

Our Mission Statement: We are a diverse community of Christians, called by God, who seek to make a positive difference in the lives of those who live in the Bathurst and Lawrence Community and beyond.

LOOKING BACK



Filipino Independence Sunday, June 11



Ianthe Spencer's 90th Birthday on June 18





It is a great pleasure to send you best wishes and warmest congratulations on the occasion of your ninetieth birthday.

> Justine Trudeau Prime Minister of Canada Ottawa 2023



Dear Mrs Spencer, Congratulations on your 90th birthday! During your lifetime, the country has undergone some amazing shift; a transition from one century to the next. Evolution of technology, society, community. Times of great challenge and of great joy. No matter what role you

played in the last ninety years, you have been an essential part of our country and we are grateful for all your contributions.

Your experience is valuable and respected, and we can all learn from the wisdom you have to share.

In the language of Inuktitut, from the South Qikiqtaaluk, nalliuniqsiutsiarit! In English, happy birthday! I wish you a wonderful day filled with happy moments and memories.

Yours sincerely, Many Simon, Governor General of Canada

Rev's Carols last Sunday June 18, retirement party held Sunday May 28th



New Minister: Search Team Progress

Thank you for the confidence and trust you have place in each of us on the Search Team. Included on the team are Mel Beckles, Lydia Cariaga, Linda Cobon, Yasmin Haley (chair), Clay Johnston, and Jane Viernes.

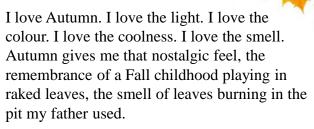
The position for a new, part-time supply minister for Asbury and West was recently posted to Church Hub, a website maintained by Shining Waters. We hope to start interviewing candidates very soon. While the hiring process usually takes longer than expected, we plan on having our new minister in place before Christmas. The position is for a six-month period.

During that time, the Search Team and Council will work with Shining Waters Regional Council to address various issues, including financial ones, so that we can begin the process of searching for a permanent, part-time minister.

If you have any questions about this process, please feel free to speak with any of the members of the Search Team. In the meantime, we ask that you to keep us in your prayers.



Autumn: A Time Of Reflection



It was a time when my parents would harvest the last of the garden bounty and prepare the beds for winter.

I'm one of those odd people who love Winter, too.

I love the light that Autumn and Winter bring; the slanted rays as the sun sets earlier, the watery light of a sun low on the horizon. I don't know why, but I always have.

For me, it's a time for "going inside", to search my soul and see where I can do better, be better. It's a time of navel-gazing, wool gathering, and all those other idioms we use when lost in thought.

It's also a time of reading and study. It's time to really sink into Bible verses and find out where God wants me to go. A time of prayer and reflection. A time of growth when the natural world has ceased it's growing season.

I urge you to look for the beauty in Autumn and Winter. Autumn is easy – not too cold yet, colourful, cozy. But Winter...ah, Winter, with it's crisp, clean air, fresh snow and the silence we find inside it as it falls. Even the garden is beautiful in Winter. Look for the shadows that dormant plants cast, the stillness of the pine tree in a back yard. The birds that come to visit and cheer.

I pray for us all, that we get through this season of perceived hardship and come out the other side with the knowledge that God has a plan and has provided for us in all seasons.

Lisa Crawford

"FLOCK TALK"

SENIOR CHOIR

As most of you already know, our dear Anthony has decided to hang up his piano after six years with us as Music Director. Anthony has been a wonderful addition to our Sunday service. He will be greatly missed and we wish him all the best in his retirement.

We are hopeful that a former student of Anthony's, David Hollingshead, who has played with us on several occasions, will be our new music director.

Unfortunately, hiring an organist at this time is an expense the church can not afford.

For now, the choir continues to give their all for the congregation and the for the love of music.

We wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving!

