

DECEMBER 10, 2021

A.D.V.E.N.T
JOY

Kitchissippi
UNITED CHURCH

Advent 3 - Sunday, December 12, 2021
Pageant Sunday

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP at 10 AM LIVESTREAM GO TO
WWW.KITCHISSIPPIUC.COM

MESSAGE FROM REV. JENNI



Hello all!

I hope this finds you well and looking forward to a weekend of rain!

This Sunday I'm excited that we will get to see the second annual Rideau Park and Kitchissippi online pageant! Telling the Christmas story in this way, that is digitally, is an excellent way to listen anew. I hope you tune in or come to the church to watch! It is hard to believe that it's only two weeks until Christmas. I hope if you're not feeling of the season yet at the pageant will help!

I wanted to remind folks also that the Nepean choir will be performing on Sunday afternoon at 3 PM. You can watch that from the comfort of your home as well. Barth, Liz and Wendy are all members and have encouraged us to tune in! Find the link here:
<http://www.nepeanchoir.ca/>

Also a reminder that the Advent Retreats are happening with Rideau Park again every Wednesday evening at 7 PM. It's a short zoom service: a pause in your week to help you think about, dream about and pray about the season. Here's a zoom link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5583434610>

One of the 'reasons for the season' that I've been thinking about a lot is 'the almost'. We are encouraged as Christians to think about how the world is not quite the way that God intended it... it is almost. To renew our faith at Advent and Christmas means that we continue to think critically about the world in which we live. The world in which God wants us to live is a different place. That world contains love and justice, diversity and equality, generosity and loving one's neighbor. There is an absence of war and violence in the world God imagines and in the world that God encourages us to imagine. Advent and Christmas are times that we can think about our role in bringing out about the world that God imagines.

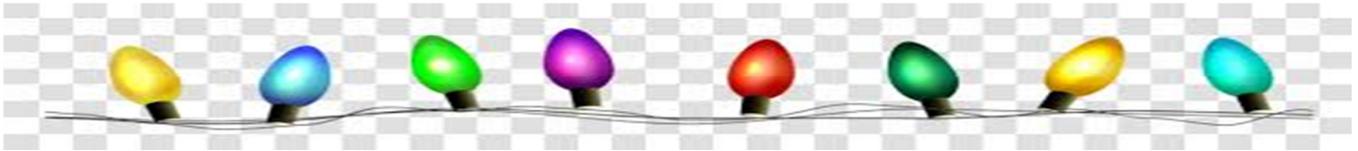
What do you think it's possible for you? If you were not able to give money what are you able to do? Maybe you volunteer? Maybe write letters for organizations like Amnesty international? Maybe lobby the government on behalf of the marginalized? Make no mistake, everyone can do something, and it is up to you to discern what your role is in this world that God imagines.

So while you dream of sugarplums, as the old adage goes, I encourage you to also dream of these things: justice, kindness, mercy, love, nonviolence and an end to wars.

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May you be so filled with this Christmas spirit, and captured by God's imagination, that you cannot help but seek out the Christ child anew this year!

Advent Blessings,
Jenni



MESSAGE FROM DIANA BRUSHEY



Happy Advent!

We have several activities planned and gifts for families, too.

Just a reminder of the ongoing Advent Fireside Storytimes for all ages, Sundays at 6:30. Zoom link:



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81415762412?pwd=NFhZVXB0aFFUUFpUVW05dUtXc1dydz09>

Meeting ID: 814 1576 2412

Passcode: Adventure

The storytime is adaptable depending on who logs in! We have some simple stories by Indigenous authors, Godly Play visuals for the season, Advent intro thoughts, some favourite picture books, nature-based Advent musings, and poems to ponder. Or share your stories from Advents past and present!

