

HCUC update for April 21, 2024

Thanks to everyone who came out and supported Friday's concert with Alex Burnett & Friends. We had a full house and the energy was awesome.

In worship this month we focused on Earth Day themes. During our Wondering Time we thought about land. During our sermon, we focused on EarthDay.org's theme – 60 x 40 (reducing plastics by 60% by the year 2040). You can watch our service here:

<https://youtube.com/live/z-xibvgO8BQ> Earth Day issues a “No Single-Use Plastics” challenge. Are you up for it? As we talked about it at church, it might be more challenging than imagined. Let's talk about it together and see what we can come up with. One idea was to bring in things that replace single-use plastics (a metal straw, for example) and have them on display. I will continue to wonder about all of this and how I can do it better too.

Church Council Meeting Summary:

- Council offers our gracious thanks to everyone who has been contributing to the financial challenges that we've put out. The \$29 for Leap Year totals: \$555 and the \$40 for Lent (as of March 31): \$240. Your additional contributions are making a difference, so thank you.
- The Alex Burnett concert was a great event and we had a profit of about \$2,000.
- We have forms for new folks who wish to stay in touch with us and/or want to participate in the life of the church.
- Our website has a few updates – the homepage is less wordy and more images are there. We now also have our own Google calendar so you can see everything that's going on (and yes, you can even see if the church is available on a date you're considering having an event.) We also added an “Events & Registration” page for those who want to register for our free events online. We will still have a registration sheet available at the church and you can always call in or email too. More changes will slowly be implemented, so keep checking our website and let the office know what you think.
- Grants – we received one grant for a total of \$24,700. We were denied a local grant for a music idea. We submitted a grant for \$10,000 through Ontario for Seniors. We submitted a grant in February to Bell Let's Talk for \$20,000 for Mental Health supports. We will hear back in June about the Ontario grant and Bell Let's Talk grant. Please note that the funds from these grants can only be used for what we submitted in the application process (Seniors programs) and not to support our church budget and expenses. (The grants pay for the things that help us to offer programs for free.)

In our prayers: We continue to pray for Ezra (who ate 5 chicken wings – progress!) and our new friend Nancy who joined our choir this morning.

URGENT! ORANGEVILLE FOOD BANK: Our Food Bank needs your help. Some shelves are bare. They are serving over 40 people per day on average. Please bring your donations in by noon on Tuesday.

Calling All Dreamers: We will gather on Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00pm at the church. The topic for the night: Poverty and Homelessness.

Workshops: FREE workshops at High Country United Church.

- Thursday, April 25 from 10:00AM to 11:30AM: Getting the Most out of Your Healthcare Appointments (Central West's Self-Management Team)
- Thursday, May 2 from 10:00AM to 11:00AM: Understanding Your Medications (Central West's Self-Management Team)
- Thursday, May 9 from 10:00AM to 11:00AM: Understanding Food Labels (Central West's Self-Management Team)
- Wednesday, May 22 at 7:00PM: How to Support Those Who Are Grieving (Diane Lawson of Good Grief)

These are free workshops and open to anyone who wants to learn and/or has questions. RSVP by contacting the church office or by RSVP'ing to the event on Facebook.

Homecoming Weekend: Come one, come all to our Homecoming Gospel Service on Sunday, April 28th at 10:30am. Pizza lunch by donation (suggestion of \$5). There will be a Sunday School Program. Encourage the youngin's to learn "God Sees the Little Sparrow Fall"

Seniors Lunch Speaker Series: Monday, April 29 at 11:00AM

Presenter: TeleCheck <https://www.headwatershealth.ca/Areas-of-Care/TeleCheck>

DATE CHANGE: Tech Class/Support will be held on Friday, May 3 instead of May 10th as was originally scheduled as we have a rental that day. Please mark your calendars and let your friends know of the change.

Creative Partners on Stage Shows: Kassondra shares the following: My show is called Break Free and it's Friday May 17 at 6:30, Saturday May 18 at 3:00 and Sunday May 19 at 1:00. And Christophers show is called That's a Ticket and it's Friday May 17 at 8:30, Saturday May 18 at 1:00 and Sunday May 19 at 3:00. Tickets are \$25.00 per show and \$40.00 if you want to see both shows.