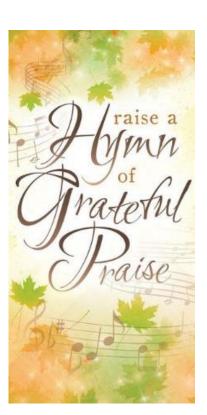
Lisa Crawford



Editors' Note: We thank

Anthony for his positive spirit and for playing all our

special requests!





Editors' Note

Flock Talk is now sent electronically to an ever-growing list of people and we hope it is forwarded along to family and friends. If you know of anyone wishing to be added to the email list, please let us know.

A limited number of copies are printed in the church office for those without computers and for the copies mailed out to our Home Members. We are grateful to our Church Secretary, Amrita, for looking after this aspect of Flock Talk.

As always, we welcome feedback & suggestions and appreciate your submissions for each issue. Send your pictures!!!

Jocelyn & Sylvia





The Rev. Douglas McKenzie Memorial Walk

On October 1, nine walkers took an afternoon stroll around the neighbourhood. The weather was beautiful and everyone enjoyed the scenery and conversation.

For those who don't know, Rev McKenzie was a past minister of Asbury and West for 33 years. Soon after his retirement, he sadly passed away. Doug was always a big fan of the walk. Since his passing, the walk-a-thon has become a tribute to his memory.

We are encouraging those who did not walk or get sponsors to donate in Doug's memory. Money raised goes towards sponsoring Noemy, our foster child in Honduras (through World Vision) as well as the operations and programs of the church. Thank you for your support.

This walk is a fundraiser sponsored by the Worship and Christian Education Ministry Group.

Cheryl Holliday



Pictured left to right: Melvyne Beckles, Lucille Hunte, Cari Pine, Vicky Brook, Clay Johnson, Janiss Johnson In front: Lola Pinnock, Lydia Cariaga Not pictured: Linda Cobon, Cheryl Holliday



Being a Christian is like being a pumpkin. God lifts you up, takes you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. He opens you up, touches you deep inside and scoops out all the yucky stuff -- including the seeds of doubt, hate and greed. Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see.







PROPERTY MINISTRY

Classics were in earlier during the spring for the usual maintenance. Some deficiencies were discovered and a quote was sent to us which was signed and returned for the work to be done.

The Lift has not been working for some times now. Calls were made to Otis in this regard and workmen came for inspection, but after some weeks it went out of service again. They have promised to be in soon to rectify the cause as there was some parts needed, which they had to order.

Rooks to Cooks were in over the summer. They reported having low registration in all the places they rented and had asked for a lower fee which was given to them. They want to be back next year but that is pending due to Clover School use of the Upper Room.

Rental: Requests have been coming in for casual rental, but when Clover School takes over the use of the room we may not be able to do any more casual rentals.

Snow Removal: Agreement have been signed with the same company that have been doing the snow removal for the past couple years and they are still offering us \$900 plus HST.

Clayton Johnson & Yvonne Wright Co-chairs

OCTOBER'S **P**ARTY By George Cooper

October gave a party; The leaves by hundreds came -The Chestnuts, Oaks, and Maples, And leaves of every name. The Sunshine spread a carpet, And everything was grand, Miss Weather led the dancing, Professor Wind the band. The Chestnuts came in vellow. The Oaks in crimson dressed: The lovely Misses Maple In scarlet looked their best; All balanced to their partners, And gaily fluttered by; The sight was like a rainbow New fallen from the sky. Then, in the rustic hollow, At hide-and-seek they played, The party closed at sundown, And everybody stayed. Professor Wind played louder; They flew along the ground; And then the party ended In jolly "hands around".





WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Our purpose is to enhance the spiritual growth of every person in the congregation.

Happy Autumn, friends!

The Worship and Christian Education Ministry has had a busy Summer and are working on a busy Fall.

The congregation, sadly, said farewell after sixand-a-half years, to our beloved minister, Rev. Carol McKinley. (See page 2 for pictures.)

