

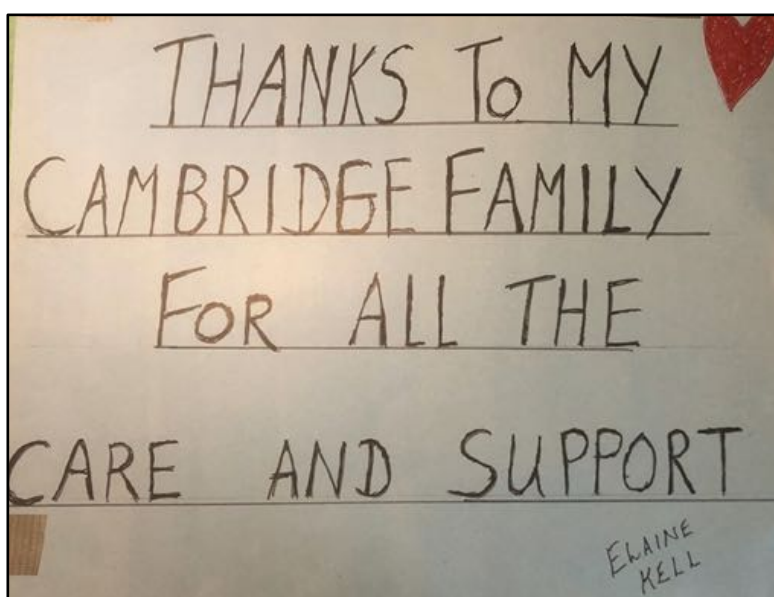


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<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: space-between;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <h1 style="margin: 0;">CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE</h1> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;"><i>- where the stories of the people & the mission of Cambridge Street United Church meet</i></p> </div>  </div>		

Drive-By Greeting Parade - May 24, 2020



About 30 cheerful volunteers in three teams brought safely distant drive-by greetings to more than 50 church members in a single afternoon. Their only regret was not being able to visit even more people from our congregation.

Photo Gallery

Livestreamed Comedy Revue - May 13, 2020



Beauty and the Moustache



Our special guests, Mr. and Mrs. Mannequin. Oh and also Denis Grignon.



"Am I Statler or Waldorf?" "Uh...you're Garth."



"Angelique! I can't get anything out of these two!"

Photo Credits: Walt Radda
and Denis Grignon



A possible explanation for the strange rumbling noises
we've been hearing on our recordings.

Captions: Walt Radda

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7)

The circumstances of the coronavirus have caused us to think about the things we take for granted and to rethink how we go about the practices of our daily lives. The questions being asked are valid. Err on the side of good health practices. Care for those who are isolated. Make phone calls to those unable to come to church. Continue your daily devotional life in God. Be a good neighbour at a distance. Share words of kindness and encouragement.



We want and we need to be wise in what we do, but we do not have to live in fear. I have a long list of concerns related to the coronavirus. I am concerned for the loss of reason that seems to have overtaken so many in their response to what is truly a communal concern. I am concerned for the elderly who are the most at risk. I am concerned for the children and young people returning to classes. I am concerned for those on the streets who have nowhere to turn. I am concerned for the mental and spiritual well-being of those feeling the stress of isolation and loneliness. I am concerned for our health care professionals and front-line workers in stores and restaurants. I am concerned for our economy and for those whose lives will be impacted by the loss of jobs.

Yet rather than live in fear, let us together approach these extremely challenging times in faith. Be careful. Be cautious. Be wise and practical in what you do, but do not live in fear. We need to stay centered and remind each other that we belong to Christ. We should be concerned. The coronavirus is real. But we cannot and we will not be afraid. We are the Church and we are stronger as individuals when we travel together collectively in community.



Queen Street United Church moved into our new site this spring.

In July a wonderful team of our members unpacked the many boxes and settled into our new space.

Our coffee hour group has been meeting on the front lawn with members bringing a chair and coffee. I am glad to see our members gathering each Thursday morning.

Likewise we have been preparing documents related to reopening our church to send to Regional Council. These are unprecedented times and preparations have been made carefully and in consultation with Brenda DeKoker.

