



First Presbyterian Church

Fathers' Day, Sunday, June 16th, 2024

The 4th Sunday after Pentecost

Minister: **The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr**

Director of Music: **Kathleen Howard**

Readers: **Kade LeBrun and Francis LeBrun**

Welcome to worship! Thank you for joining us from wherever you are! In-person services of worship continue, with any public health protocols required in place. Face coverings and physical distancing, although not required, are still encouraged. Hand sanitizer is available as needed. Online options continue for those who are more comfortable worshipping from home.

Information for In-Person Worship

- * **ACCESSIBLE WASHROOM FACILITIES** for all people are available **on the Sanctuary level**. These washrooms are found through the doors behind the Choir Loft - right turn - straight ahead. Please feel free to use these washrooms whenever necessary!
- * **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY** – The Children are invited to join Denise Kent, our C.E. Coordinator, and her assistants in the Lower Hall for a time of fun and faith-centered activities following the Children's Message this morning.
- * **HEARING IN THE SANCTUARY** - First Church has available a system of FM RECEIVERS and HEADSETS. They are for use by those who find it difficult to hear in the Sanctuary. If you would like to use one this morning, visit our Sound Technician at the rear of the Sanctuary.
- * **COFFEE HOUR** – You are invited to join us for coffee and fellowship in the Church Hall this morning following worship. To access the Hall, go through the doors behind the choir loft (or use the lift) and down the stairs. Just follow your nose to delicious treats, stimulating conversation and great fellowship. To volunteer to host, bake, or bring food to any coffee hour call Tamara Chapman.

ASSISTING YOU THIS MORNING

Greeters – Mark Leslie and Verna Brown Elevator – Lloyd Osmond
Sound and Video Team – Quentin Robinson and Michel LaBonte

- * Our website and social media accounts:

<https://pccweb.ca/firstchurch-brockville/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Firstkirk/>

www.instagram.com/firstpresbrockville/

<https://twitter.com/firstkirk>

- * YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@firstpresbyterianchurchbro482/streams>

- * **Cogeco/Channel 10/700 Services** every Sunday 7 am. and 5:30 pm.

- * **For pastoral care or assistance**, please call the Church Office at 613-345-5014 or 613-340-3310. You may also call or text Reverend Marianne at 613-449-5042.

NEED A RIDE?

Call Executive Taxi!

A free service provided by
your M.O.V.E. Committee



the people of God gather....

The Organ Prelude

Largo in D Major

Henry Heron

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship God

Minister: It is good to give God thanks, to sing praises to the Most High!

People: We will sing for joy to God who has made us glad.

Minister: Let us declare God's steadfast love in the morning,

People: and God's faithfulness at night.

Minister: So come to worship God with thankful and joyful hearts!

People: Let us praise God's holy name together.

Opening Hymn # 328

This is my Father's world

Words & Music: Public Domain

1. This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world.
I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas.
God's hands the wonders wrought.

2. This is my Maker's world. The birds their carols raise.
The morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.
This is my Maker's world.
God shines in all that's fair. In the rustling grass, God's footsteps pass.
God speaks to me everywhere.

3. This is my Saviour's world. Oh, let me not forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Saviour's world.
The battle is not done.
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.

Prayer As We Approach God

Minister: Living God, from you comes vitality, love, and joy.

People: Your peace is our companion; your love is our strength; your Son is our hope.

Minister: Your Spirit nurtures tiny seeds of purpose and potential, hidden deep in the soil of life, to surprise us with new life.

People: While the earth blooms around us, we bring you our prayers and praise. We trust that your Spirit will renew in us the gifts we need to serve you in faithfulness in the example of Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Chancel Choir

Following Jesus Medley

arr. Stan Pethel

Prayer of Confession

Minister: Living, loving God, as we watch our gardens and our children grow, we confess we often resist the change growth can bring.

People: We form opinions about many things – and cling to them. We fear new insights and new directions. We are reluctant to accept your promise that everything old has passed away. Forgive us when we think we already know enough. Grant us faith like the mustard seed - able to grow with your blessing to become a mighty sign of your lively kingdom among us. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Minister: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ – and Christ died for us. Christ rose for us. Christ reigns in power for us. Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace!

