

**Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
October 12, 2025 – 10:30 am**

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Thanksgiving Sunday

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 Introit*)

***Introit** Joyful, Joyful We Adore You VU #232 vs 1

***Call to Worship**

Come, you who carry joy in your hearts, and you who come weary from the week that was.

We come with gratitude and with longing, with laughter and with tears, bringing our whole selves before God.

Come, you who find thanksgiving easy, and you who struggle to find reasons to rejoice.

We come as we are — grateful, uncertain, hopeful, and human.

For God meets us not only in our praise, but also in our questions and our quiet.

Even when gratitude feels hard, God receives what we can offer, and blesses it with peace.

Come, then, into this time of worship — to remember, to give thanks, and to be renewed by the presence of Love.

We come, trusting that even small thanksgivings can open our hearts to God's abundance.

***Hymn** Let Us with a Gladsome Mind VU #234

Prayer of Approach

O God of quiet mornings and gathered hearts, we come carrying both gratitude and ache. Some days thanks comes easily — other days, it hides beneath the weight of living.

Meet us here, just as we are. Open our eyes to the small wonders still unfolding: the warmth of light, the breath we take, the kindness that waits in unexpected places.

Let this hour be a softening — a place where our thanks can grow again, slowly, honestly, in your tender grace. Amen.

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

Responsive Reading – Psalm 100

VU #824

***Hymn** Shout for God

VU #246 vs 1 & 2

All God’s Children**Hymn** Shout for God

VU #246 vs 3 & 4

*Children may retire to Sunday School***Presentation of Our Gifts****Invitation to Generosity*****Presentation of Offering****Offertory** What Can I Do?

MV #191

Offertory Prayer

O Generous Heart, from your abundance the world is fed,
and our lives are blessed.

What we offer now is but a whisper of that fullness — a way
of saying *thank you* for breath, for beauty, for the quiet
kindness that carries us through.

Take these gifts, O God, and the intentions behind them.

Let them become bread for the hungry, comfort for the
weary, and light for the path ahead.

Bless what we give, and bless what we keep, that all may
serve your work of love in this world you so tenderly hold.
Amen.

Listening for the Word**Prayer for Understanding****Sacred Scripture**

Philippians 4:4-9 (NRSV)

John 6:25-35 (NRSV)

Anthem “Grateful”

Choir

Prayer**Sermon** *When Gratitude Feels Hard***Reflective Music****Responding to the Word****Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession*****Hymn** Let All Things Now Living

VU #242

Changing the Light**Blessing*****Choral Benediction** You Shall Go Out with Joy

VU #884

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

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. If you are looking for a church home, we would like to invite you to consider us your spiritual family. All are welcome in this place.

Thank You to Ellen Davis for her beautiful gift of music this morning.
Congregation of Central Queens United Church

Today’s Bulletins are placed in loving memory of Joan & Fred Stilwell. Lovingly remembered by Kim and Craig Weeks and family.

Sympathies are extended to Vernon Wayne on the death of his mother, Edna Lord.

Sympathies are also extended to Evelyn Smith, Wina Reardon and family; Velma Bertram, Margaret Smith, Lois Lajeunesse and their families on the death of Wilfred Smith.

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.

Scripture Readings - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, October 19th, are:

Jeremiah 31:27-34 *God’s new covenant will be written upon people’s hearts.*

Psalms 119:97-104 (VU #840) *How I love God’s law*

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 *People with itching ears will turn away from the truth.*

Luke 18:1-8 *The parable of the widow and unjust judge.*

These are made available to you should you wish to read them during the upcoming week.

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.

Sunday School Helpers are Needed – We are in need of helpers to assist in our Sunday School ministry. If this is something that you could help with, please contact the church office. 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.

FundScrip – The next order date is Sunday, October 12th. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

Rosewood Service this Thursday, October 16th, at 6:30 pm. The UCW will assist Greg in leading the service.

Bookworms United – Join us this Friday, October 17th, at 10 am in the Church Parlour as we discuss “The German Girl” and “The Paris Library”. If you need a copy, please see Joan D. Bernard. Feel free to come and pick up next month’s book.

CQUC Annual Car Rally this Saturday, October 18th, beginning at 9 am at the church. Registration forms are available in the church office. Please return completed forms to the office.

