

Good Monday to you!

A lot changed last week. The Ontario government decided to begin/continue opening up businesses, parks and places of worship. Kitchissippi is staying closed for the summer, continuing online worship with Rideau Park and protecting ourselves and each other by our absence from one from the other. Thank you to all those who have written to say they think this is a good, prudent, protective decision. This is our goal: to preserve each other's health and wellbeing, an offshoot, frankly, of 'love your neighbour as yourself'. While we all miss our community, especially the one that gathers on a Sunday morning, we will continue to stay the course, possibly until we can all attend church together, without fear. (IF we were to return to the sanctuary in September it might look like masks on everyone, one way traffic in and out of the building, no singing, a lot of cleaning, no passing the offering, and a significantly reduced capacity in the sanctuary.)

I've been thinking a lot about the Kitchissippi UCW, who, at the end of every meeting, gathers in a circle, puts right arm over left and joins hands with the woman on each side and repeats this prayer: May the Lord watch between me and thee, **while we are absent, one from the other**. Amen. (And someone often adds 'thanks for the afternoon/evening, friends'.)

While we are absent, one from the other, may we continue to live out our faith, from our homes: doing justice, loving mercy and walking humbly with God. May we continue to protect one another and our communities.

On Sunday in Church, we shared a video made by The Black Clergy Network of the United Church of Canada. Here it is again in case you missed it: <https://www.facebook.com/ModeratorRichardBott/videos/727581141330210/UzpfSTUyODU5NjU2NzpWSzozODkzMTY3OTEwNzU3NDcx/>

Last evening, The Black Clergy Network of the United Church of Canada led a Worship Service called **United Against Racism**. It was a beautiful, powerful service and it was recorded to YouTube as well and you may watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wFiumMG3PE8>

STUMP THE PREACHER THIS SUMMER!

Do you want to try to stump the preacher? Is there a scripture passage you have always wondered about? A Bible story that you would like explained? Over the summer you can "stump the preacher". Submit a passage and Jenni, Elizabeth or Steve will make it the subject of a Sunday sermon in the summer months. We look forward to your submissions! (jleslie@kitchissippiuc.com)

Tuesday:

Broadview Reading Club 1 - 3pm each week

We discuss a new article each week, usually from the current issue. Often I'm able to post the article, so that you can read it online if you don't have a subscription. This week, we will be reading "Mark I. Wallace on God in Nature", page 50 in the June edition or here: <https://broadview.org/mark-i-wallace/> We decided to also share a poem or reading that made us think of God in nature (optional). Please join us!

Zoom info here:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/433401767>

Wednesdays:

Kirsten, Gavan I have been teaming up to provide a reflective piece of music, images and prayer.

Thursday:

Coffee Time! (BYO) We gather from 10-11:30 am for conversation and sharing.

Join Zoom Meeting:<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8925057455>

Sundays

10am - rideaupark.ca

I will be livestreaming with my friends at Rideau Park into the future. This Sunday, June 14th is Indigenous Day of Prayer and you will see several faces of folks who are friends/part of Kitchissippi.

Blessings, everyone, I hope you are having a wonderful day,
Jenni