Children's Message:

Little Seeds – Big Deeds!

Hi, everyone! I have a question for you today. Do any of you sometimes feel frustrated or disappointed because you cannot do things that older or bigger people do? Maybe there are places you would like to go or things you would like to do, but you cannot because someone thinks you are too small?

One day Jesus was talking with a bunch of people who were feeling frustrated like that. They wanted to do things God wanted them to do, but there were other people around who were bigger and would not let them do those things. That is frustrating, right? The people were telling Jesus how frustrated they were, and do you know what Jesus did? *He talked about these seeds! Do you know what they are?* These are mustard seeds. They grow into a plant that we can eat, and that we can make mustard out of. But why did Jesus talk about these seeds? Do you think it was because he just liked mustard?

Jesus said the mustard seed was special because it was so small. He said it was one of the smallest seeds, but when you plant it, it grows into a plant that is taller than most of the other

plants in the garden, and even taller than most people. Some mustard seeds can even grow into a big plant. From this little-bitty seed.

Jesus told the people that even though they sometimes got frustrated because they felt so small, God was going to help them do things that no one else could do. God did not care whether they were big or small. We are like that, too! Even though you may not be adults, God can still use you to do some pretty big things. For example, maybe you see someone at school who is having a really bad day, and you just say “Hi!” and give them a smile. That might make a HUGE difference to them. Or maybe you come home after a busy day and give someone in your family a big hug. That is HUGE, too. Even little things like saying “please” or “thank you” or patting someone on the back, are things anyone can do no matter how big or how small they are, so, the next time we might feel kind of small, instead of getting frustrated and disappointed, I hope we can remember the little mustard seed. We might feel like the smallest seed in the garden but look out! We can do some really big things!

Let’s have our prayer and ask God to help us stick together and do the things God wants us to do to take care of each other.

Children’s Prayer:

Minister: Dear God, thank you for reminding us of your love for us all, whether big or small. Help us be like the mustard seed – small but doing big things with your help. Amen.

Hymn # 441:

Can a little child like me

Words & Music: Public Domain

1. Can a little child like me thank the Father fittingly?

Yes, oh yes! Be good and true, patient, kind, in all we do.

Love the Lord and do our part. Learn to say with all our heart:

Saviour, we thank you. Spirit, we thank you.

Great God our maker, we thank you!

2. For our playing, for our rest, for the earth in beauty dressed,

for the moon and sun so bright, for the day and for the night,

for your patient, loving care, for your bounty everywhere:

Saviour, we thank you. Spirit, we thank you.

Great God our maker, we thank you!

3. For the laughter, for the tears, for the love that meets us here,

for the lessons of our youth, honour, gratitude, and truth,

for the great gift of you son, for your work in us begun:

Saviour, we thank you. Spirit, we thank you.

Great God our maker, we thank you!

to hear God's word....

Prayer for Insight and Understanding

Kade: God of patience and persistence, speak through the Scriptures, and inspire our growth and gratitude, so that we may be changed by what we hear. Open our minds and hearts to a fresh encounter with Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

Psalm 92: 1-4 and 12-15 (read responsively)

Kade: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

People: to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

Kade: For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work.

People: At the works of your hands, I sing for joy.

Kade: The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

People: They are planted in the house of the Lord. They flourish in the courts of our God.

Kade: In old age they still produce fruit. They are always green and full of sap, showing that the Lord is upright.

People: The Lord is my rock, in whom there is no unrighteousness.

The Scripture Lesson

Mark 4: 26 - 34

New International Version (NIV)

Francis: The Parable of the Growing Seed

Jesus also said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain - first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Again, Jesus said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade."

