

RECOGNITION OF TERRITORY AND TREATY

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and the Anishnaabe first peoples, covered by the Fort Albany Treaty in 1701. With respect for their history, their spirituality and their culture, we give thanks for God's gift of gathering in this space on this land.



AFFIRMING STATEMENT

Port Nelson is an Affirming Ministry of The United Church of Canada. We affirm, include, and celebrate people of every age, race, belief, culture, ability, income level, family configuration, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation in our life and ministry.

PORT NELSON NOTEBOOK AUGUST 2, 2020



OUR VALUES

Affirming ~ Caring ~ Growing Spiritually ~ Reaching Out



SUMMER CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

While we are not able to hold our in-person summer GLEE Camps this year, there is Good News! Jocelyn Birkes and Alec O'Halloran will be leading and offering on-line summer programs for all children and youth.

Adventure Camp (for children SK to grade 5): There will be two sessions weekly - Sunday's from 10am - 11am and Wednesday's 3pm - 4pm. See the webpage for more information. To register, please email your child's name and age to: glee@portnelsonunitedchurch.com

Pinnacle Summer Edition (for youth grades 6 to 12): Young leaders will gather for ZOOM discussions on current issues and events from a faith perspective two times a week! Sundays 11.15am - 12.15pm and Thursdays from 7pm - 8pm. No registration required!

**both programs will run from July 5 - August 16*

EMERGENCY PASTORAL CARE - SUMMER

The following schedule is the availability of ministers on call for funerals and emergency pastoral care needs during the summer weeks:

August 1 to August 16: Martha Reynolds (289-684-2845)

August 17 to August 30: Michael Brooks (905-746-0052)

August 31 to Sept. 6: Martha Reynolds (289-684-2845)

STAFF SUMMER VACATIONS/OFFICE HOURS

Staff will be taking vacation time at various points during August. If you wish to speak to a specific staff member, please call in advance. the church office will be open:

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 12:00pm.

The office will be closed on Fridays.

UPDATE FROM WORSHIP RESTART TIME

Your worship re-start team of Michael Brooks, Stan Harvey, Jacki Kingston, Stillman Matheson and Rob Warman continue to work on the steps necessary to **re-start in person services beginning Sunday, August 30th at 10.30am.** There will be a number of initiatives in place to make the experience as safe as possible. We know that many are looking forward to gathering for worship, while others will continue to be blessed by the online services we have been offering. Rest assured that, even though we are planning to resume in-person services, we will continue to offer some form of on-line service as well. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please be in touch with Jen in the church office: office@portnelsonunitedchurch.com

TODAY

Sunday worship will be **broadcast via YouTube** at 10.30am.

The Worship Re-Start team has set a target date of **Sunday August 30th** to resume in-person services.



FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

There are several ways you can support the church's ministries:

Cheques may be mailed to the church office

PAR (monthly Pre-Authorized Remittance)

Online giving through CanadaHelps* via the Church Webpage (*there is a fee for this service)

E-transfer to: office@portnelsonunitedchurch.com

Please Note: unless designated otherwise, offerings will go to General needs. *If you need more information or any assistance, please contact the office.*

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2 Bill Ellicott	3 Jean Redgrave
4 Noah Farrell	5 Kayleanna Handcock
5 Katelyn Emery	6 Beverly Osborne
6 Elliot Byers	10 Aiden Glenn
11 Julie Glenn	11 Cliff Smith
11 Paul Glenn	11 Lilly Ife
13 Hilary Whiskin	19 Nicolaas Van Gemert
23 Tania Laurie	26 Murray Thompson
28 Steve Jones	29 Bill Leithead



The Staff of Port Nelson United Church

Michael Brooks, Minister

Martha Reynolds, Minister of Pastoral Care

Candy Harvey, Voluntary Associate Minister

Stillman Matheson, Director of Music

Sharon Holmes, Developer of Children's Ministry

Jay Poitras, Developer of Youth Ministry

Kelly Rogers, Nursery Coordinator

Jennifer Bath, Church Administrator

Paul Pincete, Bookkeeper

Rick Tucker, Church Custodian

Tina Depko, Security/Lock-up

Tina Depko & Riley Denver, Communications

Alex Hutchinson, AV Technician

SUMMER SERVICES 2020

Summer Online Sermon Series **MARK MY WORD!** Quoting the Bible Without Knowing It

“Mark My Word: Quoting the Bible without Knowing It”

Your ministry staff has planned what we hope will be an interesting light-hearted and engaging summer sermon series.

Each Sunday at 10.30am we will explore well-known sayings from everyday speech that are actually from the Bible. Join Michael Brooks, Martha Reynolds, Candy Harvey, Dale Estey and Stillman Matheson as we explore the following sayings:

Sundays at 10.30am:

August 2	An eye for an eye (Matthew 5: 38-42)
August 9	He's the salt of the earth (Matthew 5: 13)
August 16	The left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing (Matthew 6: 2-4)
August 23	There's nothing new under the sun (Ecclesiastes 1: 9)
August 30	The writing is on the wall (Daniel 5: 5-7)
September 6	A labour of love (1 Thessalonians 1: 2-4)

SERVING AND CARING

Food Voucher Program

Participants are being contacted by telephone and gift cards are being mailed to those in dire need. Please indicate “Food Voucher Program” when making a donation.

