

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada

Gathering for Worship

CENTRAL QUEENS UNITED CHURCH

April 26, 2026 – 10:30 am

Fourth Sunday of Easter



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

Lighting the Christ Candle

Quiet Preparation for Worship

Bible Presentation *(Placed during the Introit)*

*Introit

Your Love Is Amazing

MV #26

*Call to Worship

There are many paths we walk in this life... some clear, some uncertain.

Yet we do not walk alone.

Through green pastures and shadowed valleys,

God leads us still.

We gather not because we have all the answers,

but because we belong to one another.

Come, let us worship the One who walks with us.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn** I Feel the Winds of God VU #625

Prayer of Approach

Gentle Shepherd, you have guided us through many seasons, in clarity and in uncertainty. You have led us through joy and through shadow, always with us. Gather us again as your people, held together in your love. Quiet our hearts, steady our steps, and remind us that we are never alone.

With Jesus, we share in the ancient prayer . . . (on the screen)

Responsive Reading – Psalm 23 VU #749

Anthem *It's a Song of Praise to the Maker Ry, Layla, Jade & Olivie*

All God's Children

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

***Presentation of Offering**

***Offertory** Grant Us, God, the Grace VU #540

Offertory Prayer

Faithful God, we offer these gifts as signs of our shared life. Bless them and use them to bring care and hope. Remind us that this work belongs to all of us, and is held in your grace. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Understanding

Sacred Scripture

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Revelations 21:1-15

Anthem "Christ is Risen" Choir

Sermon "The Edge Where We are Held"

Reflective Music

A Litany of Release at the Threshold

We stand at a threshold, not an ending alone, but a quiet crossing.

We feel the weight of what has been, and the pull of what is yet to come.

For the days we have shared... stitched with laughter, woven through with sorrow, held together by grace... I give thanks.

For your presence among us, steady and searching, we give thanks.

If there have been words left unsaid, or wounds carried quietly, I ask your forgiveness.

We offer you forgiveness, as we ask for yours... trusting that grace is larger than our failings.

I release you now... not into absence, but into your own becoming.

We release you... not from love, but into the widening of your life.

I will carry the echo of this place... voices, faces, sacred moments... but I will not cling to what must now grow without me.

We will remember you in the rhythm of what we have known, but we will not hold you back from the life that calls you onward.

A Litany of Release at the Threshold (Continued)

May you trust the ground beneath your feet, even as it shifts.

May you trust the horizon before you, even when it is not yet clear. So let it be.

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

***Hymn** Spirit God, Be Our Breath MV #150

***Extinguishing of the Christ Candle**

***Blessing**

***Choral Benediction**

***Choral Amen**

Postlude

* Please stand as you are able

Ministers	All of us
<u>Clergy</u>	Rev Greg Davis
Office Hours	Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 12 pm
Office Phone	902-964-2291
Email	minister@cquc.ca
<u>Church Office</u>	
Office Hours	Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 12 pm
Phone	902-964-2221
Email	office@cquc.ca
<u>Website</u>	https://www.cquc.ca

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 Sheldon Moore. Lovingly remembered by Lois, Brian, Janet, Fred, Alyssa and Kaylee.

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

Sympathies are extended to Gerard and Trudy Blanchard on the death of their brother-in-law, Nicky Garland.

Life and Work of Our Church

Emergencies – Please contact Lois Lajeunesse at 902-621-0669 or 902-388-1103 for any emergencies.

Supply Minister – Kirk Neville will be leading us in worship next Sunday, May 3rd.

FundScrip – Janet will be placing an order today. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted. The next order date is May 10th.

Scripture Readings - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, May 3rd, are:

Acts 7:55-60 *Stephen is stoned.*

Responsive Reading – Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (VU #758) *My times are in your hands.*

1 Peter 2:2-10 *A chosen race, a royal priesthood, living stones.*

John 14:1-14 *I am the way, the truth, the life.*

These are made available to you for reading 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.

Administrative Assistant – Central Queens United Church is in need of a Administrative Assistant for our church office starting May 1st. This is a 6-hour position. Hours are Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9 am – 12 noon. Interested candidates are asked to contact the church office at office@cquc.ca or at 902-964-2221.

