



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Kitchissippi  
UNITED CHURCH



Sunday, February 08, 2026

## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP at 10 AM LIVE STREAM

[WWW.KITCHISSIPPIUC.COM](http://WWW.KITCHISSIPPIUC.COM)

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwATU1rozB1P1laRmr2teVA>

### FROM REV JENNI'S DESK



Good day,

I hope this finds you well! I know there are some viruses going around - I managed to catch one, so I'm resting and drinking lots of fluids.

Thanks to all those who participated in the service on Sunday, including the wonderful Burundian dancers

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with Worshiplude and the 20+ youth and their leaders who stayed at Kitchissippi last weekend! Norah and Doug, Sian, breakfast griddlers and all those who helped in big and small ways that I don't know about! They have thanked us often for our hospitality and I hope we are always known for this!

Each Sunday throughout Black History and Futures Month, Rev Daniel and God's Beloved will be sharing with us all the different tribes that are represented in the God's Beloved Group. This Sunday, the Ugandan people will be reading and sharing the message in the Luganda language. (Each Sunday for 6 weeks, we will learn more about God's Beloved's membership.)

NEW MEMBERS - those who would like to become members of Kitchissippi, please meet with me this Sunday after the service? (**Sunday February 8th**)

On the horizon, Mego Nerses and I have been talking about a series of lunch and learns around trauma and the first will be the first two Sundays of March. Folks can plan to attend one or the other (so if you work everyone another Sunday, you won't miss it). More details to come!

Also, March dinner and Ash Wednesday service in your calendars - Wednesday February 18th - dinner at 6, service at 7pm.

Blessings,  
Jenni

KUC WEBSITE  
[WWW.KITCHISSIPPIUC.COM](http://WWW.KITCHISSIPPIUC.COM)

### KUC CIRCLES UPDATED MEETING TIME

**Sunday, February 15, 2026**

The **Outreach Circle** will meet on Sunday, February 15, 2026.

Everyone is welcome to participate. **Time 11:30 am – 12:30 pm.**

### ASH WENESDAY & ANNUAL PANCAKE SUPPER

**Ash Wednesday** will take place on **Wednesday, February 18, 2026**, with service beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Please note that **KUC's Annual Pancake Supper** will also be held on the same day.

We look forward to welcoming everyone as we begin the Lenten season together.

### PICTURES FROM BURUNDIAN DANCERS AT KUC SUNDAY SERVICE LAST WEEK



KUC extends her gratitude to the Burundian dancers who performed last week in commemoration of **Black History Month**. Your vibrant performance brought joy and meaning to our celebration!

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH SERIES

During Black History Month at Kitchissippi United Church, everyone is warmly invited to explore a special lending library in the sanctuary.

A selection of books will be available to borrow, including works by authors from the African diaspora, stories highlighting the history of Black Canadians, and biographies of influential leaders and changemakers.

The books will be in the sanctuary throughout February and are expected to remain available through the season of Lent. We kindly ask that all borrowed books be returned on time so others may also enjoy them.

If you have books you would like to donate to this lending library, or suggestions for titles to include, please feel free to leave a message or drop off your donated books with **Jennifer at the Kitchissippi United Church office**. We invite you to read, reflect, and share in this meaningful celebration together.

Celebrate Black History Month with these must-read books on Black history, identity, and anti-racism.

<https://ucrdstore.ca/collections/anti-racism>

**In continuation of our Black History Month series, this week we turn our focus to Uganda, the “Pearl of Africa”.**

We explore the rich spiritual life and religious traditions of Uganda, reflecting on how faith shapes community, resilience, and daily life. Through this lens, we celebrate the role of religion in guiding, inspiring, and sustaining the people of Uganda, and deepen our appreciation for the diverse ways God's presence is experienced across the world.

### ROOTED IN SPIRIT AND STORY – EXPLORING RELIGION IN UGANDA - REV DANIEL

#### How Christianity Reached the People of Uganda

Christianity reached the people of Uganda in the second half of the nineteenth century through a complex mix of trade politics education and martyrdom. It did not arrive quietly or smoothly. Instead, it entered an already religious society and was shaped by struggles within the Kingdom of Buganda and later by colonial rule.

Before Christianity Ugandan societies practiced African traditional religions that were deeply woven into daily life. Belief in ancestors spirits sacred places and rituals shaped moral order community life and leadership. In Buganda religion and kingship were closely connected. This meant Christianity did not arrive in an empty spiritual space but encountered strong existing beliefs and authority structures.

Christianity formally arrived in 1877 when Anglican missionaries from the Church Missionary Society reached Buganda. In 1879 Roman Catholic missionaries known as the White Fathers followed. Both groups were welcomed after King Kabaka Mutesa I showed interest in Christianity and Western education.

Missionaries focused on the royal court because the king's religion often shaped the religion of the kingdom. They taught reading and writing translated the Bible into Luganda and educated young pages and chiefs. Literacy became a powerful tool for spreading Christian teaching.

After the death of Mutesa I his successor Kabaka Mwanga II viewed Christianity as a threat. Christianity demanded loyalty to God above the king challenged some court practices and created new alliances that weakened royal authority.

Mwanga responded with violence. From 1885 to 1887 he ordered the execution of Christian converts who refused to abandon their faith.

