

Life in our Rideau Park church community has many possibilities and there are many ways for us to worship, pray, study, nurture, advocate and share our faith, hope, talents and resources with our community, country and the world.

Our Mission Statement

Rideau Park United Church is a family of people who joyfully proclaim a loving God as revealed in Jesus Christ.



As caring members of this church, we seek to do this by:

- Joining together in worship, prayer and music;
- Reading and studying the Bible;
- Living a Christian life;
- Nurturing both young and old in Christian education programs;
- Seeking justice for everyone; and
- Continually sharing our faith, hope, talents and resources with our community, country and the world.

For more than 65 years **we have come together at Rideau Park in worship, prayer and music.** In addition to our weekly Sunday morning Worship Services at 10:00 am we have many programs bringing together all ages.

- **Music** is a vital part of life at Rideau Park. Each year our musicians of all ages give generously of their time and talents. They make up our children and youth choirs, our bells and chimes groups and our Chancel Choir.
- This year our **Christmas Bell Concert** will be on *November 29th*, our **Children's Pageant** will be on *December 13th* and our **Christmas Celebration Concert** will be on *December 20th*.
- **Prayer Requests** at Rideau Park are a common occurrence. We have a wonderful group of volunteers who make up our Prayer Chain. They give of their time and prayers for any and all who may need them and uphold our congregation and the wider church in their prayers.
- Each week we video webcast our Sunday Service. It is available on the rideaupark.ca Home Page starting about ten minutes before the service. There is also a Service Archives of past services.

Rideau Park offers many different ways **to read the scriptures as well as study and learn about our Christian faith.**

- We have a weekly **Wednesday Morning Bible Exploration** led by our Ministers.
- **Monthly Meditative services** offer quiet services of Taize chants, prayer, scripture, Communion/Agape meal and silence.
- Our Ministers and lay leadership lead fall, winter and Lenten **book studies** that explore different aspects of our faith, other faiths and critical issues of our times.
- A **meditation group** meets on Sundays at 9:10 am for 20 minutes for those who want to take time for quiet meditation and reflection.
- **Healing Pathway** is a United Church ministry of prayer for healing that is practiced in six Ottawa congregations, including, starting this fall, at Rideau Park. Healing Pathway will be available twice a month, on Sunday evenings in the Parlour from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

We strive to provide programs and activities that **support a Christian life for the community.**

- **HearSay** happens on Thursday evenings. It is a shared meal that supports those families participating in the children's music programs and brings our church family closer together.
- Our **United Church Women's group** consists of six Units that meet for fellowship and mission. This fall UCW members are organizing our **Fall Nearly New Sale, October 2nd and 3rd**; a **Trivia Evening, October 23rd** and our **Christmas Treasures Bazaar on November 7th**.

We offer diverse Christian programming that nurtures both young and old.

- An extensive **Sunday School program** offers all the children and youth in the congregation the opportunity to come and learn about their Christian faith. Each year the children in Sunday School give generously of their artistic talents and design a series of **Christmas Cards for a Charity** of their choice. These cards are available for sale during the Christmas season.
- The **Harmony Club** for seniors, meets monthly and offers an interesting program including guest speakers and a shared meal at the noon hour.
- A large **Rideau Park Euchre Club** is open to all and meets on Thursday afternoons.
- **A library** is available to help you in your discovery of a personal relationship with Christ.
- We have a **Pastoral Care Minister and a support committee** that oversees an active visitation program for those in our church community who are no longer able to attend church.
- All are welcome to join our enthusiastic groups for **Quilting**, Thursday mornings, **Cross-stitching**, on Monday mornings, and **Knitting**, Monday afternoons for friendly times and enjoyment.

The local community work of Rideau Park complements the United Church of Canada advocacy of justice for all.

- Our Rideau Park **Social Action and Outreach Committee** explores issues of social justice and supports a variety of community organizations by giving generously of funds and volunteer time. Social Action and Outreach supports the **Heron Emergency Food Centre, Blair Court Community House, Multi-Faith Housing Initiative, South East Ottawa Centre and Banff Avenue Community House.**
- Each year the **Rideau Park Christmas Cheer Program** provides food hampers and vouchers for over 150 identified needy families in the local community at Christmas.

At Rideau Park we are committed to being an active presence in our community, country and world by sharing our faith, hope and talents.

- We support those wishing to enter into marriage, have their children baptized, or have loved ones remembered.
- We offer meeting space to groups in our local community, such as **Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts** and **Ventures** as well as the **Alta Vista Community Association, The Canadian Institute for the Blind, The World Day of Prayer Organization, Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Ottawa Presbytery.**
- We support the **Carleton University Ecumenical Pause Table** by providing baking and refreshments to university students during their stressful exam times.
- Additionally we are strong supporters of the **Mission and Service Fund**, which is the face of the United Church of Canada nationally and around the world. Our contributions finance a diversity of ministries and missions both across Canada and overseas.

If you are interested in learning more about specific programs at Rideau Park, contact the Church Office at 613-733-3156 or stop by and pick up a copy of our **2015-2016 Activity Book.**