Our Sunday morning services in the summertime have been prepared and livestreamed by Sam Henry. Thank you Sam!!

We look forward to a good working relationship with our friends at Cambridge Street.

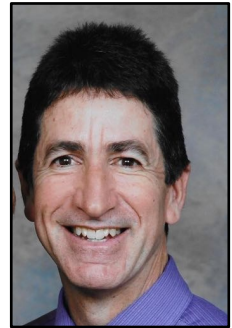
The summer season has proved to be a busy time with pastoral care phone calls and garden visits. In mid-June the provincial government changed the restrictions and allowed outdoor “garden visits” with friends and families. During the summer larger numbers of people are able to meet in outside venues. We celebrated Irene Norris’s life in August. I will miss our visits very much.



I look forward to September when we are free to gather for worship and shared events in our churches. As we gather for the first season together “Under One Roof”, may we develop a new vision and create new ways of being church together in Lindsay and beyond.

With peace and love.

Well, that will likely be a summer to remember. For us it was simply hectic. We started a major renovation on the house in June (still a long way from finished), got a number of gazebos out (and have officially retired from that), put in a walk and steps for Shannon (and then sold our dump trailer so we can't landscape anymore), and are building a garage with Ehren (our son-in-law). On top of that, my mother had a bad fall and was in the hospital for 2 ½ weeks (she's home again and recovering well).



We are so thankful for having the ability to do livestreaming. The fact that we have been doing it for a number of years provided the opportunity to go through old services and look for appropriate music we could use for the services since we had to close the doors in March. I have also been doing a lot of reading from different scientific reports trying to determine how we can safely continue the music programme at Cambridge Street. There is some good information out there, but it is also clear there are still a lot of unknowns. Interestingly, having met Gael Morrison last week, her comment was: who could ever have imagined that singing would now be considered one of the most dangerous activities? Welcome to the new extreme sport!

But music will continue at Cambridge Street in a reduced or modified version:

Handbells: We will have three groups, two quartets and one two-octave group. Each player or family unit will have their own table to allow for physical distancing and there will be no bell sharing.

Cambridge Street Singers: We have enough interest to do two smaller groups (eight singers) that will rehearse in the gym. This will provide space for a 3 to 4 metre separation of singers. We will have a mixed chamber choir and a male chorus. Recordings will be made during rehearsal times to be played for our services.

Voices of Victory will not start until October and we are looking at the possibility of having one or two outdoor rehearsals depending on the weather. We would then attempt becoming a Zoom choir. There are many questions we need to answer yet before we know if this will work with our group.

Worship Band: This will become the "non-moist" WB for the time being. Guitars, percussion and string instruments will continue to play. Instruments that require blowing into will have to sit out for the time being.



Cherub Choir will be on hold.

There are many protocols that will need to be followed that are not included in this report. We just look forward to a safe return of these modified groups so the music can continue. To God be the glory.

On behalf of Cambridge Street United Church Council, I would like to thank everyone who ventured out to our first in-house service on Sunday, September 13th. For the other members who watched our livestreaming service, I hope you enjoyed it as well. Early in the spring, all churches were shut down and the council decided at that time that we would not come back to in-house worship until after the Labour Day weekend. With all our senior members, we wanted to be sure that we could keep them safe and do everything possible to make this happen.



Nearly every week, the Reopening Readiness Task Group worked extremely hard to come up with a plan that we had to send into East Central Ontario Regional Council before we could open our doors. This document was sent on August 6th and we received a reply on August 14, saying, "The Plan Looks Great. Keep Up The Great Work." I was truly fortunate to be able to work on this task group with such a great team. This group included co-chairs Lisa Morasse and Pam Burt, Paul McPherson, Carl Kimmet, Joanne Winter, Jan Warren, and Rev. Craig. I am sure Pam was glad to see this document sent. She had put it together with input from the task group and this was a big undertaking.

