

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
March 12, 2023 – 10:30 am

Third Sunday in Lent

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 & Announcements

Birthdays & Special Occasions

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Quiet Preparation for Worship

Bible Presentation

*Introit God in the Darkness MV #17 vs 1 & 3

*Call to Worship

God of sea and sky, you keep the earth flourishing.

We come before you weary from travelling through barren lands.

Holy One, you give water that sustains body and spirit.

You hydrate us when we need, how we need.

Miracle Worker, you caused a rock to crack and bring forth water.

Crack our hearts open and let your love flow from them like a spring.

May our time of worship prepare us to be a living spring of love.

We come to worship our God whose name is Love.

*Hymn Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights VU #108 vs 4-6

Prayer of Approach

Holy One, we are thankful for who you are and all that you are. Your presence is desired here. We take joy in knowing that you are as close to us as our next breath. We thirst for you. May we be filled to overflowing with your love.

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

Responsive Reading – Psalm 95

VU #814

*Hymn Come, Children, Join to Sing VU #345 vs 1 & 2

All God's Children

*Hymn Come, Children, Join to Sing VU #345 vs 3

Children may retire to Sunday School

Call to Transformation and New Life

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Enduring Presence, we confess that sometimes we question if you are among us or not. Sometimes we quarrel with you when we are tested. These are the moments when our outlook needs transformation. You are gracious in looking beyond our faults to see our needs and meet them. Thank you for your immeasurable grace.

Sung Assurance of God's Unending Love

Don't Be Afraid

MV #90 x 2

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

God gives freely, so let us give freely to God. Let us bring gifts that sustain the life of the kin-dom. May these resources be more than enough. Amen.

Offertory

*Presentation of Offering

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross VU #149 vs 4

*Offertory Prayer

Fount of Blessing, receive our gifts in the joy that we give them.
Be it time, tithe or talent, it all comes from you. Thank you for
blessing us to be a blessing to you and each other. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Scripture

Exodus 17:1-7
John 4:5-42

Anthem

Sermon

Reflective Music

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Responding to the Word

*Hymn O Jesus, I Have Promised VU #120

*Blessing

*Choral Benediction Go to the World VU #420 vs 2

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.

In-Church Services: Masks are recommended but not required.

FundScrip – The next order date is Sunday, March 19th. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

FündScrip

Rosewood Service will be this Thursday, March 16th at 6:30 pm. The United Church Men will be assisting Greg in leading the service.

Official Board Meeting will meet this Thursday, March 16th at 7:15 pm at the church. All are welcome.

Confirmation Classes – Anyone who is 14 years or older who is interested in confirmation classes, please contact Greg at 902-964-2291 or by email at minister@cquc.ca.

Camp Abby Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, March 27th, at North Bedeque United Church beginning at 6 pm. A representative from each congregation is requested to attend.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Central Queens Emmaus Walkers is on pause. Stay tuned for when they will resume.

Puzzle Exchange – There is a cart in the foyer with lots of jigsaw puzzles. Help yourself to a puzzle and/or bring one for someone to do. Making puzzles is a wonderful winter activity.

Community News

Central Queens Funeral Home Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 25th, at the Funeral Home, 2538 Glasgow Road. Open house from 1 - 2 pm. Meeting to begin at 2 pm. Everyone welcome. Storm Date: Saturday, April 1st, 2 pm. (902-964-2886)

Winsloe United Church Winter Series Ceilidh on Sunday, March 19th, at 2 pm. Host Eddy Quinn welcomes special guests Billy Matthews, Lester MacPherson, and Steven Perry. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

Interested in Working at the Provincial Election? The District #15 Returning Officer is looking for people who may be interested in working at the provincial election. If interested, please email d15roepei@gmail.com or call Beth at 902-330-3209.

Mission & Service – *Real-Time Relief Really Makes a World of Difference: Thivan Hoang’s Work*
First there was the pandemic.

Then Russia invaded Ukraine, causing a global energy crisis and worldwide food shortages. These in turn worsened an already precarious food security situation for many communities.

Mission & Service *continued*

According to UN OCHA, “the largest global food crisis in modern history is unfolding.”

At a time when it feels like there’s a new crisis confronting us each and every day, it’s reassuring to know that our Mission & Service partners provide real-time relief around the world on a daily basis.

Program Coordinator for Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Response at The United Church of Canada, Thivan Hoang, reminds us, “There is no “us” and “them”. We are one community.”

The United Church is an integral part of a multinational network of partners and ecumenical relationships in over 120 countries. That means whenever there’s an emergency, Mission & Service is there to help.

In 2020, a major explosion ripped through Beirut, killing 200 people and injuring 7,000 more.

Thanks to generous gifts to Mission & Service, we were able to support partners to respond quickly, providing critically important tools that helped to free people who were trapped under the rubble. And as the city recovers, Mission & Service partners continue to assist in rebuilding schools, homes, and other infrastructure.

Although Mission & Service has recently focused on COVID-19 relief, there’s another looming catastrophe that requires our immediate attention. “Without a doubt, climate change worries me the most,” Hoang says. “We’re seeing increases of droughts, floods, and severe storms that have destroyed crops and agricultural land.”

The more we support Mission & Service, the better we can respond to climate calamities. “People who contribute the least to greenhouse gases are often the most impacted by climate change,” Hoang explains.

Your gifts have made—and *will continue to make*—huge differences around the world. Wherever an emergency strikes, thanks to you, Mission & Service is there to help.