Burlington Food Bank - UPDATE

As a result of COVID-19 the Burlington Food Bank has seen an increase in client usage by 70%. The monetary donations collected have allowed them to provide more fresh and perishable items in addition to non-perishable foods to members of the community requiring assistance. Thank you for your support during this time! To donate: **cheques** may be mailed to the church office (indicate Food Bank), **online giving** through the Church Webpage (please note there is a fee for this service), **e-transfer** to the church office at: office@portnelsonunitedchurch.com or send directly to the food bank: 1A – 1254 Plains Road East, Burlington L7S 1W6 Tel: 905-637-2273 www.burlingtonfoodbank.ca

Shopping Service

Volunteer shoppers are available to assist anyone who needs to self-isolate and others unable to leave their homes shop for needed items. Interested in being a volunteer shopper? Know someone who may need this service?

Contact Stan Harvey:
stan.b.harvey@outlook.com
Tel: 289 795 7372



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PROPERTY CHAIR

Expanding the Technology and People for our Sunday Worship Online

I hope all are well and finding new ways to connect with those around you in these different times! We have certainly been blessed by the evolution of our Sunday services and the video representation of the services created by Alex Hutchinson, our AV Technician. While the Worship Re-start Team makes plans for in-person services to resume on Sunday, August 30th, your Property Management Team has **been preparing for the new requirements to livestream services**. We recognize that all may not be comfortable with returning to services in person and that our world has changed. The good news is that more individuals than ever before are appreciating the blessings we have at Port Nelson, and that online services will be a necessity in our new normal.

What you may not know is that, prior to the pandemic, we were largely relying on borrowed equipment to livestream our services. Now, **we need to invest in enhancing the technology to share our message**. After extensive investigation and proposals from vendors, we have contracted with AVLI to provide cameras and equipment to capture images (including multiple views and angles) upon our return to the church for live services. The new equipment is being designed to be easily used. We also anticipate that, as individuals are hesitant or unable to travel, there may be opportunities to use this equipment to live stream other important events in the church such as funerals and weddings.

Our thanks to John Zinkie for the investigative efforts and coordinating this installation on our behalf.

The cost of the upgrades will be about \$35,000 but, thanks to the care and generosity of several families, we already have the majority of this cost covered.

Two Ways to Help!

Have you appreciated online services? Would you like to contribute to enhancing our live streaming for services this fall? Could you make a contribution of \$5,000 toward this? Or \$1,000? Or \$500? **Your generous support of this new technology is greatly appreciated!** You can contribute by using the on-line donations button on the church website (and selecting “live streaming upgrades”), or you can mail or deliver a cheque to the church office.

You can also **become part of the team that produces our live streams as an Audio-Visual Operator Volunteer**. We are looking for 5-6 volunteers to learn how to operate the audio, video and streaming systems that bring services to our church family's homes every Sunday morning. The training would be in late August and early September, and the volunteers will become a key part of our online streaming ministry. There will be a rotation of volunteers and ongoing training available. Interested in learning more or in volunteering? I would love to hear from you! Please email me at:

kim_mcgrath@sympatico.ca

Kim McGrath,

Chair of the Property Management Ministry

POLICY ON THE WEARING OF MASKS

To be consistent with recent by-laws enacted by the City of Burlington and Halton Region, your Church Board, on the recommendation of the COVID-19 Emergency Team, has approved a policy regarding the use of face masks/coverings. Please wear a mask whenever you are inside the church building if you are able. If you would like to see the full policy, contact the church office. Jen, our Office Administrator, can send you a copy.

MISTLETOE MART 2020



“Is Covid-19 affecting planning?” Many people are asking this question and there are so many questions that cannot be answered at this time. However, the “SHOW” must go on – even if there may be changes! This most important fundraiser for Port Nelson continues to need you! The Collectibles and Silent Auction have been rolled into one – **Collectibles and More**. Please check your cupboards and closets for precious collectibles, top quality art work with high-grade frames, and finer linens (no garage sale items)! By narrowing the selection, we will be able to space out items for social distancing. If you are making pickles, jams, jellies or chutneys with this summer’s bounty, please remember the Mistletoe Mart. Fruits are ripening!



WRIGHT LIBRARY

While the library remains closed, the library committee is able to pull some books for loaning. Port Nelson’s Library has many books on the subject of Anti- Racism. The Library Committee invites you to read one of these books this summer. Some of the titles are: The Skin We’re In; How to Be an Antiracist; Biased; White Fragility; So You Want to Talk about Race; I’m Still Here. Next week look for more titles that are available. Please email or call Pat Gilmore for a pre-arranged pick up time during church office hours, or to have Pat Gilmore deliver it directly to your home. Contact: patgilmore3@gmail.com / 905-502-8761



COVID-19 STORIES



Good news! We have received about 10 stories relating to specific experiences you’ve had in the last few months. It’s not too late to share your own story. We’re inviting YOU to create and send in stories, reflections and poems on the COVID-19 Crisis that we could use for a possible Devotional Booklet for Lent 2021:

The pieces should be between 250 and 500 words, and speak to the overall topic of **wilderness/isolation**. Here are some questions that might help stimulate your creativity:

- What are you missing right now?
- What do you miss most about your faith community?
- Have you discovered any unexpected gifts during this pandemic?
- What has been your experience of online worship services?
- Are there things in your life that you feel are not as important now as they were before the pandemic?
- Where is God in all of this?
- How is your experience a “wilderness” experience?
- What does “home” mean for you now?

We’ll help with editing, so don’t worry about sending polished pieces. Sincerity is more important than perfection! We also hope to have contributions from all ages.

Deadline for submissions has been extended to August 31

Send all submissions with subject “COVID-19 Stories” to Jen at: office@portnelsonunitedchurch.com

Thanks, and happy writing!

*-Ruth McQuirter and Michael Brooks,
Project Coordinators*

Weekly Email: If you do not receive our weekly email and would like to, please sign up on our webpage or email the church office to have your name added to our email listing: office@portnelsonunitedchurch.com