When our members entered our church, I'm sure it did look a little different this time. People were wearing masks, were asked to practise social distancing and all were asked for their names and contact information. They then entered the sanctuary and noticed every other row of seats roped off and all the arrows on the floor. Very carefully, our ushers seated all so they would feel comfortable and safe during our time of worship together. We all hope that things will get back to normal soon and I know we will all work together to make this happen.

One change you may notice at our church —Queen St. United Church also started their time of worship, earlier, in the lower hall, the same day that we started back. I know we will all make them feel welcome at our church and we hope they do enjoy their new location with us.

Another change you will notice is that the lower kitchen has had a makeover. The room has been painted, spruced up and ready for any function that needs to be held in that room. A lot of prep work had to take place before the painting could begin. Just ask Walt...

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work through this time. Thanks to Rev. Craig and Rev. Robin for their worship services, Walt for the many jobs that he has taken on this summer, Pam for doing multiple tasks to keep things running smoothly, Erwin for the beautiful music and Angelique for her outstanding voice and storytelling skills. While Gabby has been laid off, she has been providing input and direction for children, youth and young families.

If at anytime anyone needs any further information, or has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Email: brendajdekoker@gmail.com

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This U.C.W. report is certainly different than any I have done before as there are no activities to report on since the COVID-19 shutdown at our church in March. We are not able to plan a Fall Rummage Sale but please, keep your donations as we hope the year 2021 will bring some normalcy and good news. It is with heavy hearts that we are not able to plan for our major fundraiser, the Joys of Christmas event. Obviously, our bank account reflects these problems. However, our treasurer, Dianne Gallagher, has received some welcome donations from U.C.W. members since there have not been Unit meetings for several months. Our treasurer has paid our budgeted donations and commitments with the exception of some Mission and Service. But most importantly we hope to make the last instalment of our Home Commitment to Cambridge Street United.



I'm sure, like me, everyone is missing communicating with U.C.W. and all the Cambridge Street family. However, we are certainly blessed to enjoy the Sunday service by livestreaming.

Wishing everyone good health and peace until we can meet together once again.

Fundraising Report - Non-Event

Mike Puffer and Wanda Percival

*M*embers of the Cambridge Street United family have been overwhelmingly generous in their support of the summer Non-Event Fundraising Initiative! As of the end of August, \$23,940 had been received in response to the invitation to NOT take part in a church fundraising event.

At the start of summer, church family members received an invitation to the Non-Event. Designed to be a simple, cost-effective way for friends of the church to support our financial obligations, the Non-Event recognized that traditional fundraising efforts were curtailed by the COVID crisis. Cancellation of many regular fundraising and special events did not mean that there is not an opportunity to support the Spirit Fundraising Team's fundraising goal for 2020, however.

The 2020 Non-Event has the lowest possible expenses – thus providing an opportunity for significant return on minimal investment. The cost to support the Non-Event is also minimal – there are no tickets to purchase, no items to buy, no commitment of time or energy. It's a Non-Event!

Donations to the Non-Event will support the Spirit Fundraising Team's annual budgetary commitments towards church operating expenses. If you have already made a gift to the Non-Event, we thank you. For those who are still considering how to support this unique initiative, it is never too late to give.

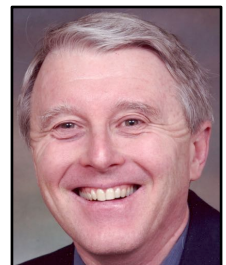
Gifts can be mailed or dropped off at the church. A pickup can also be arranged if you contact Pam Burt in the office. Donations will be maximized in support of the fundraising budget. Or, donations may be designated to a specific area of need – for example, operating expenses, U.C.W., Voices of Victory, etc.

Thanks for your support of the Non-Event.



Thank You

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many contributors, photographers (especially Mert Davis) and reviewers (especially Nancy Payne and my wife Helen) who have made this issue of the *Chronicle* possible. *Dennis Eaton**



Look at Our New Welcome Sign!

