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## Upcoming Events

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| November 26 | Children's Sunday service 10:30 a.m. - Baptism  |
| December 3  | Service 10:30 a.m. - Advent 1 <i>Hope</i> - Communion<br><i>A Christmas Festival</i> concert 3:00 p.m. with the Cambridge Street Singers, Voices of Victory and La Jeunesse Youth Orchestra |
| December 5  | Walter Auld Fellowship Luncheon 12 noon   |
| December 10 | Service 10:30 a.m. - Advent 2 <i>Peace</i>  |
| December 17 | Service 10:30 a.m. - Advent 3 <i>Joy</i> - Service of Nine Lessons and Carols with orchestra  |
| December 24 | Family Service 10:30 a.m. - Advent 4 <i>Love</i><br>Living Christmas Pageant 7:00 p.m.<br>Candlelight Communion Service 10:00 p.m.  |



Joanne Winter presents Rev. Sharon Campbell Rayment and her husband Doug with a piece of cake in celebration of Rev. Sharon's arrival as supply minister at the church.

## Photo Gallery

### Visit to Petroglyphs Provincial Park, September 28, 2023



## Photo Gallery

### Roast Beef Dinner, October 20, 2023



## Photo Gallery

### Beef Pie Making, October 26 - 27, 2023



Photo Credits: Jim Phelps,  
Dennis Eaton and Walt Radda



*H* my friends! I'm excited to be a part of the Ministry Team within Cambridge Street United Church and to get the opportunity to meet each of you.

I have been in full time ministry for 10 years and part time supply for the balance of my ministry. I have a bit of an eclectic background as a registered nurse, fitness club owner, and owner-operator of a horseback riding camp for special-population and general-population kids.

I have also trained as a Facilitator of Equine Experiential Learning which led me to extensive work with the First Nation of Walpole Island and Mental Health Kent. I'm also a labyrinth facilitator and recently worked with Cecil Isaac, from Walpole Island First Nation, in marrying the path of the labyrinth with the wisdom of the Medicine Wheel. I will be sharing more of this with you as I start to settle in. The labyrinth is a wonderful pathway of prayer and connection, uniting us as one upon the path.

I realize I'm coming into a wonderful team ministry and look forward to being part of it. Only an awesome team and active volunteers could bring this church through the pandemic and come out the other side as a vibrant active church. Rev. Craig certainly held the helm and I pray to continue the growth and vibrancy of this ministry.

You will often see my husband in the congregation on Sundays. Doug and I have been married 33 years and we have two daughters. Megan is 31 and Mikayla is 28. You likely will not see them too often due to their distance of travel.

I have great faith in the statement found in Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." I'm confident God has led me to Cambridge Street United to be a part of the plans and vibrancy for a future filled with great hope within your Community of Faith.

My first goal and great honour is to meet each of you! My office door is always open, yet you will likely see me wandering the halls finding folks to chat with or out visiting.

Thank you for the honour to serve you and I look forward to the exciting plans God has for our church.



Rev. Sharon addressed the children during the service on October 22, 2023.