The defining moment in Ugandan Christian history was the martyrdom of the Uganda Martyrs. Both Catholic and Anglican converts many of them young royal pages were killed most notably at Namugongo. Their deaths shocked missionaries and strengthened Christian commitment.

Rather than destroying Christianity the killings made it more powerful. Faith came to be seen as something worth dying for. Today the Namugongo Martyrs Shrine is one of the most important Christian pilgrimage sites in Africa.

When Uganda became a British protectorate in 1894, Christianity spread rapidly. Missionaries worked closely with colonial administrators to establish schools' hospitals and churches. Education became the main path to conversion. Christianity expanded beyond Buganda into Bunyoro Ankole Busoga Acholi and other regions. Anglicanism and Catholicism became dominant while later Pentecostal and evangelical movements grew during the twentieth century.

The story of how Christianity reached Uganda is ultimately a story about belonging. From traditional religions to Christianity people were always searching for meaning dignity and life in community. The martyrs chose faith not because it gave them power but because it gave them identity as people loved by God. In that light the God we meet in Uganda's Christian history is not distant or selective but present among ordinary people youth servants' seekers and the marginalized. This is the heart of God's Beloved. A faith that insists on every person carries sacred worth. A faith that grows not through force but through love, courage and conscience. The legacy of Christianity in Uganda calls the church today to remember this truth clearly that **God's beloved** is not a few but all and that the gospel is most alive when it protects dignity nurtures justice and makes room for everyone.

## A TRIBUTE TO JOHN WILLIAM “WILLY” PULLEN

In Loving Memory – John William “Willy” Pullen



**John William “Willy” Pullen** (Dec 19, 1949 – Dec 16, 2025) passed away in Calgary, Alberta. A devoted family man, Coast Guard and Naval Reserve officer, and public service leader, Willy was also a passionate historian and mentor. He is survived by his wife, Julia, who is a member of Kitchissippi United Church, daughter Sarah, and many family and friends.

He is remembered as a humble, generous man whose warmth, humour, and wisdom touched many lives.

A celebration of Willy’s remarkable life will take place on Friday, April 17, 2026, at 10:00 am Eastern Standard Time, at the Beechwood National Memorial Centre at the Beechwood Cemetery, 280 Beechwood Avenue, Ottawa.

<https://www.cochranecountryfuneral.ca/obituaries/john-pullen>

## SERVING THE WIDER COMMUNITY

### Help Feed UOttawa Students – Cookies, Tea Biscuits & Cornbread Needed

The Open Table Campus Chaplaincy at UOttawa is hosting a free student lunch program on Thursday, February 12th and is looking for donations of Cookies, Tea Biscuits, and Cornbread muffins.

This monthly meal supports over 200 students, many of whom are facing increased food insecurity. This month’s menu: Vegetarian chili

Items needed:

- 200 Cookies

- 200 Tea Biscuits
- 200 Cornbread muffins

Important: Please use vegetable shortening, not lard or any pork-based products. Gluten-free options are warmly welcomed.

YAYA Ministry suggestion:

This is a wonderful opportunity for youth groups to get involved in baking activities that support students and build food skills. Contact us if you'd like to learn more.

If your church or group can help, please contact me to arrange pick-up next week.

Volunteers to help serve the meal are also welcome – details can be provided upon request.

**For any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out:**

**Dana Ducette**

**Minister, supporting Youth and Young Adults**

**Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council**

**United Church of Canada/Église Unie du Canada**

Thank you for supporting UOttawa students!

### REQUEST FOR WINTER COATS

If you have **warm winter coats** in good condition, many of God's Beloved would be grateful!

- Where to donate: Please place coats on the newly donated rack in the hall.
- Spread the word: Feel free to email or tell your friends about this opportunity.
- Need help or questions: Kindly contact **Judy Mills** she's noticed that her usual sources for winter wear are running low.

Thank you for helping keep our community warm this winter!

### SCENT FREE SPACE



We have recently found out that one of our new members has severe asthma and can not tolerate strong scents and perfumes. Please refrain from using this product when attending church services and events. Thank you!

### KITCHISSIPPI UNITED STAFF

**Kitchissippi United Church**

630 Island Park Drive

Ottawa, ON K1Y 0B7

PHONE: 613-722-7254

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

**Rev. Jenni Leslie**

Minister

[jleslie@kitchissippiuc.com](mailto:jleslie@kitchissippiuc.com)

**Diana Brushey**

Faith Formation Leader

[diana.brushey@kitchissippiuc.com](mailto:diana.brushey@kitchissippiuc.com)

**(ON LEAVE)**

## Office hours

10am-2pm Monday- Friday

Please call ahead if you are dropping by!

### **Daniel Addai Fobi**

Interim Faith Formation Leader [danieladdai@kitchissippiuc.com](mailto:danieladdai@kitchissippiuc.com)

### **Jennifer Shahid**

Administrator

[admin@kitchissippiuc.com](mailto:admin@kitchissippiuc.com)

Office Phone: 613-722-7254

### **Gavan Quinn**

Music Director

[gavanquinn@gmail.com](mailto:gavanquinn@gmail.com)

### **Jerzy Spychalski**

Custodian