Worship and Christian Education has done a great job carrying the services thus far. We've even managed to somewhat maintain the Zoom coverage for those services.

We are all working on pulpit supply to fill in until our Search Committee finds us a new minister.

For the church, Autumn is the time of harvest, contemplations, and preparing for short days of winter and the celebration of the birth of Christ.

Preparing services for Advent and Christmas is a daunting task, and we are all praying for a minister to lead us through it.

We thank all those in our Ministry and all those members who have stepped up in love and devotion to bring us services on Sunday mornings. A special thanks to Amrita Aphan who is always the first to arrive, set up the Zoom and the sound system, and run the PowerPoint. She is indeed a true gift to us.

Please keep the Church, all the Ministry groups, and staff in your prayers. We all need to find that path that God wants us to follow in our service through Christ's teaching.

In faith,

Lisa Crawford L Cheryl Holliday, Rotating Chairs

Christian Education

The **Sunday School** resumed regular classes, after a summer of table activities, on September 17. For some of the summer services we enjoyed listening to Caroline Halley's beautiful voice. There are 10 children registered.

Lessons in the fall will concentrate on stories about the kings and one queen in Bible times. Please note that the date for the Christmas Party is December 17.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind the parents that we dedicate an offering every Sunday. Lately we have noticed that not too many offering envelopes are in our collection plate. This money goes towards buying needed supplies and craft materials. It is also goes to mission work if you so desire, by contributing to the "around the world" section. If your child does not have envelopes, please let us know. These offerings will be added to your annual tax receipt for income tax purposes.

The Rev Douglas McKenzie Memorial Walk took place on Sunday, October 1. (See page 5.)

Youth Classes resumed on September 24.

Conversations has now ended with the retirement of Rev Carol. The ladies always spent a special time together on Wednesday mornings learning, laughing and just enjoying each other's company. We thank Rev Carol for her years of leadership.

> Cheryl Holliday Director of Children's & Youth Ministry





Stewardship Ministry

First, I would like to thank everyone for your offerings and donations. We appreciate your support, especially now as we venture into a new phase of our church life.

There sure has been a lot going on since our last report. And most of it has affected our finances, either for the good or the not so good.

Rev Carol has retired, meaning we are searching for a new part-time minister. Without having to pay a full-time salary, a part-time salary will give us some financial relief.

The Korean Church is no longer with us. This means we need to find another church or organization to replace the lost revenue.

We were unable to secure a new agreement with the Clover School for their request to rent extra space starting this September. But all is not lost; just postponed to the Spring of 2024.

However, on the up side, casual rentals are back in the picture. And so is fundraising. Two major ones this year were the Yard Sale (\$1,363.90) and the Rev Douglas McKenzie Memorial Walk. Thank you to the organizers.

As this is a Stewardship report, I feel I should give you some figures to ponder. It is not the greatest news but prayerfully a turnaround will happen soon.

According to our financial reports, our total revenue from January to end of August was \$121,503.42 and the total expenses were \$195,277.80. This means we are working with a deficit budget of (\$73,774.38). As you can see, it costs a lot of money to upkeep the building, pay our employees and contractors, pay the bills and fund our programs.

Clyde Harris, our bookkeeper does a great job in making sure we have no payments in arrears. How does he do this? By keeping a close eye on our monthly financial status so bills can be paid on time. Unfortunately, though, on occasion we have had to withdraw funds from our investments. These withdrawals are always approved by the Trustees and Council.

Did you know that Amrita Aphan, our Office Secretary, has been dealing with Bell Canada to reduce our telephone bill? Wow, this is certainly outside her job responsibilities. We are truly grateful for her knowledge and dedication. And...guess what...she has been able to reduce our telephone bill!

What can you do to help out a little more?

- Maybe you are able to give a little more in your Sunday offerings.
- Maybe you have a fundraising idea and able to organize one.
- Maybe you have experience in repair work which would help cut our costs.

Maybe you have other ideas.