Photo Credit: Dennis Eaton

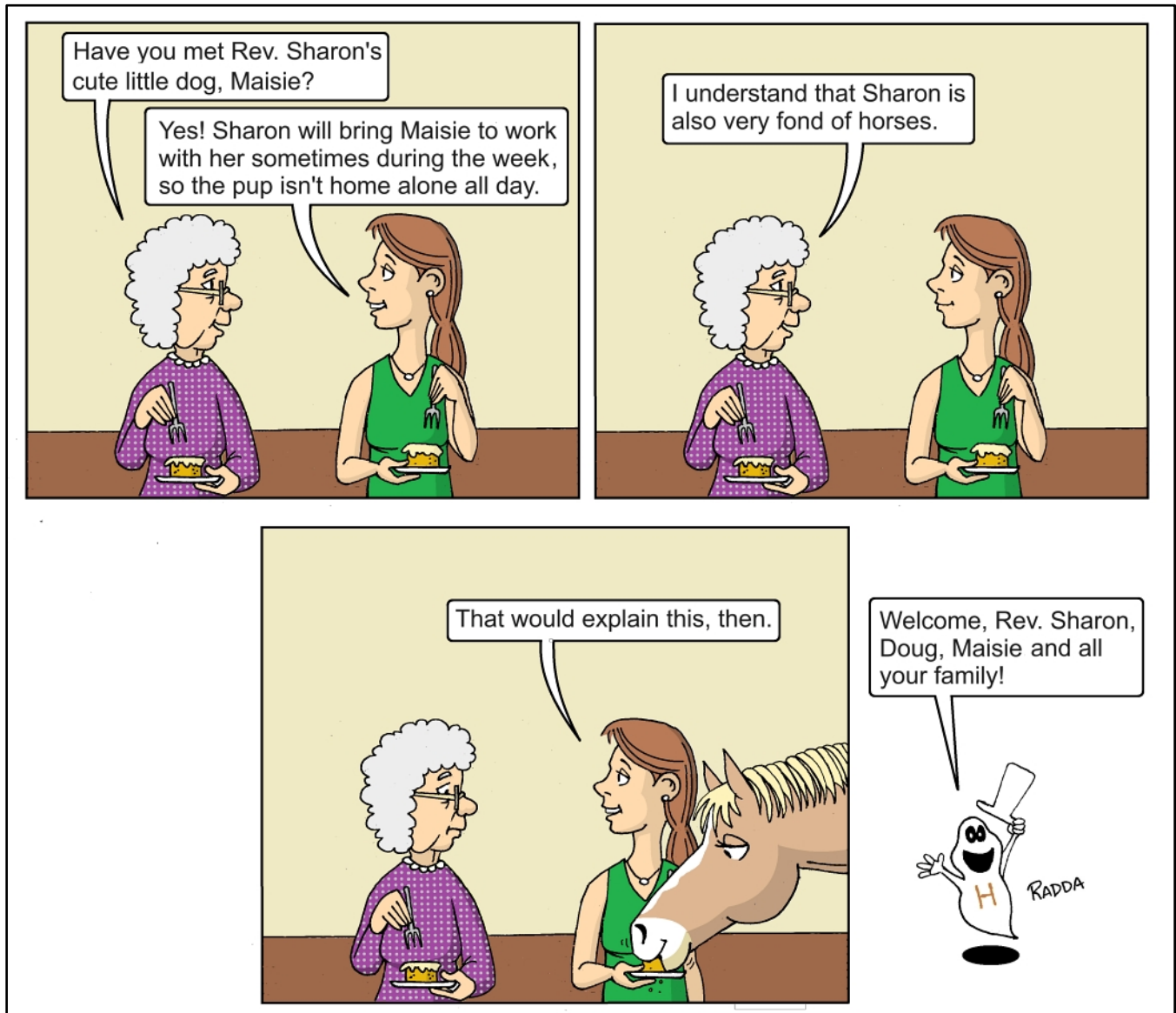
Christmas is fast approaching and December will be a very busy month with lots of wonderful music to get you into the spirit. We are pleased to again be joining La Jeunesse Youth Orchestra with concerts at Port Hope United on Saturday, December 2 at 2:00 p.m. and Cambridge Street United on December 3 at 3:00 p.m. The La Jeunesse Youth Orchestra is celebrating their twenty-fifth year and we are pleased to be a part of this celebration. We first started our collaboration with them back in 2005 and have continued this biennial tradition ever since (except during COVID), making this our ninth time performing together. On Sunday, December 10, we will have our bellchoir ringing in the season and on December 17, we will be presenting the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. This beautiful service “was first drawn up by Archbishop Benson when Bishop of Truro for use in that Cathedral and was later simplified and modified for use in King’s College Chapel, Cambridge in 1918” (quoted from *Carols for Choirs 1*). This service continues to be an annual tradition in churches and cathedrals around the world. We are pleased to have Voices of Victory, Cambridge Street Singers and orchestra taking part in this service. I think many of us will be “camping” at the church on December 24 with the regular morning service, Living Christmas Eve service at 7:00 p.m. and the Candlelight Service at 10:00 p.m.



A special thanks to all who are participating in these events. None of this would be possible without the commitment of so many dedicated and talented musicians. Voices of Victory are working on a piece called “The Christmas Rush” for the December 3 concert. It’s a comical look at the frantic pace we find ourselves in during this season. I hope with all the busyness, you do find quiet time for yourselves and with your families. Have a blessed Christmas.



The Voices of Victory choir sang during the Remembrance Day service on November 5, 2023.



## Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many contributors, photographers (Walt Radda and Mert Davis), technical advisers (Heather Eaton) and reviewers (especially Nancy Payne and Janey Hill) who have made this issue of the *Chronicle* possible.





## Book Sale Story

Mike Puffer

*In* a true example of “paying it forward,” the recent Cambridge Street United book sale supported our bellchoir, as well as a nearby volunteer-led organization that is benefiting from the event’s “leftovers.”

The annual used book sale, held in October in the Queen Street Hall, raised more than \$600 in support of the bellchoir’s activities. A few weeks later, the hundreds of unsold books were boxed up and donated to the Kirby Church Bookstore, located on Highway 35 just south of the Highway 407 junction.

