

UNITED COMMUNITY MINISTRY (UCM)

Location: Kawartha Lakes & Brock Townships, Central Ontario

A Collaborative Ministry:

Collaborative ministry is about sharing resources. It is about aligning our interests, passions, and talents so that together we can be and do more.

Website: ucministry.ca

Facebook: United Community Ministry

Youtube: United Community Ministry Brock-Kawartha

Facebook: United Community Ministry

UCM Newsletter Oct. 7, 2024



**United
Community
Ministry**



Member churches:

Trinity UC, Cannington (*9:30 am)

Woodville (*11 am)

Oakwood UC (*9 am)

Cambray Community UC (*10:30am)

**Sunday service times except summer and on Combined service dates*

Clergy: Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Cunningham



**For pastoral emergencies or to arrange a visit please contact:
416- 801-8739 - phone or text**

**If you would like to meet with Rev. Elizabeth, she
will be happy to meet you at a time and location that
works for you. Please contact her at 416-801-8739
(phone/text) or by email elizcunningham8@gmail.com**

Clergy holidays:

Nov. 12-15, 2024 (dates are approximate, to be confirmed)

Please contact UCM Emergency Pastoral Care Team members listed below.

Pastoral Care Emergencies (if Rev. Elizabeth is unavailable)

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Cunningham elizcunningham8@gmail.com 416-801-8739 (cell)
If you are unsuccessful in receiving a response from Rev. Elizabeth in a timely manner
please contact Jeannette or Phyllis.

Rev. Jeannette Millar: jeannettemillar4@gmail.com 705-426-9126
Phyllis Tamlin- phyllistamlin@cogeco.ca 705-320-9887 or 705-821-1344

Upcoming Services:

Oct. 13

Oakwood/Cambray- Warden
Cannington/Woodville- Rev. Elizabeth

Oct. 20

Oakwood/Cambray- Rev. Elizabeth
Cannington/Woodville- Sherwin

Oct. 27

Oakwood/Cambray- Payne
Cannington/Woodville- Rev. Elizabeth

Nov. 10

Oakwood/Cambray- Rev. Elizabeth
Cannington/Woodville- Hallett

UCM Joint Services

2024/2025 UCM Joint Worship Services

Nov 24, 2024 - Reign of Christ Communion at Oakwood at 9:30 am

Fri Dec 20, 2024 – Longest Night Service at Cambray at 7 pm with LLWL Barbara Warden

Dec 29, 2024 - Christmas/Epiphany Communion at Woodville at 11 am

Mar 9, 2025 - Lent Communion at Cambray at 10:30 am

April 13, 2025 - Palm Sunday Communion at Cannington at 9:30 am

April 18, 2025 - Good Friday at Oakwood at 9:30 am

April 20, 2025 - Sunrise Easter Service?

June 8, 2025 - Pentecost Communion at Woodville at 11 am + AGM at 10:30 am

June 29, 2025 - Outdoor Service & Pot-luck Picnic at TBD, 10:30 am

July 6, 13, 20, 27, 2025 at TBD at 9:30 am

No Aug services or Labour Day Aug 31

Thurs Aug 28 - Outdoor Event - Music (5 pm), Indoor Pot-luck Supper (6 pm), Outdoor Service (7 pm) at Woodville?

From Clergy: Rev. Elizabeth:

Autumn Notes – Rev. Elizabeth

As you have experienced, it can be frustrating when you thought you'd be up and running only to find yourself anything but. I had all intentions of picking up where I left off when I went to Europe for 2 plus weeks - to visit with my daughter Kathryn, to spend 'Oma' time with my one-year-old grandson, and to find my way down to Spain to walk 120 kms of the Camino. And I was looking forward to returning to be with my beloved church families for World Communion Sunday. But then I decided to take a covid test because the cold I had on my return must surely be only a cold. But it wasn't. And I had to sit out what was going to be an amazing worship service, with words of wisdom and story from Chief Keith Knott from Curve Lake First Nation. But in the meantime, this time of 'isolation' has given me quality time to reflect

on the Camino, this being my third walk of its spiritual pathways. And maybe I can share with you one or two thoughts along the way.

