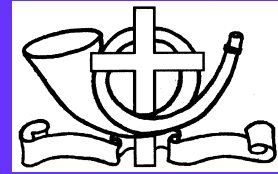


CHURCHPOST

RIDEAU PARK UNITED CHURCH



Rideau Park's website:
www.rideaupark.ca

E-mail:
info@rideaupark.ca

Minister's Pager #:
 (613) 786-4340

Telephone #:
 (613) 733-3156

Fax #:
 (613) 733-1657

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Ministers

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 Ext. 225

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 Ext. 226

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 Ext. 223

Music Ministry Coordinator

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Church Administrator

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 Ext. 228

Administrative Assistant

Debby Gerro
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 Ext. 229

Custodian

Paul Sorg
 Ext. 229

Minister's Message

This morning I heard a radio interview about choosing the right time to plant your garden, or to transplant bedding plants from the garden centre outdoors to the flower beds outdoors. They cited several myths that are commonly followed: never plant before the long weekend in May, for example. Or: mark your calendar for the first full moon in May, plant the vegetable that grow above ground (the cucumbers, tomatoes and cabbages, for example) while the moon is "waxing" or increasing, and the underground or root vegetables (potatoes, carrots and beets) while the moon is "waning" or decreasing. Some even cite the gardeners' mental health or a woman's monthly cycle as factors in the outcome of the planting season. And then you will have to factor in whether it is a Canadian myth or one generated from warmer climates...

By and large, when we plant, we look at the seasons and all the external factors. We also look at the individual factors that defy logic, like the fact that the soccer tournament always falls on the only good planting weekend, or the fact that the groundhog eats everything anyways.

When is it a good time to plant something new at the church? I'm not talking about the flower beds, I'm talking about new life, new programs, new theology, new attitudes. I'm sure you've heard all the old jokes. What are the last seven words of the church? "We've never done it that way before." Or "We tried that once,

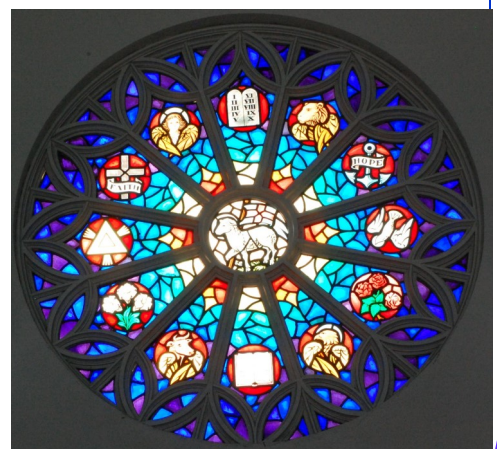
it didn't work."

And yet the very essence of the gospel is change. The gospel that Jesus preached was a new way of looking at things. Specifically, he took the roots of the tradition that he loved, stripped away a lot of the custom and prejudice that had grown up around it, and planted the seeds of God's love in new places, among new people, with new Spirit.

As we move into spring at Rideau Park, it is very easy to fall into the thinking that this is a bad time for doing anything new. "We'll try that in September," we think "when everything is starting up again." And yet, what better time to be planting, and scattering seeds, and nurturing young sprouts, than spring? With the weight of our routines lifted and many traditional programs taking a break for the summer, isn't this the perfect time to try planting new growth?

Come and share your ideas with us – there is no better time than right now!

Elizabeth Bryce



EDITOR: Marcia Gosse, Marcia.gosse@sympatico.ca

DIRECTORY OF CHAIRS

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Council | Marcia Gosse, Chair | council@rideaupark.ca |
| Board of Trustees | Sheila Faure, Chair | trustees@rideaupark.ca |
| United Church Women | Nancy Begg-Durkee, President | ucw@rideaupark.ca |

Standing Committees

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Session | Bob Nelson, Chair | session@rideaupark.ca |
| | Jeff Allo, Clerk | |
| Stewards | John Scollick, Chair | stewards@rideaupark.ca |
| | Bob Roden, Treasurer | treasurer@rideaupark.ca |