With many similar parables, Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

Francis: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God within us, and for the word of God around us. **People: Thanks be to God.**

The Chancel Choir

You Raise Me Up

Rolf Lovland & Brendan Graham, arr. Tom Fettke

The Meditation:

Seeds of Imagination

We are at the fourth Sunday after Pentecost and in the middle of the growing season for much of North America. It is a time of waiting for crops to mature, after the seeds were planted earlier this spring. Where I grew up in Nebraska, in the middle of the US Corn Belt, the typical farmer would expect the corn to be "knee high by the Fourth of July." While in Eastern Ontario it might be a bit later, there is no doubt that growing season is well along. I stopped into some of the local garden centers where plants are selling at discounted prices. Some of these plants are the ones that have been passed over by others – small, scraggly and perhaps a bit wilted. I even picked up some tomato plants that said, “free to a good home”! Here is one of them. Later today, I am going to take this one to our cottage vegetable garden and will cultivate and nurture all the plants, so they produce fruit in their time. It takes time and patience and sometimes, looking at these poor, bedraggled, end of season plants, some imagination as well!

We know that Jesus often uses parables to describe the kingdom of God. In telling these short, provocative stories, Jesus recognizes the importance of human imagination. In using parables, Jesus is seeking a shift in our imaginations, a shift in the way we see ourselves, see God, and see others. Such a shift may seem small and insignificant, but here he compares it to a mustard seed, a tiny particle that can have miraculous powers. In using parables, Jesus seeks to stimulate his audience’s imagination so that they might perceive the power and presence of God in a new and creative way.

This process is seen in the two parables that Jesus uses in today’s text. The first parable emphasizes that the kingdom of God is dependent upon God’s grace and upon human initiative. Why is Jesus telling us this? Is it to emphasize that all is not dependent upon us? Is he urging us to have the patience of a farmer? Is this a parable about God’s grace, or about the growing impatience of the first generation of followers? We should also note the vitality and the dynamic power of the seed. There is also an emphasis on the mystery and surprise of God. We live in an age when the mystery and surprise of all of life, including God’s power, are being squeezed out of our consciousness. This parable asks us not to close our imaginations too quickly, because there is a dynamic, vital power that is mysteriously beyond our comprehension and our grasp.

Jesus uses the second parable to speak to this. The mustard seed was a common metaphor in Palestine for “the smallest thing.” The plant could grow as tall as a house, and birds seemed

to love its little seeds. Like the mustard seed, the followers of Jesus are a bunch of ragged folks, full of doubts, full of fears, unable to comprehend much of what Jesus says or does. The reign of God bursting into history rests on these kinds of folk? Jesus emphasizes, “Yes, this is the scruffy seed from which the reign of God will be proclaimed.” Once again, he lifts the grace and power of God taking the smallest seed and transforming it into the great plant that provides sustenance for all.

Now, we were not there, but we know from the stories of the Gospels and the Book of Acts that the Church started out just as small – as I mentioned above, Jesus’ followers included a ragtag bunch of fishermen, tax collectors, and other ordinary people, both men and women. I am sure that no one could have imagined it, but from those tiny seeds has grown the worldwide kingdom of God called Christianity!

Both parables have encouraged me in my faith. I have never told you this story before, but my first husband, Kevin, grew up in a family that was quite cynical about religion and faith. After we married, I continued to go regularly to church, but I never forced him to go with me. After we started going to the Presbyterian church near our house in Toronto, he started to go with me a bit more often. Then, one day, I saw him talking to the church’s Family and Youth Minister, and he told me afterwards that she had asked him to teach one of the Church school classes, and that he said “yes”! Not only did he teach Church School for a couple of years before he passed away, but he also loved teaching and the children loved him! Somehow, the small seeds, like these mustard seeds, had been planted and grew in secret, far beyond what I could have imagined.

Our text today emphasizes the hiddenness and smallness of the quiet beginnings of the kingdom. The sower does not make the kingdom happen by force of will; indeed, the sower of the parable does not even water or weed! The sower just sows and then sleeps and rises night and day, and the earth produces of itself. From the tiny seed, the mustard plant puts forth its large branches. The kingdom grows organically. And inevitably, as day follows night, God’s hidden, mysterious work in the world and in us will be fruitful.

For us in the church, much of our labours in this season are focused on nurturing and cultivating seeds of God’s reign that have been planted in our world. Again, this work requires patience and imagination, like my cultivation of this scraggly tomato plant. So perhaps these two parables come at just the right time in this season after Pentecost, where the liturgical colour is green, and where we, and the Church, are growing in our faith, often secretly and without notice.

