

NEWSMARK

MARK ST. UNITED CHURCH

Fall 2011

Your Elder: _____

Telephone: _____

"In the other gardens
And all up the vale,
From the autumn bonfires
See the smoke trail!

Pleasant summer over
And all the summer flowers,
The red fire blazes,
the grey smoke towers.

Sing a song of seasons!
Something bright in all,
Flowers in the summer
Fires in the fall! "

- Robert Louis Stevenson, *Autumn Fires*



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DEAR FRIENDS...

I hope as you read this edition of NewsMark that you have had a restful and happy summer, with lots of happy memories as we move into autumn. Dolwyn and I have had a great summer — lots of family time, lots of bike riding and (for me) lots of picture taking. It's been a lovely time of year.

As we move now into the autumn rhythms of the church's life, I look forward to all that is waiting for us: events that draw us together as a community, like the turkey supper; worship that prepares us to live our daily lives; outreach that makes such an important and needed difference in God's world; opportunities for spiritual growth. I encourage each of you to think about someone you know who doesn't go to church who might benefit from being part of our community here. Bring them along with you. Introduce them to others. Help them to find the richer life that is here waiting for them.

Blessings on your days,

Bob



CELTIC WORSHIP CIRCLE

Are you looking for a quiet, gentle, reflective service of worship? Then come and join us at the Celtic Worship Circle. This worship experience is modeled on the Iona Community in Scotland. We meet in a circle in the Church Parlour on a Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. once a month, light candles, sing songs, read scripture and reflect on the lives we live. You would be most welcome to join us! Watch the church calendar for dates.

FIVE OAKS RETREAT CENTRE

Five Oaks is a retreat centre of The United Church of Canada located near Paris, Ontario on 116 acres of Carolinian forest. In the midst of the often-too-busy world in which we live, Five Oaks offers an alternative: a place to go to catch up with yourself, to listen for the leading of God's Spirit in your life, to sit by Whiteman's Creek where it joins the Grand River, to walk the labyrinth or participate in one of the many programmes that are offered which are designed to help you grow into the fullness God intends for your life. Become more deeply connected with yourself, with others, with creation, with God. Please check out the Five Oaks website: www.fiveoaks.on.ca. Five Oaks is funded by the five central conferences of The United Church: Bay of Quinte, Toronto, Hamilton, London and Manitou. For more information, speak to Bob Root, who is on the Board of Directors.

Upcoming at Five Oaks:

Programming at Five Oaks includes people from the cradle to the grave. Whether it is a Silent Retreat, with spiritual direction available, or if you want to take training to

become a spiritual director, a youth ministry leader, or a licensed lay worship leader, Five Oaks is for you. There are many programmes for individuals who want to deepen their spirituality.

Titles of Upcoming Events include:

- The Eleventh Commandment — Honour the Plant, and Help the Children While We're At It!
- Spiritual Dimensions of Ecological Questions
- Labyrinth Walking: an ancient tool for a whole new mind
- Listening to the Holy through Dreams
- Identity and Meaning of the Church in Changing Times
- Male Spirituality Circles

Also at Five Oaks is the Grand River Book Store — a wonderful resource for people who want to read thoughtful, challenging Christian material. Call Jackie Childerhose at 1-888-668-0871. She will guide you to just the right book for you.



UP-COMING EVENTS

**Welcome Back Corn Roast
Sunday, September 11
After Worship**

Carol McKey, who raises funds for God Knows Orphanage in Zimbabwe, will be selling her delightful T-shirts. This will include a display of the T-shirts which some of our CCEP children have made.

The children are joining Carol to help the children in Africa. We hope everyone will come to have a look and support our kids in this wonderful project.



**Mark Street United Church
Turkey Dinner
(with all the trimmings)
Saturday, September 24
4:30—7:00 p.m.**

Adults \$15.00
Children 6-12 \$7.00
5 and under FREE

Tickets available at the Church Office
Or at the door
705-742-2682

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School was enjoyed by 21 participants between the ages of 3-7 years. The morning went by quickly as we started the day with a morning circle and then got in touch with our creative side in the craft centre lead by Mary Smith and Carole Parnell. From there we enjoyed a nut free, gluten free snack prepared by Brenda McEwen. After that it was time for music and games lead by Jessica Knoyle. Then off to closing worship with a story time to recap the word of the day and the day's theme.

Overall, it was a great week that was enjoyed by all who participated, volunteered and coordinated.

Submitted by Sarah Dorsett

CCEP NEWS

The 8 to 11 year old group is looking for 2 leaders this year to help the current 2 leaders of this age group. We want each leader to lead the group one Sunday per month. We would like a commitment from September to January or September to June 2011-2012.

CCEP registration forms for the coming year will be available in the Narthex and the foyer during the month of September.

Thank you to Sandra McIlvride who is stepping down from helping with the CCEP's 8-12 year old group this year. She always had fun ideas to share with the children and she was a wonderful person to plan with.

