

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada

Gathering for Worship

CENTRAL QUEENS UNITED CHURCH

July 26, 2026 – 10:30 am

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



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 & Announcements

Birthdays & Special Occasions

Lighting of the Christ Candle

As the breath of God's Spirit dances over the face of Creation;
so the **Light of Christ** moves among us, strengthening and
comforting us, guiding our way with Wisdom and Grace.

Quiet Preparation for Worship

***Bible Presentation** (*Placed during the Introit*)

***Introit** Come All You People MV #2 x2

***Call to Worship**

***Hymn** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty VU #220

Prayer of Approach

To you, O God, the Maker, we bring our prayers of Joy and Gratitude. To you, the Maker of colour, sound and texture...to you the Maker of quiet stillness and of the relentless movement in all living things, we give thanks.

To you, the Maker of great whales and mustard seed, of grey clouds and starlight, of thunder and heartbeat, we express our awe.

We bless you, the Maker of all that is unseen, of all that has been, of all that words cannot capture. God, the Maker, we the children of your love, the creatures of your

***Prayer of Approach (Continued)**

kindness, the guardians of your Creation...we bless you.
We bless you for your making, your trusting in us, your
never-ending goodness...And together with Jesus, we pray,

The Lord's Prayer (on screen)

Responsive Reading - Psalm 105:1-11 Part 1 VU #828
A song celebrating God's faithfulness

***Hymn** Give to Us Laughter VU #624

All God's Children

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

***Offertory** What Can I Do? MV #191 x2

*** Presentation of Offering**

***Offertory Prayer**

Grace-giving God, when we give, we discover that we
receive, and when we receive, we have reason to give.
Receive what we bring of ourselves and our living, as we
acknowledge and celebrate the blessings that surround
us. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Sacred Scriptures

Genesis 29:15-28 *The cost of brokenness.*
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 *God of the unexpected.*

Anthem *God in the Darkness* Choir

Sermon *"Embracing All Our Relations"*

Reflective Music

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

***Hymn** Like a Healing Stream MV #144

***Extinguishing of the Christ Candle**

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction** Go Now in Peace VU #964

Postlude *Please stand as you are able

Ministers	All of us
<u>Clergy</u>	
Office Hours	
Office Phone	902-964-2291
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<u>Church Office</u>	Trudy Blanchard
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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 Rev Debbie Aitken for leading us in worship this morning. Also, thanks to Ellen Davis for her beautiful gift of music this morning.
Central Queens United Church

Life and Work of Our Church

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

Supply Minister – Kirk Neville will be leading us in worship next Sunday, August 2nd.

Scripture Readings - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, August 2nd, are:

Genesis 32:22-31 *Jacob wrestles with God.*

Responsive Reading – Psalm 17:1-7, 15 (VU #739) *Guard me as the apple of your eye.*

Romans 9:1-5 *I am speaking the truth in Christ.*

Matthew 14:13-21 *Feeding more than five thousand.*

70th Anniversary Celebration – Harry and Louise Lowther were married on August 11th, 1956, in Toronto! They will be celebrating their 70th anniversary on Saturday, August 8th, from 3 – 5 pm here at Central Queens United Church. Karen, Kathy and Garth have planned an informal get-together with light refreshments. They'd love for you to come and help them celebrate. *Best Wishes Only.*

Surprise Celebration – Come join the family of Donald Stead for a *Surprise* celebration of Donald's 80th birthday on Sunday, August 9th, from 2 – 4 pm here in the church hall. *Best Wishes Only.*

FundScrip – The next order date is August 2nd. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

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

September 17, 18 & 19 – Dinner Theatre

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.

Annual Yard Sale on Saturday, August 15th, from 8 am – 12 noon here at the church featuring a huge variety of articles including housewares, Christmas items, books, clothing, plants, jewelry, hardware, etc. Treasures at very reasonable prices. Arrive early for best selection. . Donations will be accepted until setup day (Thursday, August 13th) and can be dropped off during office hours.

Community Events

Gospel Concert featuring Dino and the Harmonies at Winsloe United Church on Sunday, August 16th, at 7 pm. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 6:30 pm.

Mission and Service – Pursuing Peace

The following was written by Ashley Keeping, one of two United Church young adults selected to attend the 2024 Minority Youth Forum in Miyakojima, Japan, hosted by the Center for Minority Issues and Mission. The Youth Forum is an ecumenical initiative of churches in Japan, supported by The United Church of Canada and Mission and Service. Our generosity through Mission and Service helps programs that inspire peace and learning.

Just like Miyako residents, I live on an island and can relate to their everyday lives on their island, as it was small and humble just like here in Newfoundland. There was one prominent difference. The majority of the residents are seeking peace from their own government, something we don't have to worry about here in Canada. God called upon me to see how the people of Miyako Island are living, and to share with everyone their struggle for peace.

The Minority Youth Forum program brought together young adults from Canada, Japan, and Taiwan. The Youth Forum experience showed me how powerful it is to bring youth together to share our culture, to share our faith, and to share our stories. To be able to have discussions with youth from other cultures about how we can change the world gives me so much hope for our future.

This trip filled my heart with joy, hope, and love for the wonderful people that I can now forever call friends. It also taught me that you need to find, keep, and treasure peace, as well as pursue it for the rest of your time, and that I will do. Thank you, Miyako, for everything you taught me.

Read Ashley's full blog: [Pursuing Peace from the Atlantic to the Pacific.](#)

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