[Blessing the Word in our Lives](#)

Minister: Loving, parenting God, grant us the courage to say “yes” to your call, heard in your Word read and proclaimed, and the strength to claim our place with Christ in the new creation you are cultivating. Amen.

1. Come, let us sing to the Lord our song.
We have stood silently too long.
Surely the Lord deserves our praise,
so joyfully thank God for our days.
2. O thirsty soul, come drink at the well.
God's living waters will never fail.
Surely the Lord will help you to stand,
strengthened and comforted by God's hand.
3. You dwell among us and cause us to pray,
and walk with each other following your way.
Our precious brothers and sisters will grow in the fulfilling love they know.
4. Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing
to the desire of all living things.
Come, all you creatures, high and low, let your praises endlessly flow.

Responding in love with thanksgiving

Prayers of the People, the Lord's Prayer and Choral Amen

Minister: Gracious God, you hold all things in your hands. We may plant seeds, but it is your mysterious power that brings forth growth. We play our small parts, but you awaken new life. Thank you for our place in your purposes. Guide our plans for ministry in the days ahead. Plant seeds of your kingdom in our midst, O God.

People: **May we bear the fruits of new life.**

Minister: We pray for the work of our church and our government in pursuing Truth and Reconciliation with Canada's indigenous peoples. We pray for indigenous communities which lack clean water to drink and health care close at hand, and for all those mourning the loss of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls. Guide decision makers to act with timely courage and compassion for justice to be done. Awaken understanding in those who feel no empathy for the struggles of others. Plant seeds of your kingdom in our midst, O God.

People: **May we bear the fruits of new life.**

Minister: On this day that celebrates fathers and those who have been like fathers in our lives, we pray for families in war-torn communities where celebration is an impossible dream, thinking especially of families in Gaza, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Syria, and Sudan. We pray for fathers and families who face financial hardship and worry for the well-being of their

children. And we pray for any who feel empty or lonely on this day, who fear the future or mourn the past. As summer holidays draw closer, guide families to find meaningful opportunities to enjoy each other and the world on their doorsteps. Plant seeds of your kingdom in our midst, O God.

People: May we bear the fruits of new life.

Minister: Gracious God, you hold all things in your hand, including us. Be with all those who carry on despite loss or grief, and with those who face pain or uncertainty about their future. Keep us open to your Spirit's leading. In all that we do with and for each other, help us embody the love of our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying,

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The People's Offering for the Work of Christ's Church

Minister: The parables of the Apostle Mark remind us that God's kingdom grows from small beginnings with surprising results. So, give to God as you are able, and trust that God will honour your generosity for the purposes of God's Spirit at work among us and beyond us.

You can give.....

* by pre-authorized remittance (P.A.R.) (<https://presbyterian.ca/plannedgiving/pre-authorized-remittance-par-program/>). Contact the Church Office.

* by **mail** to First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 885, 10 Church Street, Brockville, Ont., K6V 5W1

* by **e-transfer** to firstkirk@truespeed.ca

Offering Praise Song

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication

Minister: God of small seeds and secret growth, bless the gifts we bring to you. Use them as seeds of new life in our community and in your world. Grow results we cannot even imagine – within us, among us, because of us and beyond us, for the sake of Christ, our Living God. Amen.

Sending Hymn # 685

How firm a foundation

Words & Music: Public domain

1. How firm a foundation ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!
What more can God say than to you hath been said,
to you that for refuge to Jesus have fled.

2. “Fear not, I am with thee. Oh, be not dismayed!
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid.
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”

3. “When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow,
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.”

4. “When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply.
The flames shall not hurt thee.
I only design thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.”

5. “The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not – I will not – desert to his foes.
That soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,
I’ll never – no, never – no, never forsake!”

The Benediction and Choral Amen

Minister: Walk gently on the earth God has entrusted to us all and cherish God’s amazing creation. Deep peace of the running wave to you. Deep peace of the flowing air to you. Deep peace of the quiet earth to you. Deep peace of the shining stars to you. Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you. Amen.