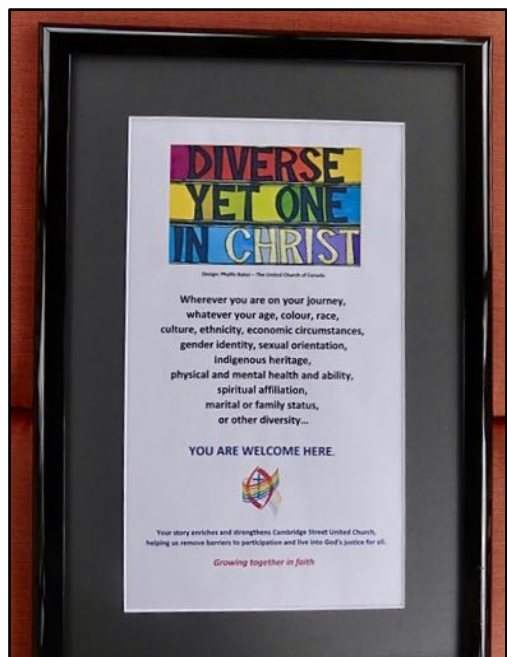
Patricia Jane Teskey

Have a look at our welcome sign recently placed near the Bond Street entrance and near the two entrances from Cambridge Street. You may recognize the multi-coloured image, “Diverse Yet One in Christ” created by Phyllis Baker. It was selected for the United Church of Canada’s 2014 calendar and is the banner on the UCC Facebook page. The second image – the rainbow swirling around the fish and cross – tells everyone entering our church building that we are an Affirming congregation and this is a safe space. Our Affirming Ministry Action Group chose the design and words with care.



“Diverse Yet One in Christ” paraphrases a verse from Paul’s letter to the Galatians: “In Christ there is no Jew or Greek, slave or citizen, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:28). Rev. Craig explained in our June 14, 2020 online worship service that Paul was repudiating the devaluation and inequality of non-Jews, slaves and females under Jewish religious law at that time. Could our new welcome sign help bring Paul’s insight into the present at Cambridge Street United in 2020? Who might we (perhaps unintentionally) be devaluing or excluding?

Before becoming an officially Affirming congregation, we were required by our accrediting body, Affirm United, to commit to full inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender diversities in the life and work of our church. Affirm United also strongly suggested that we identify other groups of people who may be experiencing barriers to full participation in our community because of age, gender, colour, racialized experience, economic circumstances or any other diversity. Naming in our welcome sign a diversity of people who are often marginalized is an important step toward removing those barriers.



What further steps can we take? Invite people to tell their stories: “Your story enriches and strengthens Cambridge Street United Church, helping us remove barriers to participation and live into God’s justice for all.” Hearing the stories of people whose life experiences are different from ours is one of the best (and most enjoyable!) ways to learn who they are, how they might enjoy participating and what barriers they may be experiencing.

“Growing together in faith” is the bottom line. An Affirming congregation embarks on an exciting faith journey, learning together to support equity and full participation in our church and society of all God’s diverse people. As Jesus did, we give particular love and care to those who have been ignored, excluded, condemned, silenced or erased. And we seek justice for all.

Profile of Andrew Rafton

William McGinn

Editor's Note: William is the son of Julie Johnson and Lynval McGinn and the grandson of Joanne and Tom Johnson. He attended Cambridge Street Youth Group before going to college and university.

After the last head of City of Kawartha Lakes' Paramedic services was terminated, Andrew Rafton, who was already in a senior position as Commander of Operations, stepped up to the task.



Andrew earned a diploma in Sports Medicine and a degree in Physical & Health Education. The job market wasn't very promising in his chosen field. At that time, he was living with a roommate who became a paramedic in Toronto. Back in those early days, it was merely a one-year program, post-diploma or degree, so it was a fast-track way to become a paramedic. He was always interested in first aid and CPR. His roommate allowed Andrew to ride with him in Toronto and it appeared to be an interesting profession. He went back to college for one year and became a paramedic.

Andrew has enjoyed his 35 years of paramedic work across various workplaces, including Ottawa, Oshawa, Minden and Haliburton. "It's not your normal everyday 9-5 type of profession. Every day you go to work, you have to be prepared for the unexpected and every day is different and provides different challenges. And in the end, it's the good wholesome feeling that you have when you're able to help somebody in their moment of distress.

