who have made monetary contributions and those who have helped our family in other ways.

Although the AL Rahi family are not of our faith, they are a beautiful, kind young family, deserving our support.

Thank You

Elaine Kenyon for Interchurch Refugee Committee

A New Approach To Farming

Our gifts for Mission & Service change lives around the world. Our global partner the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCCK) is addressing the problem of severe drought by creating a conservation agriculture program. The conservation agriculture model uses mulching, crop rotation, and minimal tilling, combining with water harvesting and management, to move toward the ultimate goal: local food security.

The NCCCK works with Kenya's National Drought Management Agency and advises the agency of needs in drought-stricken areas. The agency then reports to the national government on areas where help is needed. The Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) is doing trials and experiments on technologies in partnerships with the NCCCK to determine the varieties of drought-tolerant maize and legumes that are the most suitable for growing in parts of Kenya. The NCCCK/KALRO partnership started as a result of Mission & Service support of conservation agriculture. Now they share best practices and enjoy a collaborative work relationship.

Farmers appreciate the support this project has received from Mission & Service. In Tharaka Nithi County, a place characterized by perpetual food insecurity, more than 800 households have participated in the conservation agriculture project. These households "will forever be grateful to the partnership between NCCCK and The United Church of Canada," says the NCCCK's General Secretary Peter Karanja.

If Mission & Service giving is already part of your life, thank you so much. If you do not give, please consider making Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith! Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

THIS WEEK AT WILMOT

May 6 - 13

TODAY:

9:30 a.m. ADULT BIBLE CONVERSATION – Board Room
11:00 a.m. WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL
12:00 p.m. COFFEE & CONVERSATION
12:00 p.m. DISCUSSION “Next Steps” - Parlour

Mon, May 7:

6:45 p.m. TOASTMASTERS – Board Room

Tues, May 8:

12:00 p.m. WORSHIP COMMITTEE – Parlour
7:00 p.m. FAITH FORMATION – Parlour
7:30 p.m. MARTIAL ARTS – Gym

Wed. May 9:

9:00 a.m. QUILTING and FELLOWSHIP - Parlour
10:00 a.m. TOY LIBRARY
1:00 p.m. WEDNESDAYS @ WILMOT
7:00 p.m. NA GROUP – Fireside Room

Thurs. May 10:

9:30 a.m. QUILTING and FELLOWSHIP - Parlour
1:00 p.m. WRITERS GROUP – Parlour
3:00 p.m. INFORMATION TEAM - Parlour
6:30 p.m. HANDBELL CHOIR PRACTICE
7:00 p.m. MARTIAL ARTS - Gym
7:30 p.m. CHOIR PRACTICE

Sat., May 12:

10:00 a.m. TOY LIBRARY
11:00 a.m. TEA AND ARTIST SHOW & SALE – Gym 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
6:00 p.m. DROP-IN CENTRE

Sun. May 13:

9:30 a.m. ADULT BIBLE CONVERSATION – Board Room
11:00 a.m. WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL
12:00 p.m. COFFEE & CONVERSATION