Chairs of Committees

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Admin. & Communications | Nancy McPherson | admincomm@rideaupark.ca |
| Congregational Development | Greig Scott | |
| Ministry & Personnel | Carolyn Scollick | mandp@rideaupark.ca |
| Nominations | Marilyn Law | nominations@rideaupark.ca |
| Property | Rod Hagglund | property@rideaupark.ca |
| Stewardship | Brian Hamilton | stewardship@rideaupark.ca |

Chairs of Sub-Committees of Session

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Christian Development | Co-Chairs: | christiandev@rideaupark.ca |
| | Tara Lynne Lockhart | |
| | Andrea Laliberté | |
| Pastoral Care | Brian Neal | pastoralcare@rideaupark.ca |
| Social Action & Outreach | Sandra Weedmark | socialaction@rideaupark.ca |
| Worship & Music | Co-Chairs: | worshipmusic@rideaupark.ca |
| | Kate Whitridge | |
| | Karen Lamb | |

RIDEAU PARK UNITED CHURCH

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Worship: | 10 a.m. |
| Coffee Hour: | 11 - 11:45 a.m. |
| Sunday School: | 10 a.m. |

OUR HEARTS REMEMBER

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Raeanne Godding | February 22, 2018 |
| Stan Phillips | February 23, 2018 |
| John A. Sutherland | February 28, 2018 |
| Alice Marguerite Lowther | January 30, 2018 |

*I am the resurrection
and the life. Those who
believe in me, even
though they die, will
live, and everyone who
lives and believes in me
will never die.*

John 11: 25, 26



Affirming Ministry

On March 18 we welcomed Aaron Miechkota who spoke at the church service in the morning and offered a workshop in the afternoon. We had 20 people from three congregations at the afternoon event. Aaron is the coordinator of Iridesce: The Living Apology Project. Iridesce is collecting stories related to the LGBTQ+ experience of Church. The stories, including reflections and stories from our own workshop, can be found at the Iridesce website: <https://www.iridesce.ca/stories>.

Meditation in the Christian Tradition

Peace. Awareness. Mindfulness. Groundedness. Meditation is good for you: mind, body and spirit. A small group meets for silent meditation from 9:10 - 9:30 a.m. on Sundays, in a dedicated meditation space and everyone is welcome. It's not hard to do; it's as easy as breathing. Why not give it a try? And if you would like to know more about meditation in the Christian tradition you can visit: <http://rideauparkspirituality.blogspot.ca> We will continue to meet each Sunday through the summer.

*Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be. (VU #374)*

Steve on Sabbatical

On June 1st, I will begin a time of sabbatical. The phrase "Sabbatical" is based on the Hebrew word Shabat or Sabbath, which means a time set aside for God. I have a huge stack of books to read, will meditate for a time each day and plan to take some time at a monastery in Vermont. I will return to work on October 1st. See you soon.

Steve Clifton

Welcome to the WWW

Service Webcast

Please note that the services at Rideau Park are live-streamed on our web site: www.rideaupark.ca on Sunday mornings only, but then they are posted mid-week under "Webcast Service Archives" for your enjoyment.

WWW = World Wide Web



Dr. John R. G. Bryce

Our thoughts and prayers are with Rev. Elizabeth Bryce, in the loss of her father, Dr. John Raymond George Bryce of Pointe-Claire died on April 25, in his 91st year. He was caring and fun-loving, read widely and cared passionately for the unspoiled environment. John's career in the pulp and paper industry included Howard Smith Paper Mills, Domtar Research, Paprican and McGill, thereafter volunteering with CESO in Asia. A thoughtful Christian, John dedicated countless hours to St. John's United Church, Cubs and Scouts, St. Columba House and mentored many young people over the years. He loved gardening and preserving his harvest.

Rideau Park Knitters

The UCW Supply and Welfare is looking for knitters to knit mitts, hats and scarves for those in need. There is wool available in the white drop off box outside Steve's office that you are welcome to use. Please put finished projects in the white box to be delivered. Thank you for all your help in this important outreach. If you have questions, please call Lynda Coombe at 613-733-9982.