The Kirby Church Bookstore is in the former Kirby United Church. The store is open each Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and offers a huge array of used books from every genre imaginable. Between Saturday sales, a group of dedicated volunteers receive and sort the inventory. Proceeds from the book sale support the Clarington Museums and Archives.



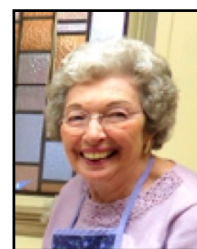
Thanks to everyone who donated or purchased books at the bellchoir’s sale!

Leftover books from the bellchoir sale were taken to the Kirby Church Bookstore by Erwin Stroobach and Mike Puffer. Mike may still be at the bookstore, in a state of amazement and wonder at all of the used books available.

## U.C.W. Report

Elaine Kell

*As* I look back at the year 2023, we have much to be thankful for. Our U.C.W. Unit has met monthly with new members enjoying programs and fellowship. We have had two successful rummage sales bringing welcomed profit and a chance to help with recycling. Once again, the Joys of Christmas event has hopefully helped everyone welcome the Advent Season in the beautifully decorated Church. The U.C.W. are forever grateful for the work of our event convenors, members and the congregation of Cambridge Street United. On the down side, we are saddened by the loss of U.C.W. treasured friends.



As we approach the Advent Season, we wish you “Love to warm your hearts”, “Peace to calm your souls” and “Joy to fill your celebrations”.

On November 14, the Cambridge Street United Church council voted in favour of a remit proposing the creation of an autonomous National Indigenous Organization within the United Church of Canada. Our journey toward voting “yes” included asking questions. Two videos provided fascinating answers<sup>1</sup>:

### **Question 1: Who is the Indigenous Church?**

**Answer:** Today, there are about 66 Indigenous Communities of Faith within the United Church of Canada from Kanesatake and Kahnawake in the east to Haida Gwaii in the west. While about 1000 people attend worship services on an average Sunday, Indigenous ministry includes everyone in the Indigenous communities.

### **Question 2: Why does the Indigenous church want an autonomous organization within the UCC?**

**Answer:** To understand, we take a quick tour through history: The first Indigenous congregation, Grand River Methodist Mission, began in 1825. When the United Church was formed 100 years later, in 1925, the Methodist and Presbyterian (settler) congregations were asked to vote to decide if they wanted to join. The Indigenous congregations were not asked — they were just moved into the UCC. This colonial, paternalistic relationship continued with tragic consequences. The UCC was complicit in forcing Indigenous children into residential schools, which resulted in the deaths of thousands of Indigenous children, the breakdown of families, loss of language and culture and intergenerational trauma that continues to this day. Given this history, perhaps we can understand the Indigenous church asking for a decision-making space of its own — an autonomous National Indigenous Organization — for “being the church” in its own way.

### **Question 3: What is the hope of those in the settler church who support a “yes” vote?**

**Answer:** In 1998, the UCC apologized to former students of United Church “Indian” Residential Schools and to their families and communities, stating: “We seek God’s forgiveness and healing grace as we take steps toward building respectful, compassionate, and loving relationships with First Nations peoples.” This apology ends with a commitment to “the living out of our apology in our actions in the future.” A “yes” vote would be understood as a step toward fulfilling this commitment. See [The Apologies | The United Church of Canada](#)

### **Question 4: Does the Indigenous Church want to separate from the United Church of Canada (UCC)?**

**Answer:** No. The remit clearly states that it is about the creation of an autonomous entity within the UCC. The Indigenous church wants a respectful relationship with the settler church as symbolized by the Two-Row Wampum Belt: two boats going down the same River of Life in peace, friendship and respect forever. See [A short introduction to the Two Row Wampum](#)

<sup>1</sup>Sources:

- 1) [Right Relations. The East Central Ontario Regional Council \(ECORC\) of the United Church of Canada is living into right relationships. - YouTube](#)
- 2) [The Online Remit information Session, Oct 4/23 youtube.com/watch?v=KMJ-m1P9dew](#)

### **Two-Row Wampum Belt**



<https://peopleshistoryarchive.org/content/two-row-wampum-belt>

*In* May of this year, your Outreach Team launched a campaign on behalf of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, to raise seed money to share in the planting of soybeans with the Epsom-Utica pastoral charge in the Uxbridge area. We invited Rob Ashton, the project co-ordinator, whose family has been involved with the Canadian Foodgrains growing projects for three generations, to speak with the congregation about partnering with Cambridge Street United Church. Along with our agricultural advisory committee consisting of Jack Kyle, Paul Robertson, Steve Bickle and Carm Hamilton and the thoughtful donations from our congregation, sufficient funds were raised to assist with the planting of seven acres of soybeans. We used this opportunity to educate adults and children alike on the farming of soybeans and encouraged everyone to follow the process through our storyboard of pictures and updates from the field. We became aware of weather patterns and market prices for the crop in the hope of seeing a good harvest.