Is this time frame tricky? Here's one of the devotionals we're using:

All Creation Waits is an all-ages devotional using short stories about nature's preparation for winter as an invitation to consider Advent mysteries. Available in hard copy, Kindle, or as an e-subscription

<https://paracletepress.com/collections/devotionals-for-advent/products/all-creation-waits-e-subscription>

The Advent KUC Family Newsletter is here -- take a peek at what families got in their kits and a little reflection from last year: <https://mailchi.mp/218c9fc2f9e1/advent2021-kuc-10095757>

Diana

Christmas and Epiphany Worship Planning 2021/22

The Worship Circle is looking for volunteers to assist with the two Christmas Eve services. If you plan to attend in person and could help with readings or candle lighting please contact Denise Bonomo as soon as possible. 613-728-6164 or denisebonomo@outlook.com

We are going to do our Christmas Eve Candle Lighting outside the church at 7:30, so that those leaving the 6:30 service and those arriving for the 7:45 service can join together by candle light and sing one verse of Silent Night together. (Masked).

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Sunday Dec. 26, 2021 the church will be closed. Congregants are encouraged to view either or both of the Christmas Eve services in place of regular Sunday morning Worship.

January 2, 2022 the church will be open for a viewing party. Doug P and Gavin are going to compile a streaming presentation of worship highlights from 2021.

January 5, 2022 there will be an outdoor evening celebration on the Eve of Epiphany.

MESSAGE FROM CHAIR OF KITCHISSIPPI COUNCIL

Adversity: often a catalyst for change

A year ago, if we were asked where we would be today, I am sure that most of us would say back to normal. The intervening period would be a memory: church services without restrictions, get-togethers with family and friends, travel without strings attached, and social events would again be commonplace. But such did not occur: the covid-19 virus continued, indeed mutated, and any sense of normalcy was advanced further into the future.

Certainly, much fear and pain have resulted. But at the same time positive change has emerged, and certainly so within our Church. A vibrant partnership for worship services with Rideau Park, heightened communication initiatives by way of zoom meetings and website messages, and creative musical productions all contributed to our cohesiveness as a congregation. And now even more so has our willingness to change created a sense of community. The development of a live streaming capability, and recently a request to reflect on ideas or opportunities to use our new technology, will lead us further into an exciting new environment.

Your Council has been encouraging and supportive of such initiatives. Churches at times may appear to be slow to change, but once embraced it can be very invigorating - and KUC is making every effort to welcome change. God instructed us to carry out good works, to reach out and to love our neighbours as ourselves. Such greater service to the community can best be accomplished when we accept the fact that change involves some risk as we step out into new endeavours.

I encourage everyone to reflect upon how you might wish to contribute to the new initiatives that our church is undertaking; your participation is highly welcome and important to the life of Kitchissippi.

On behalf of Council, I wish everyone a very joyous and Merry Christmas, and a very fulfilling and Happy New Year.

Ian Macgregor,
Chair of Council

PASTORAL CARE



THANK YOU - A big thank you to all the volunteers that took time to deliver Christmas flower last Sunday to our family and friends who are in our Pastoral Care. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

OUTREACH

ADVENT OUTREACH 2021

WHITE GIFTS

We're opening this category for \$\$ donations to include:

- 1) Our purchase of small gifts for the 2 residential care homes we've supported in past years; AND
- 2) Our purchase of gift cards. Given Covid-19, we have to replace our traditional wrapped gifts for needy hamper recipients.

HAMPERS

We are doing a few Christmas Hampers this year, likely 3 large families and 2 smaller families. We plan to assist both the Caldwell Family House and the Minwaashin Lodge with financial donations through Outreach so they can help needy families in their respective communities. The hampers will be packed on Tuesday, December 21 in the church hall. Volunteers are needed!

NEW - Partage Share Ottawa

(PS Ottawa Volunteers from KUC and several other United Churches will match pledges for donated goods and services with needy folks in the Carlington area. The Chaplaincy will act as a social connector. Curious? Please check out www.partageshare.org

DONATION information:

Donations for White Gifts and any other donations to the church can be made three ways:

1) By cheque mailed to or dropped off at the church mailbox. Feel free to use your offering envelopes. Indicate on the envelope or cheque: White Gift. No Cash, please!

2) By Interac E-Transfer from your bank account (see more details below on how to do this). Transfer amount to donations@kitchissippiuc.com and include a note indicating donation to White Gift.

3) Via Canada Helps. <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/Kitchissippi-United-Church/> Donation to Kitchissippi United Church and specify "Christmas Outreach"

*For options 1 and 2, your donation will be included in your annual charitable receipt from Kitchissippi United Church. For option 3 you will receive an immediate charitable receipt from Canada Helps.

