

Central Queens Pastoral Charge  
United Church of Canada  
December 1, 2024 – 10:30 am

First Sunday of Advent

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.*

The Community Gathers

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

\*Introit

Tune: MV #79

Will you come, gather in?

Come in hope and come in wonder.

There is life in our longing

There's a voice – in the thunder.

Will you come, gather in?

Bible Presentation *(Placed during the Introit)*

Lighting the Candle of Hope

Hymn

Hope is a Star

VU #7 vs 1

Reader

Prayer

**God of hope, on this first Sunday of Advent, fill us with hope for the world and for the church, knowing that Jesus, the Christ child, brings the light of hope. Amen.**

Hymn

A Candle is Burning

VU #6 vs 1

\*Call to Worship

In the midst of night's shadows and anguish,

**We pray earnestly to experience your presence.**

As dawn slips into the horizon and relieves night of its reign,

**We pray earnestly to sense your presence.**

As daylight grows into noontime, filled with the glow of sun's light,

**We pray earnestly to know your presence.**

Let us worship God.

\*Hymn

When Long before Time

VU #248

Prayer of Approach

**God of Love, you come to your people and dwell with us.**

**You come with power to transform all things.**

**You come with promises to make all things new.**

**You come with signs of your deep love for the world.**

**You come, and your truth breaks into our lives shattering lies and half-truths, setting your people free.**

**Your coming is our hope, and so, we offer you our praise and prayers in gratitude and anticipation.**

**Continue to come into our lives, O God, and show us how to hope in the face of all that is discouraging, for we gather in the name of Hope made flesh, Jesus the Christ, your promise and our desire.**

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

**Responsive Reading – Psalm 25**

VU #752

\*Hymn O Come, All Ye Faithful

VU #60 vs 1 & 3

**Time for All Ages**

Hymn O Come, All Ye Faithful

VU #60 vs 4

**Call to Transformation and New Life**

**Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

God of Surprises, forgive us when we grow indifferent to the beauty and wonder of your presence, when we lose hope and settle for the same routines without expecting anything new. Forgive us for staying silent when we should have spoken, and for neglecting the care of your world and one another. Awaken us to your holy and hopeful presence, so we may stay alert and ready for you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Assurance of God’s Unending Love**

**Presentation of Our Gifts**

**Offertory Invitation**

\*Offertory You Nourish Us

VU #545

**\*Presentation of Offering**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

Holy and Righteous God, we offer our gifts with humble hearts, knowing the needs in your world are great and our gifts alone will never fill those needs. We offer our gifts in hope that you will bless them and use them to help fulfil your purpose revealed in Jesus. Amen.

**Listening for the Word**

**Prayer for Understanding**

**Sacred Readings**

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**

**Luke 21:25-36**

**Anthem**

*When Will We See the Little One?*

**Sermon**

**Reflective Music**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

. . . . Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

**Responding to the Word**

\*Hymn

All Earth Is Waiting

VU #5

\*Blessing

\*Choral Benediction

Joy to the World

VU #59 vs 4

**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](mailto:minister@cquc.ca)

**Ministry of Music**

**Kirk Neville**

**Website**

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

**Phone**

902-786-9222

**Email**

[nevillejk@hotmail.com](mailto:nevillejk@hotmail.com)

## Church Office

Office Hours      Wednesday & Thursday  
                            9 am – 12 pm  
Phone                902-964-2221  
Email                [office@cquc.ca](mailto:office@cquc.ca)

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**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.

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**Sympathies** are extended to Gena Yeo and family on the death of her father-in-law.

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### **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](mailto:minister@cquc.ca) for an appointment.

**Scripture Readings** - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, are:

Malachi 3:1-4 *A refiner’s fire and a launderer’s soap*

Luke 1:68-79 (VU #900) *Zechariah sings, “Blessed be the God of Israel”*

Philippians 1:3-11 *I thank God every time I remember you*

Luke 3:1-6 *A voice calling in the desert*

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

**Sounds of Christmas** – Come enjoy the “Sounds of Christmas” concert featuring Kirk Neville, Bonnie LaFrance and Central Queens Musical Friends this afternoon at 3 pm here at Central Queens United Church. Come get an early start enjoying the spirit of Christmas. Admission is \$14.

**Sunday School Leader & Helpers are Needed** – We are still looking for someone to lead Sunday School and others to help out. Please contact the church office if you can help with this very important ministry.

