

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
January 7, 2024 – 10:30 am

1st Sunday after Epiphany
Baptism of Our Lord

Central Queens' Mission Statement

Central Queens United Church is a loving and living community called to support the life stages of all people, celebrating joy and sharing in pain. Through faith and fellowship, we are united by God's love to live and serve as Disciples of Christ.

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

Welcome

Welcome in the name of the Christ.

Welcome to this place of worship, situated on the unceded traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people.

Welcome to this place of retreat and refuge, worship, and wonder.

It is good to be here.

It is indeed good to be together.

Announcements

Birthdays & Special Occasions

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Quiet Preparation for Worship

Bible Presentation (*Placed during the singing of the Introit*)

***Introit** A Light is Gleaming VU #82 (Chorus)

***Call to Worship**

Ascribe to God glory and honor!

The Voice of the Holy One hovers over the waters and speaks creation into being.

Ascribe to God strength and peace!

The Voice of the Sovereign One calls for justice, love and righteousness.

Ascribe to God power and gentleness!

The Voice of the Gracious One gives life and reigns forever and ever.

Come, let us open our lives to God in this time of worship.

***Hymn** Arise, Your Light Is Come VU #79

Prayer of Approach

Triune God, you come among us in the fullness of your being and affirm the fullness of our humanity—mind, body, and spirit. In you, we find joy and pleasure. In you, we claim peace and hope. In you, we arise to greet a new day and a new way of being. Shape us in this time together that we might reflect your goodness and your way.

With Jesus, we share in the ancient prayer...

Responsive Reading – Psalm 29 VU #756

***Hymn** The First Nowell VU #91 vs 1 – 3

All God's Children

Hymn The First Nowell VU #91 vs 4 – 6

Children may retire to Sunday School

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

* **Presentation of Offering** We Will Take What You Offer MV #196

***Offertory Prayer**

Holy One, receive our offerings as gifts of ourselves. Increase the gifts and uplift our generosity to new heights. May our giving bear fruit that sustains, nurtures, and feeds a new world into being. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Scripture

Genesis 1:1-5

Mark 1:4-11

Anthem

Sermon

Reflective Music

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

***Hymn** In the Darkness Shines the Splendour VU #92

Extinguishing of the Christ Candle

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction** Glory to God in the Highest MV #124

Postlude

* Please stand as you are able

Ministers

All of us

Clergy

Rev Greg Davis

Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

9 am – 12 pm

Office Phone

902-964-2291

Email

minister@cquc.ca

Ministry of Music

Kirk Neville

Website

<https://cquc.ca/index.htm>

Phone

902-786-9222

Email

nevillejk@hotmail.com

Church Office

Office Hours

Wednesday & Thursday

9 am – 12 pm

Phone

902-964-2221

Email

office@cquc.ca

A Warm Welcome to All – We are delighted you have joined us. May God’s word today strengthen your faith, inspire curiosity and learning, and motivate your service of others. All are welcome.

Life and Work of Our Church

Greg’s Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 am – 12 pm. If anyone is in the hospital or would like a visit from Greg, please call him at 902-964-2291. If you wish to meet with Greg outside the scheduled hours, please call 902-964-2291 or email minister@cquc.ca for an appointment.

FundScrip – Janet will be placing an order today. The next order date is Sunday, January 21st. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

FündScrip

Sunday School has resumed. Anyone who can help with this important ministry, please contact Greg at 902-964-2291 or by email at minister@cquc.ca. Help us to continue this very important ministry.

E-Transfers – Central Queens United Church is set up to accept e-transfers. If you prefer to give your offerings through e-transfer, please send via email to veldabertram@gmail.com.

Scent-Free – “No scents make good sense”

Please refrain from wearing scented products such as perfume, cologne, and fragrant personal care products as they can trigger serious health issues for those with fragrance allergies. Thank you for your cooperation so that everyone can attend our church.

Rosewood Service will be on Thursday, January 18th, at 6:30 pm. The Choir will be assisting Greg in leading the service.

Official Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 18th, at 7:15 p.m.

At this meeting, we will be discussing and voting on the proposal, Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization, that could change the structure of the United Church. For a study guide and other background information, visit the website gc44.ca and click on Remit 1.

We encourage all members of the Official Board, and anyone else who is interested, to attend this meeting.

Annual Meeting Reports – Deadline for reports is **next Wednesday, January 10th**. Please email them to office@cquc.ca. The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28th, after the worship service.

Sunday Worship Cancellations – In the event of inclement weather, an announcement will be made by radio on Ocean 100 by 9 am. It will also be posted on our website and Facebook page if our church service is cancelled.

Weekly Bulletins can be sponsored by you in celebration or remembrance of a loved one. There is a signup sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Cost is \$20.00.

Bulletin Deadline – Deadline for items to be placed in the bulletin is **Wednesday** evening. Bulletin items can be emailed to office@cquc.ca.

Weekly Bulletins can be sponsored by you in celebration or remembrance of a loved one. There is a signup sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Cost is \$20.00.

Puzzle/Book Exchange – To complement our puzzle exchange, we now have a library where you can share books. Be sure to check it out! Help yourself to a puzzle and/or book or bring some of your own favorites to share!! The puzzle/book exchange is now located in the main hall.

Pop Can Pull Tabs – Remember your pull tabs!! George Mason is collecting pop can pull tabs which are then given to the Daughters of the Nile women’s organization. The funds go to the Shriners Hospital in Montreal where they are used to buy reading materials for children in the hospital. Your pull tab collections can be dropped off at the church. Thank you.

Food Bank – Please remember to support the Food Bank with non-perishable food items. You can drop them off any Sunday or during church office hours in the wooden box at the church entrance.

Community News

Winsloe United Church Ceilidh this afternoon, January 7th, at 2 pm. Hosted by Jacinta MacDonald with the Winsloe United House Band with Steven Perry. Special guests are Tip-Er-Back with Darlene Bradley. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

Mission & Service – *Sending People to School—Together: Patti Talbot’s Work*

How do you make the world a better place?

Around the world, 57 million children cannot attend school. They may never learn to read, to add or subtract, or to write. These are the skills they need to succeed.

Even more importantly, they never learn about their basic human rights.

Over

It's a complicated problem, says Patti Talbot, the United Church's Global Partnership Team Leader. "The work we do isn't going to lead to immediate societal change, she says, "But it will make a big difference down the road."

When children can't go to school, society suffers. And that is why Mission & Service is in partnership with 85 organizations that work to increase access to education across the globe.

Each partner has their own approach to education and skills training, each supported by your gifts to Mission & Service.

Colombia's Center for Communication uses arts and media to teach children about their rights. Women for Change in Zambia creates educational groups where participants share agricultural knowledge and awareness of their rights. At Japan's Asian Rural Institute, local leaders gather to learn sustainable agriculture techniques they can take home and transform their communities.

"How can we make the world a better place?" asks Talbot before responding. "We can't do that by ourselves; our partners know best what the challenges are."

Talbot, a child of missionaries who was raised in Japan and Korea, knows that educational partnerships are critical. "In our partnerships, we learn from and teach each other," she says. "The United Church's focus is more than just sharing resources, but really sharing life together."

It's an approach that Talbot knows works, even if results take time. "Our partners are very grateful that The United Church of Canada has demonstrated over and over again that we are there for the long term," Talbot says.

"Partners say to us, 'It makes such a difference to us to know that the United Church is with us, walking with us in prayer, supporting us, remembering us in their lives.'"