**VBS 2018: Camp Awesome!**

Camp Awesome is a week-long Christian day camp program sponsored by Ottawa Presbytery of the United Church of Canada. It is led by a trained staff of young people, including members of our own congregation. Activities include games, crafts, drama, singing, water fun and learning about important topics. The day starts at 10am and goes to 3 p.m. Children bring their own lunch. Child-care is available for those who request it, from 8:30 – 10 a.m. and from 3 - 4:30 p.m. For more information or to register please go to our church website. This year's Camp Awesome runs from August 20 to 24.

Carleton Chaplaincy

Rideau Park provided volunteers and baking to the Exam Pause Table at Carleton University in April. Food, conversation and warm welcome help students as they study through the exam period. The reality is that for many students they come to exams with food plans spent and with empty cupboards. Students will wait 20 minutes just to get a toasted bagel. We will return to Carleton again the next academic year. Your support of this outreach is appreciated!

Facebook Page

Rideau Park has a Facebook group with more than 100 members. It's a place to post information and to share insights and inspirations. If you are on Facebook, you can look up "Rideau Park United Church" and join in!

UCW is recycling

The UCW is recycling:

- Used eyeglasses for the Third World eye clinics,
- Used postage stamps for Oxfam,
- Campbell soup labels to help purchase school materials,
- Aluminum pop can tabs for Clifford Bowey Public School.
- Please **NO** plastic bread tabs.

All are gratefully accepted with thanks. For more info, call Lynda Coombe at 613-733-9982.

Worship Services at Retirement Homes

Our Pastoral Care Minister, Georgina Fitzgerald, conducts services at many of the Retirement Homes on a rotational basis. If friends or family members would like to come to these services, they are more than welcome!

Oakpark: 1:30 p.m., 1st Wednesday of the month.

Hunt Club Manor: 11 a.m., 1st Thursday of the month.

Billings Lodge: 10:45 a.m., 2nd Tuesday of the month.

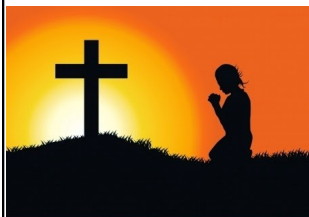
Maplewood: 11 a.m., 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Clementine Towers: 7 p.m., 3rd Thursday of the month.

Perley-Rideau Veterans: 2 p.m., Sunday, every couple of months.

Rideau Park Prayer Chain

Pastoral Visiting. Prayer Shawls. Prayer requests on Sunday morning. These are a few of the ways that Rideau Park people offer prayerful care. A prayer chain is a group of people who are committed to pray each day for concerns that are brought to them. Concerns for people can be sent to the chain. The prayer request will be forwarded through the chain by email or phone. Prayers will be offered; names and circumstances need not be included with prayer requests and all information that is provided will be kept confidential within the chain. If you would like to access our prayer chain, please send requests to Doreen Hamilton at hamilton.doreen@gmail.com or phone the church 613-733-3156 and press 5 to leave a voicemail request.



If you would like to join the prayer chain, please contact Doreen.

Pentecost is May 20th

What kind of a relationship do you have with the Holy Spirit?

- I. Really great.
- II. It's so-so.
- III. What - you can have one?
- IV. Absolutely none.

Not that long ago, I would have answered either iii or iv, but not anymore.

Over the past 8 years, my life has changed dramatically. I have come to learn and subsequently to apply many new thoughts about myself, my family, my friends, my acquaintances, and ultimately this world. Here are a few of the things I now believe:

- ♦ I am a child of God. (Remember when Elizabeth preached about this a few weeks ago? Well, I fully agree!)
- ♦ God created me – and you – equally, perfectly, in total love – as one.
- ♦ In this world in which we all “live”, I can make choices. Most of my choices have been illusions for my perceptions about situations or issues have actually been incorrect. Most of what I believe, comes from things that happened to me in the past and I have carried them over to today. Others are things that I believe will happen to me in the future, but again, I am believing them today.

