



Kitchissippi UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, June 14th, 2020
Second after Pentecost

Friday Greetings, all!

Further to Ian's email, United Church Ministers across the country have been having anxiety around Ford's announcement. We are feeling anxiety and fear, as we know that folks would like to return to "normal", to return to church: the place that gives them comfort and peace. My colleagues and I lament the dangers of reopening, especially for congregations who have members 65 and older. Thankfully, motions have been made and delays have meant we all have time to figure out what it might look like and to wrap our heads around it a little bit. First and foremost, safety and good health are my hopes for each one of us.

Our friends at Rideau Park, who have been generously allowing me to participate in their livestream, have made this statement: RPUC Council Executive has made the decision that, at this time and through the summer months until Labour Day, the church building will remain closed, with the exception of livestreaming for worship on Sunday morning and occasional staff work.

If you have any questions about any of this, please do be in touch with me (jleslie@kitchissippiuc.com) or Ian, Chair of Council, or with Denise, Chair of Worship. There is also this Facebook event to discuss opening of churches, featuring the former Moderator Gary Patterson: <https://www.facebook.com/events/581474682748801/> (And I'm not sure if I've sent this before or not, so apologies if I have: https://broadview.org/united-church-singing-covid-19/?fbclid=IwARo8iebPGybVw6lnsJc9ZZLY4qWMWPwT_-GOSTwrwPjXD62ibhFoFyEe-oY)

As we continue to live into the pandemic of covid-19 and the pandemic of racism (as the Rev. Traci Blackmon has said) the United Church is working on both fronts. There is an Anti-Racism Working Group and a White Privilege Working Group (of which I am a part). The Rev. Dr. Paul Walfall is the Chair of the former and he recently wrote this blog that is so worth your time: <https://www.united-church.ca/blogs/round-table/dear-white-people>

Black Clergy Leaders Network has produced a video that we are going to share on Sunday morning - please watch for that during the livestream: it is a very powerful, first person account by my black clergy colleagues.

Thank you to those who have been in touch about anti-racism and speaking to their children about it! Here is a link to some beautiful videos to help you speak to your children and grandchildren: https://www.weareteachers.com/anti-racism-videos/?utm_content=1591732747&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwAR3k-HDGRKRX_2zviSg6zUUOyvoiLKDhnTjofVssrmYs34UDocVlpaXxpQk

Finally, there is a special worship service this Sunday evening at 7pm - please plan to worship twice in one day! Here is the link to connect:

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https://www.united-church.ca/events/united-against-racism-online-worship-service?fbclid=IwAR2A5gl_OahYoSb5NuUwBglFPjQ4faKDTd3-iplveeV7SiA2w1ZQ6w2p-Q

"Getting to know you...getting to know all about you..." Project

I put this project on hold for a little bit, but would like to go back to sharing your biographies so that we can continue to get to know each other. I will be sharing our stories in the future, so if people who haven't answered the questions would do so, that would be amazing! (Thank you so much to those who have! It's been a delight getting to know you better!)

I joined this webinar this week and these musicians/church leaders were very clear: singing is dangerous. It is a United Church of Christ (USA) production. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MpqMYA8rgfY&list=PL6VgfHt6zEy7yDgdSE-fLLYEVaNBm2943&index=2&t=57s>

These are very difficult times for so many. Please know that the love of God surrounds you at all times, that the lessons and light of Jesus are written on your hearts and the Holy Spirit continues to move and create in you and in the world. You are beloved of God, you are the hands and feet of Jesus - let us all work towards being anti-racist personally and collectively as a community of faith and National Church. Let us our eyes be opened to the systemic hate some can feel and see and others deny or wish away. May we bring about God's peaceable, loving reign in our words and in our actions. And may the people of God say Amen.

Blessings for a safe and healthy weekend,
Jenni

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Rev Jenni
she/her
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Kitchissippi United Church

Plant donations needed!

The north garden (QWY wallside) is being refurbished this year. We are looking for perennial plant donations. When your Spring plants are finished blooming we would appreciate it if you would dig out a small piece and give it to us. In particular we are interested in Columbine, bleeding heart, iris, lungwort, snow in summer, bugleweed, sea pinks, primula, pansies, violets, forget me nots, phlox both tall and creeping. When you have plants ready for sharing call or email Denise Bonomo to arrange pickup or drop off. Denisebonomo@outlook.com or 613-728-6164

We are here for you! Please reach out!

Kitchissippi United Church

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Rev. Jenni Leslie
Minister

STAFF

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JUNE 12, 2020

**CHURCH OFFICE
CLOSED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE DUE
TO THE COVID-19
PANDEMIC**

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Faith Formation Leader - **On Maternity leave**

Jerzy Sychalski (Monday, Wed Friday mornings)

Custodian