Now five months later, we are pleased to report that a good harvest was sold at market and on Sunday, November 12, Rob presented the congregation with a cheque for \$5,145, which represents seven acres of harvested soybeans. This money will be forwarded to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank from Cambridge Street United. This amount has the potential to be matched by the Federal Government four to one for designated programs of supporting and teaching third world countries how to improve their farming practices and expanding their production to sustain themselves and others — a possible \$20,000 towards “ending world hunger”!

THANK YOU to everyone who supported this campaign. We are making a difference! This year celebrates the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the need for their work around the world continues. It can only happen with your support and generosity.



This photo was taken during the harvesting of our soybean crop.



*W*inter winds and scattered snow have arrived to settle over the land. The summer is now just a memory and autumn leaves are crunching underfoot.

The best summer memories I have of Queen Street United were of Rev. Wayne holding services by the riverside. Often small boats on the river would halt in their journey to listen to our service, and they were always made welcome. After the service, refreshments and fellowship were to be found under the “lemonade tree”. Summer never seemed long enough before fall leaves would start to show and plans for tours would be underway. One notable tour was a daylong trip to Port Dover. We went to see an afternoon comedic play followed by a trip to a nearby hotel, famous for its famous fish fry suppers. It was a wonderful day of fun, food and fellowship. Not all tours were as lengthy; some of the best centred around the Kawartha Lakes and its fall foliage, with meals shared at the church afterwards.



Autumn tours are also part of Cambridge United’s memories. While we did not have a “colour” tour this fall, we did have a great day out at the Petroglyphs Provincial Park on September 28. Under the leadership of Jim Phelps of the Faith Development Team, a small band of us met at church and then car-pooled our way northeast. Once there, we enjoyed visiting the Learning Place Visitor Centre and discovered the traditions of the Anishinaabe (Ojibway) people through a small but vital museum and store that highlighted text, photos and items such as tools and clothing. We watched an informative video and then were guided to the largest known concentration of Indigenous rock carvings (petroglyphs) in Canada. Imagine carvings, some 6,000 years old, of turtles, snakes, birds, humans, canoes, hunting and fertility symbols! This sacred site is known as the “Teaching Rocks” and a guide with a handy “laser” pointer walked us through the history and symbolism contained under a huge protective canopy. The tour gave us an enhanced spiritual sense of the lives, history and culture of our Indigenous people. It was a journey worth making.

Three days later, on October 1, the Affirming, Diversity and Justice team, under the leadership of Patricia Teskey and at the request of the church council, hosted a Lunch and Learn workshop for our congregation in the gym after the worship service. About 50 people attended. While enjoying a delicious lunch with an inclusive variety of gluten-free (special thanks to Artemis Chartier), sugar-free and vegan choices, we learned about the remit that the General Council of the United Church is asking the Cambridge Street United church council to vote on. This remit proposes the creation of an autonomous National Indigenous Organization within the United Church of Canada. We watched a video of a workshop on the remit led by Rev. Rodney Smith-Merkley, the Minister for Indigenous Justice and Respectful Relationships with the East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC). Rev. Paul Reed, our guest worship leader that day, stayed for lunch to answer our questions in person and lead a discussion. This workshop proved to be very enlightening. These two memorable activities helped us, as settler people, appreciate the Indigenous Peoples and the Indigenous Church within the United Church of Canada, and gave us a fascinating start to our fall activities.

- **Milestone Birthday Wishes to:** **Iris Whiteside** who turned 85 on September 4, **Cynthia Alton** who turned 80 on October 26, **Paul Cockburn** who turned 90 on November 25, **Ialean Foster** who turns 90 on December 8 and **Betty Jordan** who turns 90 on December 27.
- Congratulations to **Mikayla Lawrence and Jordan Andrus** who were married on Saturday, September 23.
- Condolences to **Lorna and Ray Smith** on the death of Lorna's mother in September.
- Condolences to **Wayne and Cathy Alldred** on the death of Wayne's mother Myrtle Alldred on November 3.
- Congratulations to **Brian Nicholson and Darren Liepold** who celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on November 8.

## Announcement





Congratulations to Ina and Charlie Currie who celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on October 24, 2023.



The church hosted a barbecue following the service on September 17, 2023.



Brian Gowan played the bagpipes during the Remembrance Day service on November 5, 2023.



The service on September 24, 2023, observed the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, with support from the Affirming, Diversity and Justice Team.

Photo Credits: Dennis Eaton and Mert Davis



## 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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