- ♦ How can I make a good choice when I really can't possibly understand all the ramifications of what is involved, the nitty-gritties of how things are intertwined, what is truly best for me or a situation? I am basing my perceptions, my choices on partial evidence.
- ♦ God has a plan for each of us. Do I know this plan? NO. Can I learn of this plan? Yes.
- ♦ God provided us with the best ever Teacher, Friend, Guide, Advocate the Holy Spirit.
- ♦ THAT is the choice I need to make: Do I make my own plans? Plans that are created by me without knowing all the facts? - OR - Do I choose to ask the Holy Spirit who knows everything that God wants for me – for this world?
- ♦ All I need to do is ask: “What do you want me to do, what do you want me to say, and to whom do you want me to say it?”
- ♦ Give Him your thoughts, your questions, your problems, and He will give them back to you in miracles.
- ♦ When I ask the Holy Spirit for guidance, I may find the answer comes from a friend who shares something with me; I may find the answer comes in a book I read; I may find the answer comes in a sign on the street; I may find the answer comes in something that I write about and then wonder from where

those wise words came; I may have a conversation where I wonder from where the thoughts that I spoke arose for I certainly never knew I thought them. The Holy Spirit teaches in mysterious ways.

- ♦ How do I know the Truth came from the Holy Spirit? Afterwards, I feel at peace, full of joy or happiness instead of full of the stress, pain, loss, and suffering that I might feel when I make my own plans.

Are you intrigued? Are you curious? Are you willing to give it a try? Are you a Mikey? (Some of you will remember the little brother who was willing to try any kind of food that his brother was afraid to try.)

Well, what have you got to lose, but WOW, what you have to gain! Give it a try and maybe you, too, will be amazed at “how well it works”. (Remember though, unless you have faith that it will - it won't!).

Now, sit back and wait for the miracle to happen, for the miracle is your willingness to change your perception about the situation. What a grand journey you can have ahead of you!

Following, are a few references that you can check out about all of this:

- ♦ John 14: 16, 17, 26
- ♦ 1 Corinthians 2: 11
- ♦ Acts 1:8
- ♦ Galatians 5:22, 23, 25

Carolyn Scollick

United Church Women at Rideau Park

Rideau Park UCW is having their annual June dinner and meeting on Monday, June 4th, 2018 at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and are available after Sunday services and from the Church office until Sunday, May 27th. We'll enjoy dinner, worship, a guest speaker and celebrate together our accomplishments. We hope to see you there.

Mandy's Café, a local Alta Vista Café, is catering our dinner. Menu: Choice of Cannelloni, Manicotti, or gluten-free & lactose-free lasagna, served with salad, rolls and of course, dessert.

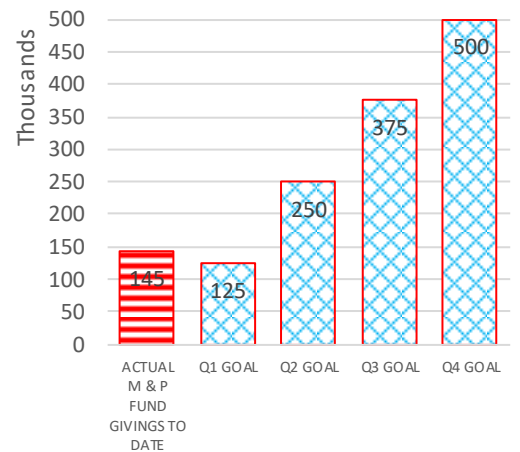
For additional information please contact Nancy Begg-Durkee: 613-521-2051 or email: ucw@rideaupark.ca.

Congregational Update

The 2017 Annual Report highlighted the fact that we have been facing greater financial challenges as a congregation each year for a number of years. This trend shows no sign of changing in the short term as we search for ways to reach a degree of sustainability. Sustainability would permit us to pay our church expenses, the salaries of our staff and to maintain our level of visibility in, and support to, the community. In the budget presented at the 2018 ACM, we were projecting a shortfall of \$19,303 in the Ministries and Program Fund, which could reach as high as \$40,000, based on the pattern of our current givings. Since almost 85% of Revenues comes from givings it is our congregation that will need to provide the necessary funds. However, it would be easier to provide this extra support if it was done throughout the year as opposed to all at once at year end. Consequently, every month Stewards will report our financial goal along with the progress we are making to reach this goal, much like the United Way does during their campaigns. This goal has been set based on having the M&P fund break even by year end. The goal may seem formidable, however, as an example, if the 487 families, who call Rideau Park their home, each gave \$100 over and above their last year's contributions to the M&P fund, that would represent a \$48,700 increase in overall revenue to the Ministries and Programs Fund.