The Organ Postlude

Allegro in D Major

Henry Heron



Am Salama reflects on her life in Sudan before the outbreak of war. Following a political crisis in 2023, she and her family, once prosperous farmers and restaurant owners, were forced to flee their bustling town in East Darfur due to escalating tensions. The war separated Am Salama from her husband, who stayed behind to care for his blind mother. Facing numerous challenges during their journey to South Sudan, including being robbed of the little money and clothing she had managed to bring with her and frequent illness, Am Salama and her children found refuge at the Wedwil Refugee Camp. The safety and food assistance they received at the camp, supported by PWS&D, played a critical role in their survival.

A Mission Moment from The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Happy Anniversary to: (June 16th to June 22nd)

ANDREW & LAURA VILLENEUVE – June 16th
CLIFF & DOROTHY LEAN (25yrs.) – June 19th
ANDREW & KIM DUNCAN – June 21st

Happy Birthday to: (June 16th to June 22nd)

BARBARA BARBOUR – June 19th
SCARLETT DUNCAN – June 20th

First Presbyterian Church - JUNE CALENDAR

LOAVES & FISHES SUNDAY - 1st Sunday of each month

CRAFT & CHAT – Tuesday afternoons - Parlour – 1 to 4 pm.

FPC HAND BELL CHOIR – Rehearsals finished for the summer months.

FPC FLUTE ENSEMBLE – Rehearsals finished for the summer months.

FPC CHANCEL CHOIR – Thurs. Afternoons - 3 pm. – Choir Rm; Sun.

Mornings - 9:30 am. - Choir Rm

SUNDAY SUPPER MINISTRY – 4th Sunday of each month – Church Hall

ONGOING PROJECTS: Grocery Bags, Egg Cartons, Breakfast Bags
(Food Bank), **Pop Cans for Maintenance, Breakfast Bags (Food Bank),**
Sunday Supper Ministry, NIV Pew Bibles - Sanctuary

COMMUNITY GROUPS using the Church Building:

EMBERS/GUIDES – Finished for the summer months.

BGH GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP – Monday Afternoons in Parlour.

BGH DAY HOSPICE – Wednesday Mornings & Afternoons in Parlour & Hall.

- Jun 16 **Sunday Morning Worship on Fathers' Day** – 11 am. - Coffee Hour
Jun 18 Meeting of Seaway/Glengarry Presbytery
Jun 20 **The WORSHIP COMMITTEE** meets in the Vestry at 11:30 am.
Jun 22 **Men's Breakfast** – 8:15 am. in the Church Hall.
Jun 23 * **World Refugee Sunday** – 11 am. - Blessing of the Graduates - No Coffee Hour
* Sunday Supper Ministry
* Reverend Marianne leads worship at the Wedgewood in the afternoon.
Jun 29 Saturday Lunch Ministry at the Brockville Public Library.
Jun 30 **Sunday Morning Worship with Communion** – 11 am. - Coffee Hour

Available this morning on
the tables at the rear of
the Sanctuary

Copies of
"Our Daily Bread"
June, July and August

**Copies of the
"PRESBYTERIAN
CONNECTION"
Summer Edition**

You are welcome to take
either or both of them
with you – no charge!

SERVICES of WORSHIP in the Summer Months

Sundays, July 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

**Minister: The Reverend John Wilderspin
First Baptist Church**

at First Baptist Church - 10 am.

Sundays, August 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

**Minister: The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr
First Presbyterian Church**

at First Presbyterian Church - 11 am.

Sunday, September 1st

**Minister: The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr
First Presbyterian Church**

at First Presbyterian Church - 11 am.

Sunday, September 8th

at St. Lawrence Park - 11 am.