Trunk & Treat will be held on Sunday, October 26th. Dress up your vehicle and yourself. Bring along some treats to share. We will open our trunks after the worship service.

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.

Roast Beef Supper – Our annual take-out Roast Beef Supper will be held on Saturday, November 1st. Popular for the generous servings of hot roast beef with all the tasty trimmings and a delicious dessert. Ticket Prices: Adult: \$20; Children (6-12 yrs): \$7; Children under 6 yrs: free. There are three (3) take-out times: 3:30 pm, 4:30 pm, and 5:30 pm. Tickets can be ordered from Debbie by calling 902-964-2882. Tickets should be ordered in advance. **Note:** At time of meal pick-up, a volunteer will collect tickets and deliver meals back to your vehicle. Don't miss this delicious fall feast fundraiser!

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

Central Queens United Church First Annual Trivia Challenge on Saturday, November 15th, at 7 pm. Gather your team of 4 and your best “team name”. It's going to be an evening full of fun questions, laughs, light snacks and maybe even some prizes. Who will take home the Trivia Champion Title?

Office Church Directory – In an effort to keep contact information as up to date as possible, please give Trudy any changes to your contact information. If you would like to be added to our directory or need to update your info, please contact Trudy at office@cquc.ca or you can call her during office hours at 902-964-2221.

Puzzles/Book Exchange – Be sure to check out the wide variety of books and puzzles available in the main hall. Help yourself to a puzzle and/or book or bring some of your own to share!! If you happen to find any missing pieces of puzzles at home, there is a container above the puzzle shelves for these 'lost pieces'.

Pop Can Pull Tabs – Remember your pull tabs!! George Mason is collection pop can pull tab 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 pop can tab collections can be dropped off here at the church. Thank you.

The next meeting of the **PEI Cluster Gathering** will be on Tuesday, October 28th, from 4-8 pm at Spring Park Church in Charlottetown. Special guests are Rev. Shepherd Munikwa, Regional Minister for Justice, Mission and Outreach, and Jordan MacDonald from the O'Leary pastoral charge, a participant in the UCC's recent Pilgrimage of Learning Initiative. The planning group hopes to use this time together to highlight social justice initiatives and opportunities for participation, along with time for worship and fellowship. You are encouraged to attend. Please consider inviting and sharing the link below with a social justice champion from your congregation. There will be a light meal provided, with vegan and gluten-free soup, rolls, fruit and cookies as well as tea and coffee. A suggested donation of \$5 is requested to cover food costs. Use the link <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13UH7zTw6rJfbBy9SiSOYi0mKNzLneZW90hxmZMZdpgM/edit> to register for the meeting. To ensure that the food order is correct, please register by **October 20th**. If you would like to volunteer to assist during this event, please contact Kathy Bigsby (kathryn_bigsby@hotmail.com) or Barbara Cairns (barbarajcairns@gmail.com)

Rural Routes Through the Holy – A Day Away – Join Rural Routes Through the Holy this Saturday, October 18th, from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm, for a soul-nourishing day of connection, reflection and inspiration in the beautiful and historic setting of St Anne's church on the edge of Sackville, New Brunswick. Whether you've joined them before or are just curious to dip your toes in, this is a wonderful opportunity to be part of the Rural Routes community – no matter how you live out your spirituality. To register, please go to their website at <https://ruralroutesthroughtheholycanada.ca> and click on the Events tab. Choose “A Day Away” from the drop-down menu. Cost: \$30 which includes lunch and refreshments.

Community News

Thursday Evening Guest Speaker Series – You are invited to a presentation on "**Basic Income Guarantee and Women's Economic Security**" this Thursday, October 16th, at 7 pm at Bay Fortune United Church (lower level), 1014 Rte 310, Bay Fortune, hosted by Kings United Pastoral Charge. Guest Presenters: Michelle Jay and Sarah Hartley of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

Winsloe United Church Ceilidh on Sunday, October 19th, at 2 pm. Host Dino Dunsford welcomes special guests Tip-Er-Back and Darlene Bradley. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

The WoHeLo/QEH Auxiliary will host their Fall Clothing Sale, on Thursday, October 23rd, 12 noon – 8 pm; Friday, October 24th, 10 am - 6 pm; and Saturday, October 25th, 10 am – 2 pm at 144 Dorchester Street, Charlottetown. They offer high quality, gently used clothing and accessories for the whole family. All proceeds go to fund equipment for high-risk newborn babies in the province. Come early for best bargains!

