

Paul's Ponderings:

June is on the horizon and it is one of my favourite months (not only because it includes my birthday). One of the new meanings of June for me is that it is National Aboriginal Month. It was 2 years ago, that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released their report and Calls to Action inviting the nation to learn and work toward reconciliation.

A couple of weeks ago, I was at an event at Hillcrest high school that was put together by a coalition of persons working on reconciliation education and action. A few weeks before there had been a youth day of education with 150 youth (half indigenous, half non-indigenous). The youth presented ideas and recommendations to the Federal Minister of Indigenous Affairs. It was an inspiring night.

As June unfolds, I would encourage you to attend an event, read a book, have a conversation, read the Truth and Reconciliation report - something that will mark a step on the long road to reconciliation.

A Couple of May Highlights:

On May 9th, Riverside held a Communion service at Landmark Retirement Residence. There were 17 of us there (7 from Landmark, 10 from outside)

On May 13th a reception was held at The Haven - the new housing complex in Barrhaven built by Multi-Faith Housing Initiative. Persons have started moving in and some of the residents were part of the group that gathered.

HARMONY IN CULTURES:

'The Harmony in Cultures event celebrating Canada's 150 Birthday was postponed due to rain. The new date is Saturday September 9th. Please contact Christine Rhodes if you are interested in volunteering.'

Christine Rhodes



MUSIC:

As summer approaches and the choir takes a break after June, I wish to acknowledge their wonderful contribution to the musical component in the services. With their voices and through a wide variety of themes and styles, they have added so much to the service setting and to me - especially as they are so accommodating to my "arrangements" to fit the occasion. The June services will allow for some interesting service music items: I'm certain you'll find them engaging!

Wayne Irschick

Director of Music

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



PERU: A victory for Máxima Acuña, a farmer and environmental defender in Peru who has taken on one of the world's biggest

gold and copper mines over the ownership of the land where she lives with her family, braving violent attacks from local police for refusing to leave. After almost five years of proceedings, Peru's Supreme Court has cleared Máxima of all criminal charges. Amnesty activists from around the world, sent more than 300,000 letters, emails and tweets calling for her protection. She sent her deepest thanks: "I want to thank with all my heart for the number of letters that have been sent to me. They give me courage and encouragement, to continue fighting."

Norm Mcleod

PASTORAL CARE:

Even if regular activities take a summer break, some things continue as usual. We always appreciate your alerting us when folks are ill or in need of assistance, as well as notifying us of upcoming milestone birthdays (80, 90, 95 etc) or wedding anniversaries (50, 60 65 etc). Just call the Church office and leave a message or if it is a pastoral care emergency, you will be given the contact number to call.

Mary Shaw for Wanda Maurais



1480 Heron Road 1st floor
Ottawa ON K1V 6A5
613-737-0090

Keep bringing in your **Wilson's Independent Grocer** (Alta Vista at Bank) grocery receipts, they help with the HEFC's bottom line. Here's how HEFC, gives out 120 doz. eggs monthly, \$100.00 average received from Independent Store in cash. Donation for our last reverse offering \$500.00 cash; \$600 value in actual items. **Yellow Bin in the Narthex for Food Donations** - The needs of the Food Bank are ongoing, donations are down, and the need does not lessen as the summer approaches. Please try to pick up an extra item (non-perishable) when buying groceries each week. "A tin in the bin" each week makes a difference in the lives of many. Thank You.

Gwen Bell

GROCERY GIFT CARDS:

We all have to eat !!

YOU HAVE TO SPEND THE MONEY ANYWAY.

If you do not understand how it works please ask..... Joan: 613 733 6552.

This project made \$310. in April.

No heavy lifting, No meetings, no commitment of time.

Joan Sirrs

Government Matching Donations to Extreme Hunger Appeal - All eligible donations made from March 17 to June 30 will be matched.

More people face famine today than at any time in modern history. We are called to respond to the needs of our sisters and brothers in a compassionate and timely manner.

Your donations to the United Church's Extreme Hunger Appeal are helping long-term Mission & Service partners ACT Alliance and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank provide much-needed assistance on the ground in Africa and the Middle East.

On May 29th, the Canadian government announced its Famine Relief Fund. All eligible donations to the United Church's Extreme Hunger Appeal made from March 17th to June 30th will be matched, dollar for dollar, by the government. You can find all the details on how to make a donation by visiting:

www.canada.ca/famine-fund. Or put it through our envelopes.

Council News - May 2017

The Council of Riverside United Church met on May 10 under the leadership of the Chair -Clara Ballantine. The following are highlights of reports and discussions from the meeting.

- Discussed the chapter of Fishing Tips that focused on "Worship Matters"
- Received a report from the Home Nursing and Visitation Programme of Providence Methodist Church in Jamaica.
- Agreed that a Right Relations Circle be formed if there is sufficient interest.
- Agreed to be a host site for the Blanket Exercise on Friday morning, June 2nd.
- Discussed the model of Sunday Serving Groups and discussed an option for evolving the idea to weekly teams.
- The Investment Management Committee concurs with transferring the budgeted amount of \$5000 from the Endowment Fund to the operating account.
- Garage sale proceeds were a little over \$4100.
- Riverside Churches is sponsoring a softball team in a church league.
- The Ministry & Personnel Committee is clarifying the sick leave policy for employees.
- Financial summary for 2017: (end of April)

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Income	65,971	64,480
Expense	<u>-63,514</u>	<u>- 61,058</u>
	2,457	3,422
- Next meeting: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 7pm

Note: Our expenses do not drop much during the summer months. If you are not already on PAR please consider joining up. Or perhaps make a donations, before you leave for the summer. As always we are grateful for all that is provided in time, money and all participation.

Calendar of Events - Summer 2017

Date	Event	Details
June 2	Blanket Exercise - 9:30am	This is an experiential learning opportunity about the historical and current realities of indigenous and non-indigenous relations in Canada
June 4	11:00 am Worship	Confirmation and Communion will be part of the service. Reverse offerings received for Centre 507
June 10	12:00 pm - Memorial Service for John Groves	
June 11	10:00 am - Joint Worship and Picnic: Theme - Down by the Riverside	Our annual picnic Sunday - this year combined with the Anglican congregation.
June 17	Anglican - Spring Fair	Garage sale and other activities
June 18	11:00 am - Worship	
June 24	11:00 am - Wedding	Rev. Rick Durrett and Gillian Baker will be married. Garden party to follow
June 25 th	11:00 am - Worship	
July 2	10:00 am Combined Worship begins for the summer	United Church style services will be held on July 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30th.
August 6	10:00 am Combined Worship continues	Anglican style services will be held on August 6, 13, 20, 27 and Sept 3rd.
September 9	Harmony in Cultures Event	This event was postponed from May and will be at the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre. RUC will have a display table.
September 10	11:00 am - Regular Worship resumes	

Sunday Serving Groups

Thanks to all the many hands that made light work in the 1st six months of 2017. If you haven't yet helped out there are volunteers needed for the period of September to December. A great way to be involved, make new or stronger connections, sharing the work load. July will be ad-hoc with those present.



Check your Propane level before the family party. Pour Water on It. Turn off the valve on your tank and disconnect it from your grill. Take a small bucket of warm water or a kettle and pour it from top to bottom on the side of the tank. Then feel the tank — it will feel cooler where there is propane and stay warm where there's no fuel.