In many of the church development courses I have taken over the years, there is always a diagram of sorts that shows the movement of a congregation's life cycle – from a steady upward climb, with growth and successes, until a plateau is reached, and you are on the top of the hill. Then, there is the slow decline and a going down the hill. The trick is to find the next upward slope to begin the next climb, or else risk descending to a point of no return.

You've lived through this in your own story of being in church. Think of the full churches, no seats available at Christmas Eve, multiple Sunday School classes, choirs that filled the chancel. And then there is a point where the church 'coasted' on all of that wonderful energy and momentum, thinking all is good. And

slowly, very subtly, there was more 'wood' visible in the pews, spaces between and beside the people. And choirs shrank in size, children showed up less.

What I came very aware of while climbing hill after hill on the Camino, was that the going up was hard work, and the descent was often harder, not being used to the pressure on my legs from a continuous downhill momentum. This is where people's knees and hips start talking to them! I wrote in my journal on Day 5, "Going up a hill takes work – at the top is fleeting – downhill is work too. In church speak – the top is not as long as people think and the energy and push is all in the going up the hill."

What lesson can I take from this? To not tarry too long when I think the work is done. But rather, to give thanks, and take a moment to savour the calm and the strength of the moment of achievement. And then to know

that the work continues, and it will be just as hard as it was before. Does the church become too content with what it thinks it has done, and that is enough? Do we ‘sit on our laurels’ as they say, and watch the world go by? Or do we give thanks, and say, God, I am following you, wherever you lead me – up a hill, down a hill, for a moment’s rest at the top of a hill.

My second Camino thought from my journal – “I think that the Camino now is not an ‘end in sight’, as it was the first time, in the arrival at the Cathedral – that I’ve ‘done it.’ But now it is an invitation to remember both the separateness of the Camino from the real world, *and* the ways in which every day of our lives is walking a Camino, a path, unique to each one of us, a path graced by the Spirit of God in some shape or form.”

From UCM Admin: Ruth Falding:



Witness Blanket Update: (from Sharon Woodrow)

We have two copies of the books: “Witness Blanket” and one of “Picking Up The Pieces” Please read and can continue to be circulate. The Beef Stew Dinner was very well supported by nearly 70 diners and received rave reviews. Huge thanks to all who ordered and worked to make just over \$1000 towards the cost to bring

the Witness Blanket to Trinity, Cannington, next September, 2025.

Music participation:

*Note the opportunities to get involved in music with **Handbell groups** have started up again. See detail on the blue regular activities page. You don't need to attend Trinity, Cannington to participate as each bell group plays at Trinity only about one Sunday every 2 months. Note also the details about the **UCM Choir**. You don't need to commit to sing at all Joint services you can just do one offs if you wish.*

Joint services-UCM was pleased to welcome Chief Keith Knott to our Worldwide communion Joint service on Oct. 6. Keith is Chief at the Curve Lake First Nation. If you were unable to attend I would encourage you to watch Keith's shared words on YouTube. He spoke for about 30 minutes.

Please put future UCM Joint service dates on your calendar and if it not at your church please make that little extra effort to attend.

See info below for two upcoming October events:

Beef supper at Woodville UC

UCM Fall Event at Trinity UC, Cannington.

OPEN TO ALL

WOODVILLE UNITED CHURCH

BEEF Dinner
take - out only

Beef, potatoes, vegetables, gravy roll
& home-made pie!

