

AUGUST 6, 2021

	<p><i>Kitchissippi</i> UNITED CHURCH</p> <p>Sunday, August 8th, 2021 11<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost</p>
<p><b>SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP LIVESTREAM - 10AM</b> <a href="http://www.rideaupark.ca">www.rideaupark.ca</a></p>	

**A MESSAGE FROM REV. DIANNE CARDIN**



Dear friends,

I hope you have enjoyed a lovely long weekend. The month of August is off to a great start weather wise. Are you aware of the Indigenous Walk in Ottawa? It is only on Sunday mornings at 10:30 which is unfortunate but the woman who leads these walks works full time and has a young family so this is her only time available. The walk and talk through downtown Ottawa from an indigenous perspective explores social, political and cultural issues through architecture, landscape, monuments and art. We intended to take the

walk on August 1 but as Lewis was recovering from surgery we thought a two hour walk was a bit ambitious. We will go in September. Lewis is doing well!

I have included information from the United Church web site to keep us current on our Church's activity as it relates to Residential Schools.

The United Church of Canada has issued a statement of commitment to help identify the unmarked burial sites of children which may be found on the grounds of the 15 residential schools it operated. This is a response to Calls to Action 73-76 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, and is an act of reparation.

The Moderator and General Secretary have written to the Chiefs of the communities where 13 of schools were located, and in the case of the other two, the communities whose children were taken there, to let them know of this commitment and to be in dialogue about how to move forward.

The United Church's archival records were released to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and are available at the United Church Archives. We will assist First Nations in accessing the records, and will also be providing summary research for each site.

On July 21, the General Council Executive approved an initial \$3 million dollars for this work.

Statement of Commitment

Bringing these children the honour we denied them in life  
To Residential School Survivors, Families, and Communities:  
I want to acknowledge the pain that you, as survivors of residential schools, families, and communities, are experiencing. We understand that the pain endured at these schools went far beyond their walls and grounds into community and through generations.



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The United Church of Canada operated : Alberni, Ahousaht, Coqualeetza, Kitimaat (Elizabeth Long Memorial Home), and Port Simpson (Crosby Boys' and Girls' Home) in BC; Edmonton, McDougall Orphanage/Morley, and Red Deer in Alberta; Cote (formerly Crowstand), File Hills, and Round Lake in Saskatchewan; Brandon, Norway House, and Portage la Prairie in Manitoba; and Mount Elgin in Ontario.

We are aware of cemeteries on some of these sites, and we know that there are also unmarked and likely undocumented graves of children.

We acknowledge that our role in the residential school system and colonization is an abuse of power through our Christian faith. We hope that our ongoing work for reconciliation, which has been guided by United Church residential school survivors, more truly reflects what our faith calls us to be and do. We are committed to the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, especially those directed to us as perpetrators. These include those related to burial sites and missing children.

In the spirit of truth telling and transparency, we want to share the work that we have done, in consultation with community, on identifying and restoring graveyards. The United Church in southwestern Manitoba has actively supported ongoing work on the identification and preservation of gravesites related to the residential school in Brandon; this includes the 104 graves identified off-site in 2018. In Saskatchewan, we supported the community of Okanese in preserving its graveyard and honouring the children buried there. The United Church of Canada has also been a partner in the preservation of the Regina Industrial School cemetery. (Regina was operated by the Presbyterian church, but the United Church shares responsibility.) United Churches in Red Deer, Alberta, worked to preserve the residential school cemetery in cooperation with the communities whose children were sent to Red Deer. There has also been research into possible graves at the Edmonton Residential School.

This work is just a beginning, and we understand that it must continue. Steps are required to properly locate, identify, and honour these children, and for the truth that Indigenous people have always known to finally be heard. Any work we do to help search grounds of and surrounding United Church residential schools must be done with respect for, the consent of, and with the guidance of Indigenous leadership, communities, survivors, and families.

We know that we are not the experts in this work. We will continue to share all the documents and knowledge we have. If anyone in community wishes to share information and expertise with us, we will gratefully accept it and be committed to transparency.

