

International Women's Day

**GIVE TO GAIN**

#GiveToGain | #IWD2026

**Kitchissippi UNITED CHURCH**

Sunday, March 08, 2026

Affirm | Saffirmer  
UNITED | ENSEMBLE

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP at 10 AM LIVE STREAM**  
**WWW.KITCHISSIPPIUC.COM**  
 HERE IS THE LINK TO VIEW THE KUC YOUTUBE CHANNEL ON SUNDAYS  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwATU1rozB1PllaRmr2teVA>

**FROM REV JENNI'S DESK**



Hello on this sometimes-sunny Friday! I hope you've had a good week and that the change in weather is placing a warm hope in your heart that spring is coming.

Jennifer, our Administrator, has let me know that the Membership cards are ready from Membership Sunday in February - new members, please see Daniel or I on Sunday.

**TONIGHT** is our Queer Potluck, so please bring something to share if you can, but come for the community! Starts at 5pm in the hall.

**This Sunday** Rev Daniel, Jennifer and I will lead a Healing service as there is so much pain that we carry. Lent seemed like such an important time to seek this healing.

Please stay for lunch as we wrap up Black History Month. After lunch Mego Nerses will be leading a workshop helping folks work through pain and trauma - both this Sunday and next Sunday for 50 members of God's Beloved. It will be a sacred time.

Next Sunday is **March 15th** and it is PIE Sunday - led by the Affirm team and others! PIE stands for Public, Intentional and Explicit about being Affirming - how are we these 3 things as a church and what has the impact been? (Please bring pie if you can and stay to eat pie after!)

**March 22nd** - the Rev Adele Halliday will be our guest preacher. She will be joined by Emo Yango, one of the Growth leaders at General council. We will be learning more about how we are already and what we need to do to live more fully into being an Intercultural church. There will be lunch and a session from 1-4pm on the Sunday with them and a full day session the next day, Monday March 23. There is room for all, so please stay and learn more so that we can be leaders in Intercultural church! (They are designing this for us, and it is a pilot project - we will shape it, learn and others will benefit!)

I hope you have a great weekend!  
Take good care,  
Lenten Blessings,  
Jenni

**“Belovedness is not something you earn through correct belief, moral performance, or spiritual discipline. It is the simple fact of your existence - your breath, your presence, your unique way of being in the world.”**

**-Still Sacred  
(2026)**



## KITCHISSIPPI UNITED CHURCH FEATURED IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA WEBSITE

We are delighted to share that **Kitchissippi United Church** was recently featured on the national website of **The United Church of Canada** following our special Membership Sunday celebration. The article highlights the joyful service in which 105 new members were welcomed into the life and ministry of our congregation — a meaningful milestone reflecting growth, community, and faith in action.

You can read the full story here: Kitchissippi United Church Welcomes 105 New United Church Members at Special Service – The United Church of Canada

<https://united-church.ca/news/kitchissippi-united-welcomes-105-new-united-church-members-special-service>

## KITCHISSIPPI IN THE NEWS

In a recent article by **Delaney Smith for the Algonquin Times**, the experience of **Kitchissippi United Church** and **God's Beloved** is highlighted as a powerful testament to how compassion, faith, and intentional inclusion can change lives. The article highlights how God's Beloved continues to provide a welcoming and affirming community for newcomers seeking belonging.

<https://algonquintimes.com/how-this-refugee-group-at-kitchissippi-united-church-is-helping-people-find-an-accepting-community/>

## FOOD INSECURITY IN OTTAWA – JULIANNE LABRECHE



The poster features a vibrant image of fresh vegetables like carrots and leafy greens on the left. The OHS logo is at the top right. The main title 'FOOD FOR LIFE' is in large white letters on a green background, with the subtitle 'ADDRESSING THE FOOD INSECURITY GAP IN OTTAWA' below it. The text on the left provides details about the event, including the date, location, and a quote from a report. The right side lists five panelists with their names and titles, each accompanied by a small circular portrait photo.

**Over 1 in 4 households in Ottawa are experiencing food insecurity**  
*2025 Ottawa Hunger Report, Ottawa Food Bank*

The Ottawa Horticultural Society invites you to join us for this in-person panel discussion with community leaders and experts who are actively working to address food insecurity in our community.

Tuesday, March 24, 2026, 7:30 pm  
St. Mark's Anglican Church  
1606 Fisher Ave., Ottawa  
Open to all, free admission

MORE DETAILS AT OTTAWAHORT.ORG

**Panelists**

- Peter Tilley**  
CEO Ottawa Mission
- Nelson Coyle**  
Healthful Food Working Group
- Carla De Ciccio**  
Director of Marketing, Growcer
- Tom Robson**  
Ottawa Food Bank Community Harvest Farm Coordinator
- Cecilia Lee**  
OHS Community Impact Program

Our church member, **Julianne Labreche**, will be serving as a **moderator** at an upcoming panel discussion on food insecurity in the Ottawa area.

This important conversation will bring together community voices and perspectives to explore current challenges, local realities, and pathways toward solutions.

**Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2026, 07:30 pm**

Please see the attached poster for full event details and registration information. We encourage you to share this invitation widely within your networks.

## THINGS WE TELL OURSELVES - A WORKSHOP SERIES FOR CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

# Things We Tell Ourselves

Looking at modern-day myths about our church;  
Breaking out of our patterns to live into new possibilities

Wednesdays from March 11th to May 2026  
(except April 1st break for Holy Week)

7-9 p.m. ET



A series of workshops to help congregational leaders eager to try new things, gain new perspectives and connect with one another.

For over 100 years, The United Church has developed faithful patterns and ways of doing ministry. Many of us continue to serve in ways shaped by generations before us — yet today's reality is changing. While we often feel called to try new things, knowing where to begin can be challenging. Sometimes the stories we tell ourselves about church no longer fully reflect who we are or who we are becoming. It's time to name these realities, have honest conversations, and explore new possibilities together.

**This ten-week series of learning sessions and workshops** offers a space for honest conversation, fresh thinking, and shared discovery. Participants will explore new opportunities for ministry, engage with innovative ideas, and connect

with other lay leaders who are courageously reimagining the church of the future. While this program is organized by the Nakonha:ka, East Central Ontario and Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Councils, it is open to United Church members and adherents from other parts of Canada.

Registration link: <https://churchx.ca/local/shop/product.php?id=372>

## CHURCH HEATING ADJUSTMENTS

Last Friday on February 13, we had an annual inspection and cleaning of the boilers for the two furnaces in the church basement. In cold weather our building is heated by hot water fed through pipes in the floor (for the sanctuary) or through radiators installed against outside walls usually under windows for the rest of the building. The hot water is heated and circulated by the two furnaces.

An outside contractor needs to inspect, clean and tune the furnaces once every year. This is especially important for the Montessori School and the 90 children who attend school most weekdays. Somehow the thermostat for the sanctuary was set a bit too high last Sunday when it was relatively warm outside. That was not likely a fault of the contractor, but more likely due to someone in the church who set it up a week or more ago when it was extremely cold outside.

We arranged to have the contractor fix two radiators that were not working properly in the chapel. They did similar tuning to radiators in the lounge below. There should be improvement with increased heat on cold days for both rooms. The lounge still has a problem with one window that leaks in too much cold air. This will be addressed once we can gain access from the outside.

**Scott MacCrimmon**  
Property, Chairperson

## 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>

## 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

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**(ON LEAVE)**

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### **Office hours**

10am-2pm Monday- Friday

Please call ahead if you are dropping by!

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