\$25.00
per plate

Friday October
25th

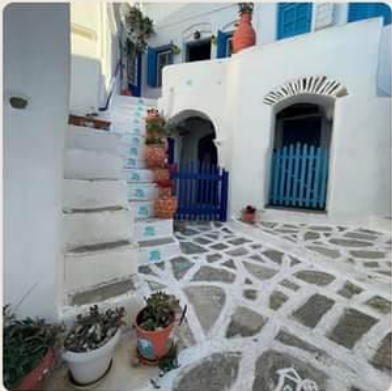
Order Deadline October 15th

Call: Ann Boyd
705-439-2398 or
Karen Archer
705-879-5998

Pay at Door or etransfer to
woodvillepastoral@gmail.com

From UCM Chair: Kerri Jebson:

***Thurs Oct 24 - UCM Fall
Event at Trinity UC
Cannington in lower hall at
12:30 pm - Soup & Sweets
Lunch; guest speaker "The
Pilgrim Family Does
Greece!"; All Welcome; \$5
donation appreciated.
ALL WELCOME!***



The Pilgrim's Do Greece!

Trinity United Church - Cannington
United Community Ministry

Thursday, Oct. 24th @ 12:30 PM

Save yourself a seat on this armchair travel journey as we head to Greece with the Pilgrim's! Hear stories and see sights all without leaving the comfort of Cannington.

All are welcome! Come and enjoy.
Soup & Sweet Lunch provided.

50 Laidlaw St. N, Cannington ON

\$5 Donation Appreciated



From ECORC: our Executive Minister



East Central Ontario Regional Council
of The United Church of Canada



Strengthened by God's grace and refreshed by the Spirit,
we follow the way of Jesus in healing our world

The East Central Ontario Regional Council of the United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.



Camino Reflections by Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly

Reflection 1: Alone: As many will have heard, my decision to walk the Camino was rooted in a need to strengthen my ‘solitude muscles’ and to find balance with my normal extraverted tendencies. During my process to becoming a minister, the psychologist who did my assessment qualified me as a ‘galloping extrovert’ beyond anyone he had met in his 40 years of service. He warned me of the importance to develop some resilience in times of solitude. The Camino seemed like the right place to hone these skills when it came time for my sabbatical. I even chose the lesser traveled paths in an effort to keep me focused on this goal. To continue reading see this link:

<https://ecorcuccan.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Camino-Reflections-Alone.pdf>

From UCC:

Join the [**Disability and Accessibility Network meeting**](#) on October 9, at 3:00 p.m. EDT. This network meeting will highlight the Leadership Counts project, which surveyed The United Church of Canada's ministry personnel, staff, and national committee members about their self-identification, including in terms of disabilities. Join us for a networking session to connect with others and discuss how to build a more inclusive church. "Since God's image includes disability, and this image dwells in all human beings, the church is summoned into a radical kind of belonging, as if welcoming each other is to welcome the divine in our midst." (Theologies of Disabilities Report, 2015) Open to persons living with disabilities and interested in advancing disability rights and accessibility

within The United Church of Canada and beyond. Register here:

<https://united-church.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEuf-Gsqj4vH9Hv8G5pvYOysPz1OzLC0N7X#/registration>

Beyond September 30th: Support Indigenous Issues Year-Round

Indigenous experiences deserve our attention all year long, not just on a single day. Stay connected with the ongoing work of United Church Indigenous Ministries and learn more about Indigenous justice issues by following their Facebook page at [facebook.com/IndigenousMinistries](https://www.facebook.com/IndigenousMinistries).

The Healing Fund, established in 1994, provides grants to Indigenous communities to support healing initiatives that address the ongoing trauma of the residential school system. Many Indigenous people express a need for mending, restoring, and celebrating their cultural identity, which has been deeply impacted by historical losses.

Indigenous communities can apply for grants of up to \$15,000 to create projects focused on healing, culture, and/or language revitalization. Your generous donations to Mission and Service directly support the important work of the Healing Fund.