**UCW Christmas Potluck** – UCW’s Christmas Potluck get together this Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dinner will be at 6pm with punch being served before followed with fun and fellowship.

**Mitten Tree** – The Mitten Tree has been set up again this year at the front of the sanctuary. Let’s cover the tree with lots of mittens, scarfs, and hats!! These items will then be distributed to local schools. The tree will be up until Christmas Eve. Help us fill our Mitten Tree to overflowing!!

**FundScrip** – The next order date is Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. This will be the last date to order for 2024. The first order date for 2025 is January 5<sup>th</sup>. You can reach Janet Howes by email [jhowes1969@gmail.com](mailto:jhowes1969@gmail.com) or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

**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.

**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](mailto:veldabertram@gmail.com).

**Christmas Carol Concert** – Central Queens United Church is pleased to host a Christmas Carol Concert on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 7 pm. The concert will be presented by Central Queens Musical Friends with featured performers; Ellen Davis, Jodi Whitlock, Braiden Campbell, Wade Campbell, Chris DeRoche, as well as other visiting musical guests. Admission will be a free-will offering.

Come and enjoy this special evening filled with musical talent and seasonal favourites. There is no storm date. Concert will not be re-scheduled.

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

**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.

**Bulletin Deadline**—Deadline for items to be placed in the bulletin is **Wednesday evening**. Bulletin items can be emailed to [office@cquc.ca](mailto:office@cquc.ca).

**Camp Abegweit** will need to replace the roof on the main lodge in the very near future. They are asking for any individuals and/or organizations help them reach \$500,00 in their Endowment Trust fund so that they can carry out the needed improvements. Donations can be sent by mail to Durdle's Bookkeeping and Taxes, 39 Garden Drive, PO Box 632, Kensington PE C0B 1M0 or by e-transfer to [durdle@bellaliant.com](mailto:durdle@bellaliant.com). Income Tax receipts for donations will be issued.

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### **Community News**

**Winsloe United Church Ceilidh** this afternoon at 2 pm. Hosts Jacinta MacDonald and the house band welcome special guests Four Hearts and a Jack. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

**The "Inn" Crowd** – A musical play for World Vision at New Glasgow Christian Church tonight at 7:30 pm. Free Admission. Donations received to send a stable full of animals to a World Vision Village.

**The Ling's Holiday House Tour** – The Lings are kickstarting that Festive Feeling by hosting their very first Holiday House Tour. Tour the beautifully decorated home and property located at 1549 New Glasgow Rd, Wheatley River. Take in all the magic of the season, as you enjoy some light refreshments in the backyard cookhouse. Admission by donation with all proceeds supporting Central Queens Christmas families. One weekend only – Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, from 4 – 8 pm.

**Hunter River Christmas Tree Lighting and Fireworks** on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm at Dr. Kent. G Ellis Heritage Park. A fun way to start the holiday season off with a bang! Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, enjoy some holiday music, hot beverages and cookies. Please park at Central Queens Elementary School and take a holiday lit walk to the event. Free will donations and non-perishable food items for the Hunter River Helping Hand Program will be accepted. Special thanks to event sponsor Hunter River PharmaChoice.

**Mission and Service** – *Helping Children and Communities Grow*  
Becoming a new parent can be overwhelming, with the constant demands of caring for a newborn, sleepless nights, and the pressure to make the right choices for your child. The exhaustion and balancing daily responsibilities while navigating the unknowns of parenthood often leaves new parents feeling unsure and isolated. It's a time filled with great joy, but also uncertainty, as parents adjust to their new roles and work to create a safe and nurturing environment for their little one.

At Fairview Resource Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the New Parents Support group aims to walk with parents as they navigate the complexities of raising a newborn. Once a week, parents gather to meet with a public health nurse who provides education and answers questions. From expectant parents to those with babies up to 18 months, the program provides resources for those who might not otherwise have access to in-person support or resources.

Parents connect not only with health professionals, but form deep bonds with each other, and some are still in contact many years later. Many of us have heard that "it takes a village to raise a child," and Fairview Resource Centre is truly taking action to give a positive space for children in the community to flourish. Thank you for walking alongside our Mission and Service partners as they help children and communities grow.

Your support of Mission and Service is vital to the continuation of incredible programs like these.