We are committed to meeting with leadership to hear how they wish to proceed, and whether they would like our assistance at any stage. This includes financial assistance for what community leadership deems appropriate.

The United Church of Canada is committed to reconciliation and to transparency in our efforts to support Indigenous leadership, communities, survivors, and families in bringing these children the honour we denied them in life.

With respect,

The Right Rev. Dr. Richard Bott

Our Church is actively doing the work of reconciliation. It is a long, sustained and necessary part of healing for indigenous peoples and ourselves.

Peace be with us all.

Dianne

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## IN PERSON WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT RPUC



### IN PERSON WORSHIP AT RIDEAU PARK UNITED WITH KITCHISSIPPI UC

While the webcast (Livestream) will continue, RPUC sanctuary is reopening for in-person attendance on Sunday August 8.

### HERE IS THE LINK TO REGISTER FOR SUNDAY

[https://www.rideaupark.ca/event/sunday-worship-service-in-sanctuary-and-webcast/edate/2021-08-08/?fbclid=IwAR2ygly4BjBY5C3JTV3asogDm\\_Jp1VOoTq-pkLUP\\_8W\\_hwGoKKkF1G9PhE4](https://www.rideaupark.ca/event/sunday-worship-service-in-sanctuary-and-webcast/edate/2021-08-08/?fbclid=IwAR2ygly4BjBY5C3JTV3asogDm_Jp1VOoTq-pkLUP_8W_hwGoKKkF1G9PhE4)

## ON GOING ACTIVITIES AT KUC

### BROADVIEW (ON-LINE) BOOK CLUB – is taking summer break!

Broadview reading group is taking a summer break and will meet once / month over the summer:  
**August 17** will be the next Reading Group via Zoom.

## MESSAGE FROM M&P

### BEHIND THE SCENES AT KUC

Earlier this year the Friday File contained a number of notes outlining the activities of each of our staff members during the time of covid-19 closure. Here is an update on what has been happening behind the scenes.

#### Rev. Jenni - Minister

The first note was about Jenni and her activities – as she pivoted to mesh with the ministerial staff at Rideau Park UC – to deliver Sunday morning worship by livestream. Through the winter and spring Jenni continued to be engaged in worship leadership on Sunday mornings in covid-necessary fashion, as well as in other activities to maintain community during a very trying time. Her initiatives included regular mid-week messages, and on-line leadership of the Broadview Reading Club on Tuesdays and coffee time on Thursdays. For those who took advantage of these events, there was never a period of more than a few days without the opportunity to speak with others in our church family. With Jenni's encouragement, these activities have been continued by volunteers while she is on Sabbatical leave.

#### Kirsten - Office

Kirsten has proven that she can manage a very self-sufficient church office from anywhere. With her gifts for innovation and flexibility, Kirsten has been the pivot-point for our operations, and has maintained effective administration throughout. This includes periods of building closure, the suspension and re-starting of the Montessori school, and ensuring regular communications to keep everyone informed. No beats missed. Of late, Kirsten has been working with the members of the communications group who are designing a plan for return to worship in-person and on-line in some form in the fall. This is a significant undertaking and a major technology challenge. Kirsten will also be working with our summer student on many aspects of communication for KUC.

#### Diana - Faith Formation

When Diana returned from parental leave, covid restrictions were in full force. Her job suddenly looked quite different from its complexion when she left. The objectives were the same, but delivery opportunities had changed significantly. Through her adaptation and technical savvy Diana has engineered Faith Formation messaging for our kids, youth and their families, through activity kits, interactive challenges and

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other participative activities. This is no mean feat – somewhat like working in a dark closet – with any in-person feedback to inform the course. Diana delivered the reflection at our out-door service on July 25, is very involved in Wild Wonder Camp (the successor to Camp Awesome) in pandemic format, and is working on a myriad of ideas for the fall.