During the month of July, the congregations of First Baptist Church and First Presbyterian Church will come together to worship at First Baptist Church at 10 am. For this month, First Baptist will produce the order of service each Sunday morning, as well as provide music and musical guests, readers and greeters. This provides the many volunteers from First Church, who provide this support each Sunday morning during the year, with the opportunity to have a break and worship with their families. In August, First Church will provide the volunteers and produce the bulletin, outreach mailings (or deliveries), and the prayer calendar. During July, you are encouraged to pray for the health and safety of friends and family and for the care and well-being of all those in need in our community and around the world. A note about givings: During July, envelopes from First Church folks should be placed on the offering plates each Sunday morning. The envelopes will be

collected at the end of each service and brought back to First Church for banking. The loose collection at services in July will remain with First Baptist Church. The loose collection in August will remain with First Presbyterian Church. Etransfer will be available as usual and envelopes can be left at the church office during the week.



The annual **Community Celebration of Life** organized by the Brockville General Palliative Care Program will be held Thursday, June 20th starting at 7 p.m. at Hardy Park. The event is open for anyone to attend, regardless of whether someone close was in the palliative care service. It is an opportunity for people who have lost someone over the past year to come and reflect. The event is scheduled to last roughly 40 minutes, with local musicians slated to play, as well as spoken-word performances or poems to be read. The celebration of life will be non-denominational. People are asked to bring their own lawn chairs, and in the event of inclement weather, the gathering will take place at First Presbyterian Church.

The COOPERATIVE CARE CENTER An **UPDATED NEED LIST**



1805 Oxford Ave
Brockville, ON
613-499-1988
infobrockvilleccc@gmail.com



The Cooperative Care Centre is dedicated to providing a safe, nonjudgmental environment for individuals who are unhoused. We are open daily from 4pm-8am where guests have access to a shower, receive a warm meal, snacks, drinks, and clothing/hygiene supplies while staying with us.

URGENT Clothing Items Needed:

- mens running shoes/sandals (9-12), spring jackets (M-2XL)
- mens jeans (sizes 30-34) & jogging pants (M-2XL)
- ladies leggings (S -3XL), running shoes & sandals (7-9)
- mens & ladies t-shirts, hoodies & pj pants (S-3XL)

Guest Items Needed:

- deodorant, hair brushes/combs
- razors, nail clippers, cue tips
- rain ponchos, backpacks, ball caps
- bug spray, blankets

Unfortunately, our storage capacity has been reduced and we are unable to accept/store any other items at this time. If you have any questions, please contact us at the Centre.

We have staff on-site 24 hrs/day, therefore you can call and arrange a drop off time for donations and we will ensure a staff is there to greet you! We want to thank the community for all of your support.

GRACEFIELD CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

<https://gracefieldcamp.ca/files/2023/02/2023-Winter.pdf>

Summer registration for camp is now open! First Presbyterian Church will sponsor campers again this summer for a wonderful experience in God's great outdoors. **Would you like to sponsor a child to camp?** Would you like to donate to the sponsorship fund? Please contact the Church Office for more information and ways to donate.

THE BROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND

SUMMER CONCERT

at 2 pm. – Admission is free.
Come & enjoy the music!

Sunday June 23, 2024
Brockville Arts Centre

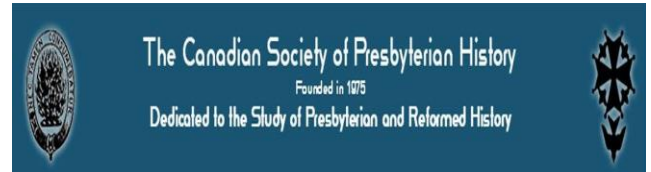
PWS&D CHURCH SCHOOL CHALLENGE

The Church School children will be selling refrigerator magnets (hand-made by the children) for a donation, at Coffee Hour, on Sundays June 16th and 23rd. The money raised will be used to support the following projects, of the children's choosing, from the PWS&D's Gifts of Change Catalogue:

- * Education for Every Child
- * From Sickness to Strength
- * Sowing the Seeds of Food Security
 - * Adapting to Climate Emergency

By giving a **Gift of Change**, they will be helping to make a difference in the lives of people in Canada and around the world.

Please support the children to raise \$200.00 for their PWS&D project.