This initial chart provides the status of year-to-date givings to the M&P Fund at the end of April 2018.

**RPUC 2018 M&P FINANCIAL GOALS
STATUS TO APRIL 2018**



Rideau Park's 2018 Photo Directories

Have Arrived!

If your picture was taken by the photographer, there is a directory waiting for you, in the church office.

There are a few copies of the 2018 Rideau Park Church Directory available for sale. The cost is \$15.00 per copy, on a first come, first served basis. If you are interested, please contact Marcia Gosse at 613-731-2281 or email: Marcia.Gosse@sympatico.ca.

Churchpost submissions

Due: 12 Noon, Sunday, September 9

Pick-up: Sunday, September 16

Submissions to Churchpost can be emailed to:

Marcia.Gosse@sympatico.ca

and should include the name and phone number of the author(s).

Heron Emergency Food Centre (HEFC)

We donate to the Food Bank on Sunday "One" Of every month. Our job is done....

When we take from our car, our contribution,
And add it to others for distribution....

What happens next? Do we call a "drone"
To fly it away to a "needy-one's home?"
There are bottles, and boxes, and baskets, and bags.
It must get to the Food Bank: they put on the "tags".

Well, we have an angel She stands apart.
She's blonde, with warm smiles, strong arms and kind heart,
For years and years 16 Maybe more,
She's transported that food to the Food Bank's door.

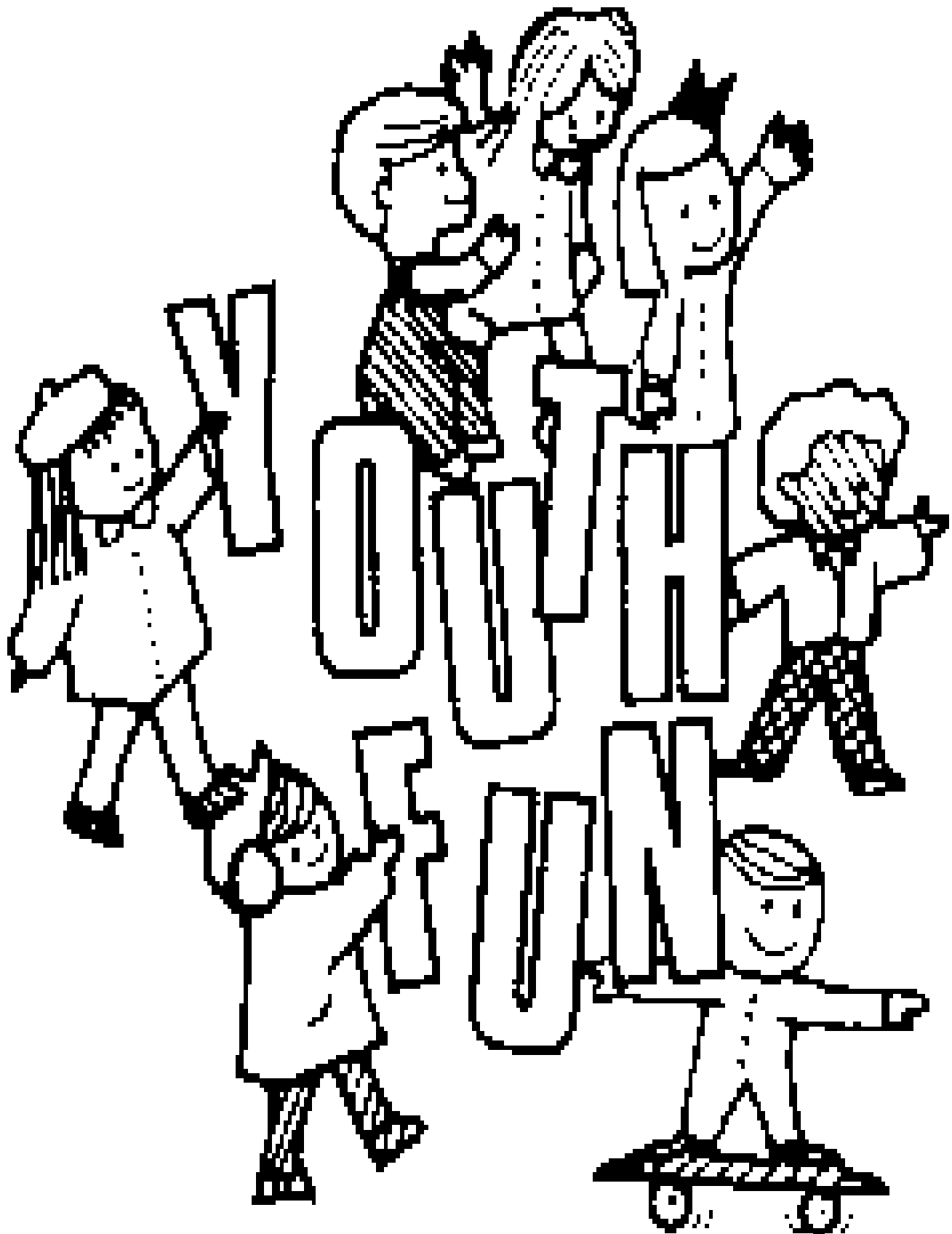
Her name is Lynda, and she is tenacious as a tiger.
When Martha, her mom, was still here, she'd assist her.
We thank her.... But there's more to say,
Lynda counts.... Plays.... And drives on Sundays!