#### **Gavan - Music Director**

We all have seen Gavan frequently on Sunday mornings, live-streamed from Rideau Park UC. He has participated in preludes, postludes, solos and duets with the musicians of Rideau Park. As well, completely behind the scenes, and through the magic of technology, Gavan has worked with the Kitchissippi UC choir to produce a number of anthems and musical offerings, many of which appeared weekly on Wednesdays on the KUC website. There are currently some 28 musical reflections on the KUC website – wonderful listening; with visuals provided by Kirsten. Music has always been very important to the KUC congregation, and there is no lack of opportunity to hear our outstanding choir during this somewhat solitary time.

#### **Jerzy - Custodian**

From the outset of the pandemic, Jerzy has continued to maintain the church building in good working order. He ensured that areas being used were cleaned regularly and after each usage. As all can imagine, cleaning has taken on a whole new dimension in the era of a highly transmissible virus. When the building was closed Jerzy took care of activities which could be better done in the absence of use, such as painting the kitchen, replacing the parlour toilet, installing new curtains in the parlour, tidying up the balcony and doing a variety of repairs. Jerzy's "if you need me, I'm there" outlook has been a great benefit in liaising both with Kirsten and with the re-opened Montessori school. It is good to have him on our team.

**Rev. Dianne** - We also extend our heartfelt thanks to Rev. Dianne Cardin for taking on leadership at KUC during Jenni's sabbatical. Dianne has been liaising with the ministers at Rideau Park UC to deliver Sunday morning worship by livestream, working with many at KUC to provide support and encouragement, and always being available whenever the occasion requires. All very much appreciated.

So, you see, our wonderful team members simply re-wrote their methodologies to deliver on their mandates, regardless of unforeseen challenges. We are fortunate to have such creative and willing staff who are continuing the KUC leadership behind the scenes and preparing for the time when we meet again in person. A most sincere Thank You to all.

## **SUMMER OFFERINGS**

Kitchissippi United Church continues to make a difference through the summer by responding to needs in the community, offering pastoral care, accompanying people on their grief journey, providing spiritual education opportunities, and extending vital nursing support. We depend on the generosity of our members and adherents to meet expenses. Thank you everyone for your continued support.



Here are some ways that you can give: <http://www.kitchissippiuc.com/contact-us/donate/>

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## MULTIFAITH HOUSING INITIATIVE (MHI)

Dear Multi House Initiative supporters,  
All the cheques have been mailed in, the donations have been tallied, and we have a Tulipathon 2021 total! Thanks to our incredible fundraisers, donors and participants, we have raised an astonishing **\$105,405 for our 2021 Virtual Tulipathon**. This stunning amount smashes the 2020 record of \$68,760!

Check out our wrap-up video here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jnb4Kx5sQuU&t=26s> to view the update from MHI Executive Director Suzanne Le and see the lovely pictures and videos walkers sent us from their solo strolls/household hikes.

"Everyone's hard work and generosity has paid off in spades! As always, 100% of proceeds go to the MHI subsidies programs for tenants in need at MHI's five housing communities."

Suzanne Le, MHI Executive Director  
[www.multifaithhousing.ca](http://www.multifaithhousing.ca)

## WE ARE HERE FOR YOU - PLEASE REACH OUT

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

All email and phone  
messages are checked daily!

[www.kitchissippiuc.com](http://www.kitchissippiuc.com)



**Rev. Dianne Cardin** (interim) [dianne.cardin@sympatico.ca](mailto:dianne.cardin@sympatico.ca)  
Minister Cell Phone 613-327-7275

**Rev. Jenni Leslie**  
Minister [jleslie@kitchissippiuc.com](mailto:jleslie@kitchissippiuc.com)  
(Rev. Jenni will be on sabbatical leave from May 2021 – September 2021)

**Diana Brushey**  
Faith Formation Leader [diana.brushey@kitchissippiuc.com](mailto:diana.brushey@kitchissippiuc.com)  
**DIANA WILL BE ON VACATION FROM AUGUST 1 to AUGUST 13**

**Kirsten Gracequist**  
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**Gavan Quinn**  
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**Jerzy Sychalski**  
Custodian