



Kitchissippi UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, May 17th 2020

Sunday morning worship will continue online via the Livestreaming that Rideau Park does every Sunday. My friends and colleagues, Steve Clifton and Elizabeth Bryce are the ministers there and have agreed to let me join them to lead worship.

You can find that here: rideaupark.ca - click on Watch Live at 10am on Sunday!

Message from Rev. Jenni

Good Friday to you all! And, happy long weekend! (Those who are retired enjoy this all the time - well deserved! Those who are working from home and looking after their children - I hope you are able to take some time to rest and relax and have fun!)

I have so much to share today! The internets have been busy! ('Internets' is a Pluto-ism.)

First, if I haven't already shared, or if you haven't been introduced to Pluto, the internet Schnauzer sensation, I present to you, Pluto: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qdq7glcYVMo> Pluto's mom was a standup comedian before she retired and so Pluto is extra funny! Pluto makes videos often. I wonder if Pluto reminds the Chapmans of their beloved Ginger (who 'crossed the rainbow bridge' a couple of years ago)?

Having trouble reading a book? Here's why you may be having trouble, even if it's something you really enjoyed before the pandemic:

https://www.vox.com/culture/2020/5/11/21250518/oliver-j-robinson-interview-pandemic-anxiety-reading?fbclid=IwAR10cqABYeFhgHyyIA_H8zO8Wx76GEa1mV5vZQb2UIYvdyjo8EzaKMwQKpU

The United Church of Canada has been working on a 'return to church' plan since the pandemic began. We are not yet at Phase 1 at this point. Many of my colleagues are discussing this and, personally, I would much rather err on the side of extreme caution when it comes to 'returning to the building'. I choose those words very carefully, as I believe we are still 'having church', enjoying community in the ways that are possible right now (and more safe ways will emerge over time), and connecting with those who are most vulnerable. The document below is a work in progress, as Doctors and scientists share their knowledge with us:

https://www.united-church.ca/community-faith/being-community/reopening-churches-during-covid-19?fbclid=IwARoYBjT_YX25RYXoBoCD1r5z689Ho5ygMPiajjDMxN3U3UVVLI5PM-Kh2vM

Some churches in Southern Ontario are becoming anxious about getting back to 'normal' and have written a letter with a signed petition to Doug Ford to allow them to return to worship. Only one United Church has signed this petition, in Unionville. Ottawa colleagues are denouncing the initiative, and I have to agree: it seems like it is a bid to get the offering plates going again, and surely, I understand this fear and anxiety. Risking people's lives, however, is against what Jesus teaches. Indeed, wasn't Jesus the revolutionary who advocated for the sick, the marginalized, the despised, the outcast? Read on, good folks, read on.

MAY 15, 2020

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/hundreds-ontario-churches-ask-reopen-1.5566955?fbclid=IwAR3Qyj7ys2JZxge8gh6VMX1g-Kih8MTDloVwgHuXzRLzTR7QWy1aM2FW240>

Our 'Getting to know you...' project is going very well! Thank you to all who have participated! It has been lovely getting to know you all a bit better! Today's biography is from Anne Marie - thank you! (You will find the questions in this Friday file, and please do not feel like you have to answer all the questions - just the ones you feel comfortable with!)

I will be on study leave starting later today and will be taking a break from writing these daily hellos. However, several very fine folks have stepped up to write and reach out to you Tuesday through Friday this coming week. I will be back in the pulpit at Rideau Park on Sunday May 24th. I hope you all have a wonderful week!

I'll leave you with a Prayer that you can use at any time, adjusting it for your purposes:

Prayer from Rev. Jenni

Loving God, thank you for this day and for...(the buds on the trees, the green of the grass, the misplaced April showers)

As we live through these extraordinary times, O God, remind me of how extraordinary you are, how amazing is your love for me and for all of Creation. Remind me that you are in the grieving, sitting with those who have lost loved ones. You are with me in my frustration, in my fear, in my worry. You sit with me, you and I allow the feelings to arise, be felt and we allow them to pass. Your love surrounds me at all times, in all places, and it is too broad, wide and deep for me to comprehend.

I pray for my family and friends and together, may they work with and live in you - for health and safety and peace of mind.

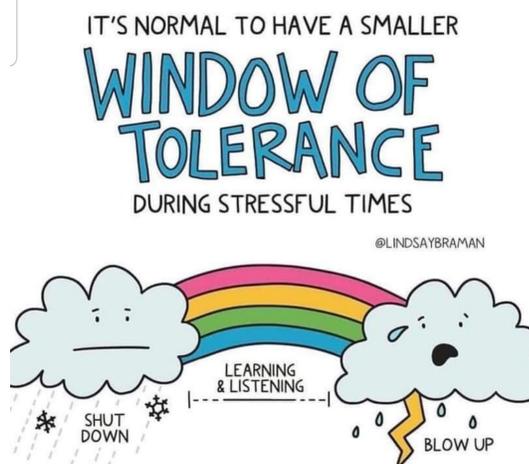
I pray for...

God, help me to be close to you: close to you through prayer, close to you through meditation, close to you through listening to experts, doctors and scientists, close to you when I am in the great outdoors: your artistry and beauty revealed for all.

Hold me close, help me to hold you close and may our relationship strengthen and grow.

I pray these prayers in the name of Jesus, who taught me and his other disciples when praying together to say: (In the words of Dr. Bonnie Henry) **May we all: Be safe. Be calm. Be kind.**

With Thanks and Blessings,
Jenni



Therapist: And what do we do when we feel this way?

Me: Allow the feeling, examine it, and make a conscious choice about how to react to it that comes from my strength, experience, intentions, and the knowledge that my emotions do not control me, that I cannot control my emotions, but I can control what I do with them.

Therapist: Damn gurl who you been seeing on the side?



Contact Us

Kitchissippi United Church
630 Island Park Drive
Ottawa, ON K1Y 0B7

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

www.kitchissippiuc.com

facebook

**Find us on Facebook:
KitchissippiUC**

Rev. Jenni Leslie
Minister

Charlie Scromeda
Faith Formation Leader

Kirsten Gracequist
Office Administrator

Gavan Quinn
Music Director

Diana Brushey
Faith Formation Leader - **On Maternity leave**

Jerzy Spsychalski (Monday, Wed Friday mornings)
Custodian

STAFF

jleslie@kitchissippiuc.com

faithformationleader@kitchissippiuc.com

kgracequist@kitchissippiuc.com

gavanquinn@gmail.com