When you see her quietly walk to her pew,
Remember what she's just done for you.
Give her a smile.... You'll get one back!
And take a minute, this friend to thank.

Of course, the main point of this poem, is to emphasize the need for food items that are needed by the Heron Emergency Food Centre! The need is desperate, and Rideau Park has always been a staunch supporter for those in need!

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--|
| May | | |
| 12 (Sat) | 4 p.m. | "My Mother's Favourite Pieces" Concert - Andrew Ager |
| 13 (Sun) | 10 a.m. | Mother's Day/Christian Family Sunday |
| | | Sunday School Recognition |
| 20 (Sun) | 10 a.m. | Pentecost Sunday |
| 21 (Mon) | | Victoria Day (<i>office closed</i>) |
| 25 (Fri) | 5 p.m. | Family Dinner with Highland Dancing |
| 27 (Sun) | 10 a.m. | Confirmation & Communion |
| | 2 p.m. | Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle Choir Concert |
| 30 (Wed) | 11 a.m. | Harmony Club: A monthly social gathering/lunch for 60+ seniors |
| June | | |
| 5-24 | 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Rideau Park Café (during RCM exams) |
| 6 (Mon) | 6 p.m. | UCW Dinner (Tickets through Church office) |
| 7 (Thurs) | All Day | Ontario Provincial Election |
| 9 (Sat) | 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Awesome Alta Vista Garage Sale, Book Sale and BBQ |
| 10 (Sun) | 1:30 p.m. | Recital – Iain Macpherson (Freewill donation) |
| 17 (Sun) | 10 a.m. | Father's Day |
| July | | |
| 1 (Sun) | 10 a.m. | Shared Service at Rideau Park, with Emmanuel United |
| 2 (Mon) | | Canada Day Holiday (<i>office closed</i>) |
| August | | |
| 5 (Sun) | 10 a.m. | Shared Service at Emmanuel United |
| 6 (Mon) | | Civic Holiday (<i>office closed</i>) |
| 20-24 (Mon - Thurs) | | Camp Awesome |
| September | | |
| 3 (Mon) | | Labour Day (<i>office closed</i>) |
| 6 (Thurs) | 1 p.m. | Euchre starts |
| | 5:45 p.m. | HearSay and choirs start |
| 9 (Sun) | | Open House |
| 21 (Fri) | 5/6:30 p.m. | Lobster Dinner |
| 26 (Wed) | 11 a.m. | Harmony Club: A monthly social gathering/lunch for 60+ seniors |



Rideau Park United Church
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