Upcoming Concert: Friday, May 31 at 7:30PM – Boomerang Band - \$20 each
Boomerang Band includes very professional musicians who love to share Vintage Soul & R&B Music. This concert will be held in our barn.

Trinity Primrose United Church in Shelburne: Janet's support has started at Shelburne and the first Sunday went well. Next preaching days: April 28 & May 12 at 1:00pm. Their Mother's Day Plant Sale order forms (due May 5) are available at our church as well.

Belwood Spring Concert: St. John's United at 28 Queen Street in Belwood is having a Spring Concert on Sunday, May 5 at 2:00pm. Presented by St. John's Choir and Special Guests. Freewill offering. Kara Shaw says she loves acting and plays a few roles in this event.

Upcoming Schedule:

Sunday, April 21

7:55PM Weekly Prayers (online only, live)

Monday, April 22: Office Closed

Rev. Jan is out visiting

Tuesday, April 23: Office open from 9:30 to 2:00

10:00AM – Knitting, Puzzles and Social Time

11:00AM – Arthritis Foundation Exercises

11:45AM – Fairweather Walkers

1:00PM – Strumming Seniors

4:30PM – Choir Practice at Trinity Primrose UC for April 28 singers

7:00PM – Choir Practice at Trinity Primrose UC for May 4 event (Spirit Touches Art)

7:00PM – Rental in lower hall

Rev. Jan's office hours in Shelburne from 3:00 to 6:00pm

Wednesday, April 24: Office open from 9:30 to 2:00

11:00AM – Strength and Stretching Exercises

11:45AM – Fairweather Walkers

12:30PM - Choir Practice

7:00PM – Dreamers Unite Gathering on Poverty & Homelessness

Thursday, April 25: Office open from 9:00 to 2:00

10:00AM – Central West Workshop: Getting the Most Out of Your Health Care Appointments

Rev. Jan's office hours in Shelburne from 3:00 to 6:00pm

Friday, April 26: Office open from 9:30 to 2:00

11:00AM - SMART Exercise Program (about 1 hour long)

12:00PM – Fairweather Walkers

Saturday, April 27: Office Closed

2:00PM – Practice for musicians and singers for Sunday's Gospel Service

Sunday, April 28: Office open from 9:00 to 12:00pm

10:30AM – Worship Service – Homecoming Gospel Service

Reader: Marilyn Nash; Greeter: Sheila Orton; Refreshments: Pizza Lunch by donation

5:00PM – Trinity Primrose U.C. hosts a dinner by Soup Haus

7:55PM – Weekly Prayers (Online only, live)

Prayer: God of creation, help us to find ways to help each other and our earth. Remind us that each thing we do has an impact somewhere. Help us to be mindful and always looking to improve how we do things. Help us to continue to take risks for God, to share love and joy, and to offer hope to those around us. Amen.

Blessings from Rev. Jan
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Biblical Matters

Bible Trivia – Answers from last week

When was the New Kings James version published? *1982*
What English Bible, prepared during the reign of Elizabeth I, was popular with clergy but not with common people? *The Bishops' Bible*

Bible Trivia for this week (answers revealed next week)

What English translation was made in Europe by scholars who fled the persecution of Protestants under Bloody Mary?
What French Protestant scholar, riding on horseback from Paris to Lyons, divided the New Testament into verses?

Reading the New Testament through 2024:

For the week of April 22 to April 26

Monday: John 13 – Have you ever washed someone's hands or feet before in a kind of sacramental way?

Tuesday: John 14 – Do you long for God showing us signs for something?

Wednesday: John 15 – Do you 'prune' the parts of you that 'bear no fruit' from time to time? Have you thought about it? What does this look like for you?

Thursday: John 16 – How do we find peace in our belief in Jesus, God, and Spirit?

Friday: John 17 – Do you pray for yourself? For your loved ones? For the church and the world? What things do you pray for or about? How often do you pray?