



Rideau Park United Church

2203 Alta Vista Drive, Ottawa, K1H7L9

September 18, 2009

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16, English Standard Version

Dear friends in Christ:

As Canada prepares to once again host the Winter Olympics, we look forward to seeing thousands of individuals from every walk of life joining in the carrying of the Olympic torch. No one person will carry it for more than a short distance, but sharing this challenge together they will move a flame across continents, to light the torch that will stand as a symbol of peace and good will throughout the Games.

At Rideau Park, the individuals and families who make up our congregation experience the joys and responsibilities of sharing in a community of faith. Like the Olympic runners we join together in a common purpose, but our flame is the Christian faith that unites and inspires us in all we do. With the help of our wonderful clergy and staff, each of us contributes in his or her own way, sharing our time and talents in groups and committees; reaching out to assist our community; maintaining our facilities; teaching our children; studying, praying, and worshipping together; and giving from our own financial resources to keep Rideau Park a vibrant Christian community and to support the work of the United Church in Canada and throughout the world.

This year's Stewardship Campaign gives us an opportunity to think once again of the blessings that flow to us and others through our Rideau Park family, and to reflect on our role within this family. Each year there are new faces to welcome and a few familiar faces no longer with us, ongoing costs to be met and new challenges to be addressed. We are all different in our abilities and resources, but we know the needs are great. Each additional minute of time given, each voice added in worship, each extra dollar we are able to contribute makes the flame shine brighter, and makes Rideau Park more able to serve as a beacon of comfort and hope to us and to others.

May God bless and guide each of us as we consider how we can contribute financially and with our time and talents, to keep this flame we share burning brightly.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rod Linda".

Rod and Linda Hagglund, Stewardship Campaign Co-Chairs

We are a family of people who joyfully proclaim a loving God as revealed in Jesus Christ