Learn more and Donate here:

<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/being-community/indigenous-ministries/healing-fund>

Our church's crest is the visual marker of who we are and what we believe. Created in 1925, and renewed in the years since, it contains two phrases reminding us that we have come together out of diversity and that we remain together as relatives. The Latin words "Ut Omnes Unum Sint" mean "that all may be one," and the Kanien'kéha (Mohawk language) words "Akwe Nia'Tetewá:neren," mean "All My Relations."

May we remember and honour these words as we approach September 30th, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and every day after.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES OPEN TO ALL IN UCM

HANDBELL GROUPS at Trinity Cannington - welcome to all including children- no experience necessary1)

Contact Arlene Smith: arlene.smith9@gmail.com for the Monday evening practice group at 7 pm (anthem dates are Nov 17, Jan 5, Mar 23, May 11)

Contact Mary Lynn Lanos: mllanos3328@gmail.com for the Thursday afternoon practice group at 4 pm (anthem dates are Oct 20, Dec 24, Feb 9, Apr 27)

BOOK CLUB- Book club meets Wednesdays 7pm @ Trinity UC, Cannington

November 20th @ 7 PM - [Braiding Sweetgrass](#)

February 19th @ 7 PM - [The Librarianist](#)

April 16th @ 7 PM - [The Good Women of Safe Harbour](#)

June 18th @ 7 PM - [The Happiest Man on Earth](#)

EUCHRE: Progressive Euchre @ Woodville UC. First Friday of the month, 7 pm. Snacks gratefully accepted and admission is by donation. More information call Faye at (705)439-3689 or Sandra at (705)432-3284.

UCM JOINT CHOIR

(All welcome to participate anytime for a particular joint service. Singing is done with CD accompaniment.

Recording generally available for at home practice. Involves a couple of in-person practices). Stay tuned for more this



Our LLWL Team (left to right)

Evelyn Chambers

Barbara Warden (in training)

Phyllis Tamlin

Darlene Hallett

Rev. Elizabeth Cunningham (Clergy)

Nancy Payne

Debbie Sherwin

Robert Bennett

The Witness Blanket is NOT a blanket!

However, much like a family quilt, it is made of various panels, each telling its own story. The many panels bear Witness to the Residential School Survivors. Each of the 889 pieces of history, which make up the panels, was salvaged from Residential Schools all across Canada. A shoe, a bell, a door knob, a braid of hair and more all tell a story. The yellow plastic mush-bowl, from the Mohawk Institute in Brantford, was used as a reminder of food, whether there was ever enough and the quality of the mush/porridge. Maggots and sour milk were often served.

The Witness Blanket is almost 40 feet long (12 meters) and 10.5 feet high (3 meters) made of Red Wood Cedar from British Columbia. Some of the panels weigh over 300 lbs. When assembled, the 13 panels weigh more than 2 tons (1.8 metric tons). Artist, Carey Newman, lives on northern Vancouver Island and made this display as a tribute to his father, a survivor, and as a reminder to all in Truth and Reconciliation.

As we often wrap ourselves in a blanket for comfort, the Witness Blanket is meant to be a reminder that Residential Schools will never happen again and our Indigenous Brothers and Sisters can take comfort in that fact.



Trinity UC Cannington has been approved as a host community venue for the public display of the Witness Blanket (Sept 8 to Oct 15, 2025) that is touring Canada.

<https://witnessblanket.ca/>

Although it is still a distance away, much planning, preparation, and on site volunteer hours go into hosting this work of art. You are cordially invited to join the Planning Team, or come and learn more about it, or express your interest in helping during the hosting dates.

Contact Sharon Woodrow if you would like to know more about the Planning Team or how to help: swoodrow2@gmail.com



The Morning Altar is a gift from God, plain earth with colours and materials added to demonstrate how mixing plain items, petals, stones, feathers and sticks can make something very beautiful. Just like people, all shapes, sizes and colours we are diverse yet when mixed together, are beautiful; diverse yet, all a gift from and for God.

(UCM has used this ever-changing altar at several services and events)