

UCW DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

2021 The Year in Review

OR, HOW THE UCW DISCOVERED NEW WAYS TO DO
ALMOST EVERYTHING



**AN INVITATION TO
THE CANDLELIGHT
SERVICE**

**MONDAY DEC 6TH
1:30PM**

**IN THE SANCTUARY
AND LIVESTREAMED**

Welcome the Season with Joy

In the spring, with UCW activities still stopped in their tracks, and with our frustration growing we began envisioning new events and new ways of conducting traditional events by tweaking them to meet our current circumstances. Lo and behold, we succeeded in raising both money for the church, and the spirits of those who participated.

- There was a frozen soup sale, an online bake sale and a pop-up book sale.
- The Easter memorial project turned Easter flowers into Easter cards and was both a successful outreach project and raised funds.
- Merry Dairy's Ice Cream fundraiser was a "cool" success. A brand new event that will return.
- Zoom meetings continued including our general meetings in June and November - In June the guest speakers from the Guatemala Stove Project challenged us to think beyond our borders.
- A hybrid Bazaar! Planned and executed with agility we didn't know we had! Part 1: an outdoor sale on a fine September day. Part 2: an on-line food sale via a fantastic website and supported by many volunteers.

These events demonstrated that the UCW can pivot with the best. There is still more to come:

- The Candlelight Service will include Life Membership presentations. **You can attend the service in person in the Sanctuary on Monday, December 6th, at 1:30pm - contact Judy Pare at judy2006@sympatico.ca to register.** (Even if you don't register you won't be turned away.) For this event, proof of vaccination and a mask will be needed, as all Covid19 protocols are being followed.
- Or can you tune in as you would to a Sunday Service.

The year 2021 was marked by frustration and flexibility, aggravation and ingenuity. It's been a year where resilience and faith have won out, particularly in hindsight! Rideau Park UCW has persevered in the face of fewer people able to volunteer and more challenging communication. As our President Nancy McPherson says, **"Oh for Coffee Hour and the simple act of sorting things out over a coffee and a cookie."**



UCW Donations in 2021

With many thanks to all the UCW and the congregation for their support this year

In 2021 Rideau Park UCW donated approximately \$10,000 distributed among local charities, BC disaster relief, and one international organization.

COUNSELLING/SUPPORT:

Christie Lake Camp, Heron Road Emergency Food Bank, The Pavilion Food Bank, Rotary House (Ottawa), The Butterfly Project

Rideau Park United Church:

Benevolent Fund, Christmas Cheer

SENIOR/HEALTH CARE: Dementia Society, Bruyere (Respite for Caregivers), Hospice Care Ottawa (May Court Hospice)

SHELTERS: Harmony House (2nd Stage Women's Shelter), Interval House (1st Stage Women's Shelter), Empathy House, Harvest House, Cornerstone Housing for Women, Multi Faith Housing Initiative

FIRST NATIONS: Minwaashin Lodge. (In August approx. \$1,200 from the Merry Dairy fundraiser was divided between First Nations Charities and the UCC Healing Fund)

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA: Centre 507

DISASTER RELIEF: Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) Canada, Abbotsford Community Foundation, Community Foundation South Okanagan/Similkameen, Kamloops United Church

INTERNATIONAL AID: Guatemala Stove Project



UCW MEMORIAL FUND

Motions for expenditures from the UCW Memorial Fund include projects involving the environment*, healthy meeting and work spaces, an outdoor space honouring and remembering First Nations children.

*The UCW's understanding of the word "environmental" includes effects of climate change and global warming.