PCC 150 - The Presbyterian Church in Canada at 150 in 2025 Appeal for Reminiscences & Reflections Past, Present & Future

The Committee on History has a commemorative project planned as part of the celebrations in honour of the 150th anniversary of the formation of the denomination in 2025. One of the 150th anniversary projects is PCC 150, a book that will gather the reminiscences and reflections of the past, present and future of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The Committee on History has engaged Ian McKechnie of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lindsay, Ontario to serve as project co-ordinator and editor. Ian has issued an appeal for the members of the PCC to submit their recollections and reflections. The stories do not need to be long (400 words maximum). Even just a couple of sentences would suffice if they best capture your memory or your future goal as a member of the PCC.

It will not be a comprehensive history of the PCC,

but a compilation of stories told by Presbyterians from coast to coast, and inclusive of all ages, cultural backgrounds, orientations and experiences.

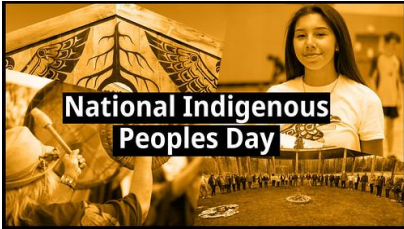
Do you have a favourite memory of singing in a choir, attending a youth group, going to a potluck supper, or attending the General Assembly—or *anyone or anything else* that shaped your involvement in church? What are some of the things your congregation is doing today to share the good news of Jesus in your community? And what are your hopes and dreams for the PCC as it approaches 150 years? The Committee on History desires as wide a representation across the denomination as possible of memories from the past, comments on the present and plans for the future.

**Submissions are being accepted until
November 30th, 2024.**

Here's the 5-minute challenge:

- * Do not ignore or delay this appeal.
- * Take 5 minutes to write your reminiscence or reflection. (Let editor Ian McKechnie concern himself with spelling and grammar.)
- * Email it to Ian McKechnie, project coordinator and editor: pcc150book@gmail.com





**AN INVITATION from WALL STREET UNITED CHURCH
in RECOGNITION of NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY**

During the month of June, Wall Street United Church has invited a remarkable couple - **Ted and Maggie Stewart** - to come in recognition of National Indigenous Peoples Day. **Ted Stewart** taught indigenous students at the Kashechewan School in James Bay for 15 years. After moving south with his wife, Maggie, Ted worked for over 20 years as an archaeological technician in Eastern Ontario. Ted is also a wildlife sculptor and artist who carves wildfowl sculptures featuring the birds of Ontario, and he paints the carvings with acrylic paint. Ted has won over 135 awards for his work across Canada and the United States, including a first-place award at the 2014 World Championships in Ocean City, Maryland. Ted also paints on canvas, and his paintings depict the environment and the "healing embrace of nature". **Maggie Stewart** is of indigenous heritage, and she grew up on the shores of James Bay, where she was taught bead working skills by her elders. Like Ted, Maggie is an archaeological technician and she has worked on numerous archaeological digs throughout Eastern Ontario. Maggie is also an art instructor and Indigenous artist, whose work includes a wide variety of traditional Indigenous and modern beaded jewelry including earrings, necklaces and bracelets. She also creates deer hide moccasins and handbags, which are often beaded. Maggie and Ted both work out of their art studio in Newboro, Ontario.

It is our great pleasure to invite everyone to **an evening with Ted and Maggie Stewart at Wall Street United Church**. Ted will share a PowerPoint Presentation about "The Early History of Eastern Ontario" during which time he will tell some untold stories that predate the Loyalists. He will also be displaying some of the artefacts that he has unearthed during his archaeological digs. Maggie will be displaying some of her beautifully beaded artistic creations. This special event will take place at the church on **Thursday, June 20th starting at 7 p.m. in the gym downstairs**. This event is being offered and sponsored by our Indigenous Sub-Committee of the Outreach and Social Action Committee. Admission is free. Refreshments and snacks will be provided, and everyone is welcome.

The Capital Project Volunteer Opportunities

1. Tenant Lease Application & Procedures Task Force

Deadline to complete by February 28th, 2025

2. Fund-raising Task Force

September 2024 - February 2025

3. Project Coordination with Quentin Robinson

Starts a.s.a.p. and continues to March 2026

If you are interested, please contact Quentin at
613-301-4159 or thesession@truespeed.ca