The Trinity Roast Beef Dinner will take place on Saturday, October 25th – with pick up from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm. Tickets are now available in the Church Office (902-892-4114) and will be available at the Richmond Street Door at Trinity on Sunday mornings after worship. Price is \$20 each. Menu includes roast beef, mashed potatoes, turnips, carrots, peas, gravy, carrot cake for dessert.

Come celebrate with us! Saint Andrews United Church joyfully gathers to mark a new ministry relationship with Nathan Zwicker. A covenanting service will be held on Wednesday, October 29th, at 7 pm, 7679 TCH, Vernon Bridge, PE. They would like to extend a heartfelt invitation to join them for this special occasion. Your presence would mean the world as they celebrate faith, hope, and fellowship.

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Community News (Continued)

Environmental Health Fall Volunteer Food Safety Courses – Fall Volunteer Food Safety courses are now open for registration. This course is applicable to volunteers or staff with non-profit organizations. Courses are available at Trinity United Church in Summerside on Tuesday, October 28th, at 6 pm; Our Lady of Assumption Church in Stratford on Tuesday, November 4th, at 6 pm; and St. Paul's Church Hall in Charlottetown on Wednesday, November 19th, at 9:30 am. Interested individuals can register by calling 902-368-4970 or by emailing envhealth@ihis.org.

Bedeque United Church invites you to the Palestine Land Exercise workshop on Saturday, November 1st, from 1pm - 3 pm. Please email to register by October 15th at bedequepc@outlook.com. Would you like to deepen your understanding of the Palestine-Israel conflict? The Palestine Land Exercise (PLE) is an interactive presentation that walks participants through key historical events in the region since the late 19th century. Guided by a four-member volunteer team, this 50-minute immersive experience is followed by an Indigenous-style talking circle, offering space for reflection and discussion on steps toward peace. This workshop is open to all interested in participating!

Spook Organa! - a night of spooky organ music and more - fun for all ages - family friendly in SUMMERSIDE! . When? Sunday, October 26th, at 7 pm. (1 hr program). Where? Trinity United Church, Summerside - 90 Spring St., Summerside. What is it? The members of the PEI Centre of the Royal Canadian College of Organists will be decked in their scariest attire as they continue their Halloween tradition of performing at Spook Organa! The concert of macabre organ classics is punctuated with haunting readings and audience participation! Join the fun - come in costume and receive a loot bag! Admission is by free-will offering. Kids of all ages are invited to come in their Halloween attire and, if possible, bring a donation to the food bank. All monetary donations go to their work in promoting the sounds of the pipe organ!! Doors open at 6:30 pm.

Over . . .

Mission and Service – *Setting More Tables Together*

At Thanksgiving, many of us gather around tables filled with food, and share familiar traditions and prayers of gratitude. In the Bible, food is more than just sustenance: it's manna in the wilderness, a feast shared among thousands, and a table where all are welcome. Again and again, food is a sign of God's care and abundance.

But we know that not everyone has the blessing of a full table or loved ones to gather with. Hunger remains a painful reality for far too many. These are not just numbers or statistics: these are our neighbours, making impossible choices between heat and dinner.

Through Mission and Service partners, your generosity is part of God's response. Together, we are helping farmers in India care for their livestock, families in Zimbabwe grow food in drought conditions, and communities in Northern Canada access nutritious food despite high costs. Across Canada, ecumenical campus ministries and community centres serve weekly dinners where everyone is welcome. These meals don't just ease hunger, they help reduce stress, support learning, and bring people together where everyone has a place at the table.

This Thanksgiving may gratitude fill our hearts. May that gratitude ripple outward, becoming generosity that helps set more tables, share more bread, and create more moments of joy. Because when we share what we have, God's promise of abundance comes to life, not just as a symbol, but as a feast of hope and possibility for all.

Thank you for the difference you make through Mission and Service.