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/Kitchissippi-United-Church/>

A MESSAGE FROM JANET MILNE - OUTREACH CIRCLE

To everyone at Kitchissippi!

This year there are even more residents of the 2 Lodges we provide gifts to. In total they now care for 135 people, including 124 men and 11 women.

Our gifts this year include warm socks for everyone, many health products such as soap, shampoo, razors, shaving cream, toothpaste and brushes. We also have hats and quite a few donations of scarves, mitts and gloves. We always include goodies for their Christmas parties



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such as cookies, chocolate, clementines and nuts. This year we also have a coffee urn for one Lodge at their request.

So thank you to everyone who kicked in. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and when I talk with the managers Vannak and Dan they are always excited to hear we will be with them again teach year!
Janet

UPCOMING ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2021

THIS Sunday December 12th - ADVENT III PAGEANT SUNDAY We will be watching this together from the Sanctuary. It has been recorded by families of Rideau Park and Kitchissippi (like last year) and will be shown during the service. We will also have hot apple cider available for sipping in the pews and maybe a cookie or two. I'm affectionately calling it a 'watch party'.

Tuesday December 14th - Advent Study from 1 - 3pm. We are reading Kate Bowler's Advent Study called The Season of Almost. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89093844185>
<http://www.kitchissippiuc.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/ADVENT-RESOURCES-2021.pdf>

Wednesday December 15th - Advent Contemplative Service 7pm by Zoom
Zoom meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5583434610>

Friday December 17th - Trivia Night! 7pm This will be the last one of 2021. All welcome to attend, answer Canadian trivia questions and share stories. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82250633588>

Sunday December 19th - Advent IV LOVE

Tuesday December 21st - Advent Study from 1 - 3pm. We are reading Kate Bowler's Advent Study called The Season of Almost. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89093844185>
<http://www.kitchissippiuc.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/ADVENT-RESOURCES-2021.pdf>

Wednesday December 22nd - Advent Contemplative Service 7pm by Zoom - This one is a 'Blue Christmas' service. Rideau Park United Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5583434610>

Friday December 24th - Christmas Eve Services: 6:30 pm - Folks who are fully vaccinated are encouraged to attend. 7:45 pm - Family Service: the fully vaccinated and children (who are not vaccinated) are encouraged to attend.

Sunday December 26th – No service

Sunday January 2nd - Christmas II: Lay led.

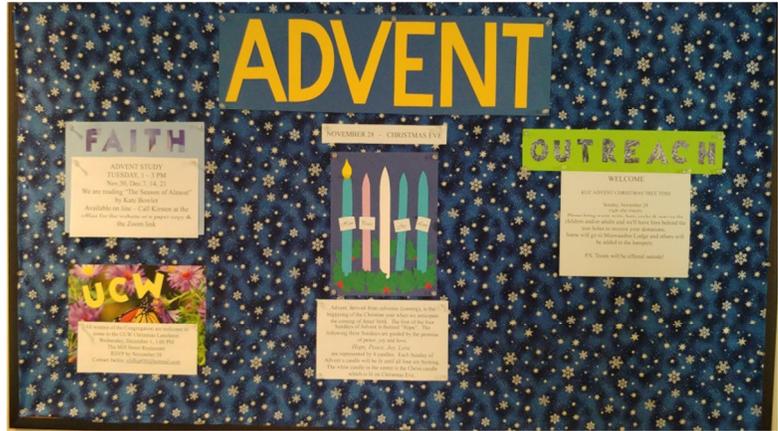
Sunday January 9th - Epiphany! Back to the Spiritual Literacy words: Enthusiasm! Energy!



HERE IS THE LINK TO VIEW THE KUC YOUTUBE CHANNEL ON SUNDAYS

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwATU1rozB1PllaRmr2teVA>

MORE PICTURES TO SHARE..



Above: Thank you Peggy Tyson for ensuring that Kitchissippi always have a beautiful bulletin board in the narthex!

Above: This is the East window of the church, shining bright; Gregg Krikorissian has renovated the lights, which have been out for a year or more.

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU - PLEASE REACH OUT

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**THE CHURCH OFFICE IS NOT
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE.**

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**All email and phone
messages are checked daily!**

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Jerzy Spsychalski
Custodian

