

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
December 29, 2024 – 10:30 am

First Sunday after Christmas

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.

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

A Journey Just Begun

***Opening Music** O Come All Ye Faithful VU #60

Bible Presentation (*Placed during the Introit*)

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***Call to Worship**

What a journey it has been!

We started seeking the Christ but look what we found on the way.

We began with Hope...

Hope that on this journey we would not be alone, supported by the Holy, supported by one another.

We discovered Peace...

A Peace unlike anything we have experienced; a peace flowing from the divine, binding is together.

We were filled with Joy...

Joy that comes from the depths of our souls because God chose to live and walk among us.

And on the road to Christ, we found Love...

God's love for us, our love for one another, love for creation and all that moves within it.

These discoveries were gifts for the Christ-child,

Born anew in us each and every day. He is a light that shines from within to show us the way.

Let us celebrate all that we have found on this Holy journey.

***Hymn** The First Noel VU #91

Hope

Prayer of Hope

Reading Micah 5:2-5a

Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem VU #64

Peace

Prayer of Peace

Reading John 14:25-27

Hymn It Came Upon a Midnight Clear VU #44

Joy

Anthem

Prayer for Joy

Scripture Luke 1:46-55

Sermon

Hymn Away in a Manger VU #69

Love

Pray for Love & Lord's Prayer

Lord of delight and surprises, you come to us each day with opportunity, love, support. You pour your blessings on us, reminding us of your compassionate presence with us. Help us to be people of loving service. Help us to see the ways in which you enter our lives and enable us to serve you by serving your people. As we have come to you this day, bringing our concerns for healing and hope, remind us that you are with us all and that your healing mercies are given. Give us the courage to be faithful stewards of your creation and bring us together with one another in celebration and service. Lift us up, bring us forward, give us peace. For we ask this in Jesus' Name who taught us to pray saying:

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

Responsive Reading – Psalm 100 VU #824

*Hymn Good Christian Friends, Rejoice VU #35

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

*Offertory You Nourish Us VU #545

*Presentation of Offering

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

O God, we don't have gold and frankincense in our pockets but we offer to you what we have to share. Bless the gifts we give this season so that they may bring the love of the Christ Child into the cold and dark places in the world. And bless our lives, too. May we become the gift that others need because we have seen the wonder of your love in Jesus on this holy night.
Amen

A Journey Just Begun

* Hymn Silent Night VU #67

***Commissioning**

Loaded up with gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, we continue our journey of faith with Christ to share these gifts with the world.

Guide us, O God, on all our roads so that whether they are winding or straight, broken or smooth, each and every one leads us right into your waiting arms.

***Benediction**

*Choral Benediction Joy to the World VU #59

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. 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.

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

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, January 5th, are:

Jeremiah 31:7-14 *The people return home singing and dancing*

Psalms 147:12-20 *God's word goes out to the ends of the earth*

Ephesians 1:3-14 *Our inheritance through Jesus Christ*

John 1:1-18 *The Word became flesh and lived among us*

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

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

FundScrip – The first order date for 2025 is next Sunday, January 5th. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

Thank You to all the little elves who helped my Christmas extra special with your gifts. *Trudy*

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.

Official Board Meeting – The next Official Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16th, at 7:15 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Annual Meeting – Our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26th, 2025. There will be sandwiches and sweets after the worship service; then the meeting will follow that. **The deadline for reports is Wednesday, January 8th**. Please email them to office@cquc.ca. Thank you.

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.

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.
Over....

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.

Community News

Winsloe United Church Ceilidh on Sunday, January 5th, at 2 pm. Host Jacinta MacDonald, with the Winsloe United House Band, welcomes special guest Blake Crockett and guest drummer Todd Gallant. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

A New Year's Plan

I tried to think of a clever new phrase—
A slogan to inspire the next 365 days,
A motto to live by this coming New Year,
But the catchy words fell flat to my ear.

And then I heard His still small voice
Saying, "Consider this simple, daily choice:
With each new dawn and close of day
Make new your resolve to trust and obey."

"Don't look back, caught in regret
Or dwell on the sorrow of dreams unmet;
Don't stare forward anchored by fear,
No, live in this moment, for I Am here."

"I am all you need. Everything. I Am.
You are held secure by my strong hand.
Give me this one thing—your all in all;
Into my grace, let yourself fall."

So, at last, I'm ready; I see the way.
It's to daily follow, trust, and obey.
I enter the New Year armed with a plan,
To give Him my everything—all that I am.

By: Mary Fairchild