"I oversee approximately 100 paramedic staff and administrative staff here in the city," said Andrew, "and I'm responsible for the oversight of day-to-day operations of our paramedics and our first responders to all emergency calls within Kawartha Lakes. As the chief, my main responsibility is oversight as far as budget, personnel issues, and in the last [several] months, I happened to deal with overseeing our local response here to the pandemic."



Andrew and his family moved to Lindsay in 2002, and have been active members of Cambridge Street United Church since 1992. Born in Toronto, Andrew spent most of his life in the country, where it was peaceful and left a lasting impression. He and his wife Colleen were living in Toronto and wanted to relocate to a quieter setting to raise their children, and Lindsay "checked off all the boxes on our wish list."

Andrew's advice concerning COVID-19 is, "Don't let your guard down... The real test is obviously going to be this fall with kids returning to school. We are expecting to see a second wave; we just don't know to the degree." Andrew also has confidence in the citizens of Kawartha Lakes. In the beginning of the pandemic, there was an outpouring of donations of PPE, and because of this generosity and the safety measures which have taken place, "we haven't been hit as hard as other areas in the province."

Andrew plans to retire this November, but his impact on the community shall remain.

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

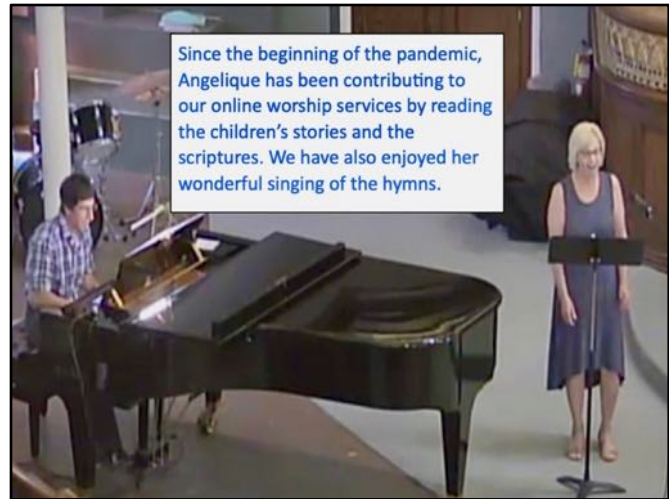
- Condolences to the family and friends of **Earl Thurston** who died on June 29 at the age of 93.
- Condolences to **Virginia and Gregory Wood**, whose grandmother, Mrs. Mary Wood, passed away on Friday May 8 at Ross Memorial Hospital. She was 92.
- Congratulations to 96 year old **Mable Cawker** who was baptized in a private ceremony at the church on July 15.
- Congratulations to **Ken Gillis** who celebrated his 90th birthday on August 8.
- Condolences to family and friends of **Irene Norris** who died on August 15 at the age of 101.
- Congratulations to **Nama Tummon** who celebrated her 97th birthday on September 7.
- Congratulations to **Freda McWilliams** who celebrated her 88th birthday on September 8.
- Congratulations to **Carol Bradford** who celebrated her 89th birthday on September 12.
- Congratulations to **Judy and Ken Gillis** who celebrate their 68th wedding anniversary on September 20.

Photo Gallery**Baptism - July 15, 2020**

Mable Cawker, who is in her 97th year, booked a flight to see her family in Surrey, B.C. this summer. Before her flight, we were blessed with the opportunity for Mable to be baptized at Cambridge Street United Church. Following her baptism, Mable flew to B.C. for a two week isolation period with her grandchildren and great grandchildren and was able to receive the news of the birth of her youngest great grandchild before boarding the flight home. She is happy to be safely home and feels truly blessed after such a unique adventure this summer.

A Small Matter of Sponsorship

Thank you to all the sponsors who have contributed to the Cambridge Chronicle newsletter. We are looking for businesses to join our sponsorship program. Please call Pam at 705-324-3547 for details. For this issue, our generous sponsors have paid for the coloured pages in the print edition.



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