Submitted by Martha Hunter

OUTREACH FOR FALL 2011

Can you believe it is time to gather for another season? The summer has been beautiful; the storms and lightning shows have been spectacular!

- We have enjoyed serving lemonade and snacks over the hot months. Once the cooler weather sets in we will serve tea and coffee. Thank you for all of your snack and treat donations.
- On-going is our \$100.00 per month donation to Brock Mission.
- Kawartha Food Share contributions have diminished and we may need to reconsider that program. Meanwhile, we will continue to deliver monthly.
- The Community Gardens are harvesting and looking to fall roto-tilling and bedding the gardens for winter. We have rented all four plots again.

Ready for Fall

- Collective Kitchens have been booked and ready to enjoy the fall harvest. The group meets in the CEC kitchen monthly on Thursdays. Outreach will support them with a monetary donation.
- The Breakfast Bundle project will commence after September 8th. King George School has a new principal and we are meeting to discuss the format for the 2011/12 year. Volunteers are always welcome. This is a very busy program!
- In early October the Mitten Tree will be decorated with lots of lights, ready for those mitts, toques and scarves. All are gathered early in December for the Toy/Hamper program at the Peterborough Armouries.

- **Soup 'N' Sandwich Sundays:** September 25th is the first Soup 'N' Sandwich Sunday. We'll showcase harvest soups, delicious sandwiches and dessert is a surprise! Please join us for lots of fun and fellowship. Your donations are part of our "fun-raising" to support our Outreach projects.

Submitted by the Outreach Committee



PARISH NURSING MINISTRY AT MARK STREET

The Health Committee has been busy this summer. We have created a job description for the Parish Nurse and posted our candidate position in the bulletin, on our website and on the ICHM website. We had three applicants and have an interview set up for late August. If this applicant is successful we will be recommending to Council, at their September meeting, that we support this person as our Parish Nurse Candidate.

Submitted by the Health Committee Members: Louise Ferren, David May, Carol Parnell, Julie Plummer, Shirley Post, Bob Root, Coralee Vass, Nancy Warren and Diane Woodruff.

MARK STREET UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW)

The Mission of the United Church Women of Canada is — to love God, to foster Christian faithfulness, spirituality, commitment and devotion and to promote love and respect by living generously and giving joyfully to all God's people and to affirm and strengthen ourselves creatively.

At Mark Street, we represent the Mission Statement and also foster fellowship among one another. We consist of two units. Unit One meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:15 p.m. in the church parlour. Unit Two also meets in the parlour, on the third Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. Both groups will be re-convening in September and always welcome new members or occasional visitors. The monthly meetings consist of worship and devotion and usually follow seasonal themes with very interesting speakers or demonstrations. Refreshments are enjoyed along with warm fellowship.

The 2011 fall season will be busy as usual. Plans include the following:

- The annual **Fall Rummage Sale** will be held on Saturday, October 15th. Unit #2 members are requesting that you gather up your good used items and bring them to the church. Watch the church bulletin for more details on this annual event.
- The **Yuletide Tea and Bazaar** will be held on November 19th from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to start making crafts and keeping the church in mind when you prepare your preserves. There will be a deli table with meat pies, a bazaar table, bake table,

Crafts and a new-to-you table. Now is the time to be thinking about how you can help with this event. Admission will be \$5.00 which includes all you can eat fancy sandwiches, sweets, tea and coffee.

During the summer, both Units have served lunches for funerals had at the church.

Members of the UCW would like to recognize the dedication and service of three members. Past President Betty Miles passed away in August. She was a valued member of Unit #2 and the church as a whole. Her cheerful smile will be dearly missed by everyone, especially the groups in which she participated.



We are also saddened with the recent passing of Past President Muriel Rowland. She will always be remembered for her wonderful baking. We always looked forward to her contributions, especially her butter tarts, to the various fundraisers. She will be remembered as a beautiful, quiet and kind lady.

Eleanor Armstrong moved to Kingston in July to be closer to her family. Eleanor was a valuable member of Unit #1. She attended our church since she was a child. She too, wears a beautiful smile and her pleasant personality will be missed. We wish Eleanor all the best in her new home. A UCW pin was presented to Eleanor in recognition of her service.

We also want to recognize the many folks who help with set up and take down at funerals and fundraising events. We could never do it without you.

Members of the UCW are pleased and proud to support the efforts of our congregation and community. We would be delighted to welcome new members. If you are interested, please call the church office for further information.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Holmes, Secretary.

Members of the *NewsMark* Committee are:
Cliff Weaver
Susan Weaver

Newsletter Deadline
Saturday, November 5, 2011

Please put your submissions in the mail slot
marked "Newsletter"
or e-mail them to
cliffsue.weaver@hotmail.com

We invite you to make submissions
to YOUR newsletter.

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