



Kitchissippi UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, May 31, 2020

Hello all,

There is so much pain and suffering in the world right now. The pandemic is proving very difficult for all humans of God's good creation. The restrictions set in motion are important, as they are protecting the most vulnerable, and they have consequences for all of us: both are harming our mental and emotional health. There are so many places we may find refuge, and for us, that place has been the church. We would come together to pray, to lament, to sing, to be with one another, to hug and hold hands, to take communion for our mutual encouragement in faith. Everything has moved online and it leaves so many of us cold. I totally understand this. Our Zoom gatherings are not perfect, and they are what we have right now. Our Sunday morning worship isn't perfect, and it is what we have right now. Our phone visits aren't perfect, our email communications aren't perfect, and they are what we have right now.

From the United States and Toronto, we read about racist acts against black people, Asian people and Indigenous people. There is so much fear, anger and violence and our hearts and minds can become heavy. With love, we reach out to friends who are in these groups. With Jesus' words in our hearts, to love one another as I have loved you, we wonder how we could have strayed so far from his intentions.

From Psalm 34: The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit. My prayer for all those of you who are struggling and in pain, that you may find comfort, justice, healing and peace during this very difficult time.

If you are lamenting, mourning, please watch this video, it is very lovely. It was part of the Festival of Homiletics that I was a part of last week and it will help you walk through your pain, using the very wonderfully biblical concept of Lament: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPA5Qksv1ks&t=7s>

At the same time, Creation's creatures are finding new ways to delight us.

There was young moose that went for a swim in a pool here in Ottawa this morning: <https://ottawa.ctvnews.ca/ottawa-man-shocked-to-find-moose-in-swimming-pool-1.4960090?cache=%3Fot%3DAjaxLayout?autoplay=true>

Nora Saunders wrote this piece which includes a beautiful picture of a new foal cuddled up beside her neighbours home. <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/notefromnora-200529?e=c05718c28b>

Please know that your church community surrounds (virtually) and supports you, that we are all mourning our losses together and that, though apart, we are still one in Christ.

Reach out to these folks if you are struggling, or to me or loved ones.

<https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/24-7-crisis-line/>

Crisis line: 613-722-6914

Distress: 613-238-3311

<https://familyservicesottawa.org/adults/mental-health-programs/>

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My hope and prayer for each one of you is that you will take time to lament, to feel your feelings and to find healing and wholeness once again.

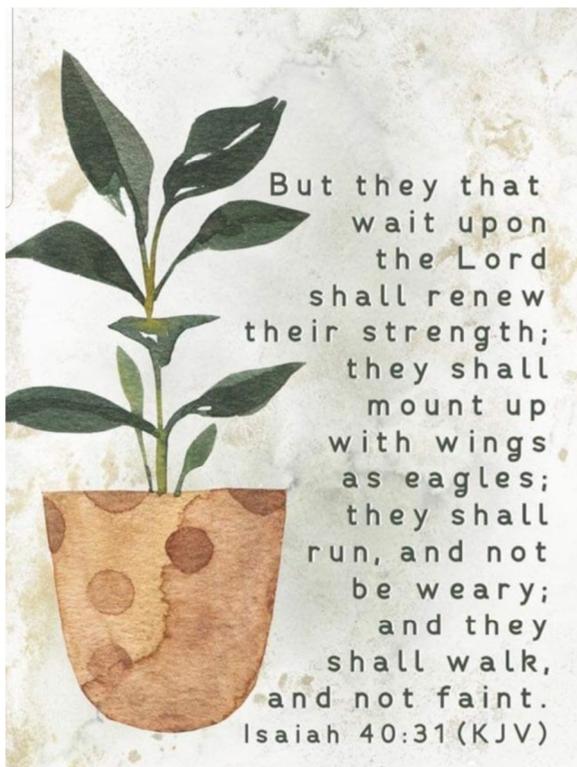
Blessings one and all,
Jenni

Ottawa Children's' Choir – Special On-line Spring Concert

TODAY May 31st at 3pm, www.ottawachildrenschoir.ca online

Kitchissippi has enjoyed a Spring visit by the Ottawa Childrens Choir annually for many years, thanks to the generosity of the Ramsay family. Last year they could not come because the conductor, Allison Prowse, was injured, and this year...it's Covid.

Welcome to one of the only full choral concerts of Covid times. The Ottawa Children's Choir has curated a special Spring Concert for choir fans across the country to enjoy. Each chorister recorded their own part and over the month of May. Our tech guys, Orange Crow, have spliced all the voices together. The concert is full with 12 choral selections, guest speakers, conductor cameos, bloopers, an O Canada sing-a-long and a special surprise at the end. We are keeping our spirits up during these challenging times and hope we can help spread some joy to you with our singing.



**THE CHURCH NEVER CLOSED.
IT ADAPTED!
RATHER THAN BEING A PART OF THE
PROBLEM, IT BECAME PART OF THE SOLUTION.
THE CHURCH FOUND NEW WAYS TO WORSHIP
AND NEW WAYS TO SERVE A BROKEN WORLD.**

MAY 29, 2020

We are here for you! Please reach out!

Kitchissippi United Church

630 Island Park Drive
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**CHURCH OFFICE
CLOSED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE DUE
TO THE COVID-19
PANDEMIC**

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KitchissippiUC**

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Faith Formation Leader - **On Maternity leave**

Jerzy Spsychalski (Monday, Wed Friday mornings)

Custodian