Upcoming Church Events – Mark your calendars for the following events:

June 20 – Spring Roast Beef Supper

July or August – Yard Sale - Date to be announced

September 17, 18 & 19 – Dinner Theater

November 7 – Fall Roast Beef Supper

November 8 – Frozen Pie orders go out

November 22 – Frozen Pie orders due date

December 10 – Frozen Pies pick up date.

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.

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 announcements for the bulletin is **Wednesday evening**. Please email your announcement(s) to office@cquc.ca.

Sunday School Helpers are Needed to assist in our Sunday School ministry. Please contact the church office if you can help with this very important ministry.

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.

Green-Up in Victoria Park (Junior/Senior High Youth) this afternoon, April 26th, from 4 – 6 pm at Victoria Park. Meet in the ballpark parking lot. Join Greg Osowski for an engaging afternoon featuring an edible plant walk, nature tracking scavenger hunt, and a community clean-up of Victoria Park. It will wrap up with a picnic of subs, chips, and brownies!

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.

Puzzle/Book Lending Library – Amid all the wonderful books that have been donated to the library, Rev. Greg has left several books that would be useful in planning a reflection / short worship for a small group gathering. He has also left some books by his favourite theologians. For more casual reading, we have Clive Cussler, Nicholas Sparks and James Patterson plus dozens of other authors. Come and check out what may suit your reading tastes. Also be sure to check out the wide variety of puzzles available. All are in the main hall.

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.

Camp Abby Updates

Fundraising Spaghetti Supper on Saturday, May 23rd, from 5 – 7 pm.

More information to come.

Open Up Day will be held on Saturday, May 9th, starting at 9 am. Many hands make light work.

Annual Open House will be held on Sunday, June 28th, from 2-4 pm.

Please see the insert included in the bulletin for the “Most Needed Items for Summer 2026”. It is also posted on the bulletin board.

Community Events

Winsloe United Church Ceilidh this afternoon, April 26th, at 2 pm. Host Jacinta MacDonald welcomes special guests Crystal Paynter and Blake Crockett. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

St. John’s Anglican Church (Milton) will be having a Memorial Hymn Sing this evening, April 26th at 7 pm. Performers are Jeannie Campbell and Charles Reid, Frank Whitty, Brad and Annika Trivers, Roger Smith, Becky Allain, Noelle Pettipas, Jamie Younker and Darke Carr, some members of Just for Fun band.

Planning for Peace of Mind II is a community event offering space for practical guidance and thoughtful conversation around mental health, well-being, and future planning. Invite your friends and register @: <https://forms.gle/qd8CXzNqoTW85GBj8>

Spring Park United Church is pleased to introduce its new worship group, Praise B, in a free concert! Come and enjoy some of your favourite gospel and pop tunes on May 24th, at 2 pm. All are welcome! For more information, please contact Spring Park United Church at 902-368-1822.

Over

More Community Events

Bluefield High School Carpentry Class has partnered up with North Rustico Home Hardware and Hunter River Lions Club for the 5th Annual Bobcats Build for Hope Fundraiser! Only 300 tickets (\$50 each) are being sold for a multi-purpose (10x12) building being built by Leo's Carpentry Students! Great odds! E-transfer Bluefield High at bluefield@edu.pe.ca with your name, phone number and email for contact information purposes. Draw Date is April 30th. Early bird draws of Cash or Clow’s meat pie. Griffin’s are donating \$200 towards towing if you use their company. All proceeds go to families dealing with a serious medical condition that requires financial support. Twenty-four (24) families have been helped in the last 4 years. With your support more will be helped again this year.

"The QEH Auxiliary Coffee and Royal Pantry Eatery are looking for volunteers for some of their three-hour shifts from 3 - 6 or 6 - 9 pm. If you could spare three hours a week and would be able to help out, please call Naman at (902)894-2057 or email him at nsharma@ihis.org. Thank you!

MY GOD IS NO STRANGER

God is no stranger in a faraway place
He’s as close as the wind that blows ‘cross my face.
It’s true I can’t see the wind as it blows
But I feel it around me and my heart surely knows
That God’s mighty hand can be felt everywhere,
For there’s nothing on earth that is not in God’s care.
The sky and the stars, the waves and the sea,
The dew on the grass, the leaves on a tree
Are constant reminders of God and His nearness
Proclaiming His presence with crystal-like clearness.
So how could I think God was far, far away
When I feel Him beside me every hour of the day?
And I’ve plenty of reasons to know God’s my friend,
And this is one friendship that time cannot end.

By: Helen Steiner Rice