So let's, all of us, step up to the plate and do what we can. And, please, if there is someone who would like to join the Stewardship team or even be the Chair, please speak to Clay Johnson, Janiss Johnson or myself.

Again, thank you for your loving and dedicated support. Peace be with you all.

Cheryl Holliday Acting Chair





ARE YOU ON P.A.R.?

Have you thought about making your church donation by P.A.R. (Pre-Authorized Remittance)? Through PAR, automatic monthly withdrawals are made from your bank account. PAR is easy to set up and can be adjusted at any time should your circumstances change. If you are already on PAR, don't forget that you can increase your donation anytime. Simply speak to Cheryl Holliday, in confidence, about the process.

Thank you for your support!

COPPER KETTLE

Please drop your change in the big Copper Kettle. Folding money gratefully accepted.

Thank you for your support!









There are seven powerful words in the Lord's Prayer "*Give us this day our daily bread*." For some, it means that the Lord does not give us anything that we can not handle. For many others, it literally translates to "please feed me".

The process is simple. A North York Harvest Food Bank donation box has been stationed in the narthex (lobby) where you drop off your donations. Now, how easy is that! What can we give? Read on for full details and information about the North York Harvest Food Bank. Please give whatever, whenever you are able.

Food Donation Items Most Needed

Canned fish and meats, canned beans, canned tomatoes, canned soups (low sodium preferable), canned vegetables, rice and quinoa, cooking oil, peanut butter, pasta and pasta sauce, flour, small boxes cereal (low sugar preferable), juice boxes, instant potatoes, nut-free snacks for kids' lunches, pudding cups, fruit cups, crackers.

<u>Important note</u> - No open packages, smaller quantities are easier to handle, contents in smaller jars spoil less quickly than in larger jars, items will not be given out with expired dates or if more than 3 months past its best before date.





The UCW ladies celebrated Mother's Day with a cake, leis (a Hawaiian flower necklace – everyone was given one to wear at the meeting) and mugs for everyone with cocoa bombs in them. Memories of childhood antics of themselves and their children were shared.

In September Kim shared the biography of Nellie McClung and her influence on the ordination of women in the United Church.

Our Christmas Party will be Tuesday November 21 at noon. A pot luck lunch will be followed by a random gift exchange and games. All women are welcome.

The Annual Congregational Christmas Potluck Dinner will be Saturday, December 2 at 5:30.

Sign up dates are November19 and 26. Guests are asked to bring donations for the Mittens and More Tree.

The UCW is open to all women in the congregation. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at noon. Bring your lunch. Meetings are always announced in the monthly calender and announcements. Come and join us!

Kim Davidson, Chair



All decisions made at Council regarding Covid are in keeping with the Government of Ontario's guidelines for social gatherings. Following are the protocols being followed at this time:

- While wearing a mask is not mandatory, it is recommended for your own safety and the safety of others attending church and when in an enclosed space
- If you forgot your mask, one will be provided.
- Hand sanitizer is available throughout the church building.
- Bible and hymn books are available and offering plates are passed.
- Communion is served using tongs for the bread and disposable communion cups.

The comfort level of individuals may vary and we respect the choice each individual makes regarding all aspects of being in a social gathering.



Online secure donation page at https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/ukraine-crisis

Phone 416-231-5931 or toll-free 1-800-268-3781 ext. 2738 and use your Visa or MasterCard.

Send a cheque or money order (marked "Emergency Response—Ukraine") to: The United Church of Canada Philanthropy Unit - Emergency Response 3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200, Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4



One Sunday morning, the minister noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small Canadian flags mounted on either side of it.



The six-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the minister walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly, 'Good morning Alex.'

'Good morning minister,' he replied, still focused on the plaque. ' minister, what is this?

The minister said, 'Well son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service.'

Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque.

Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked, 'Which service, the 9:30 or the 11:00?'



Asbury and West's Website continues to be updated. For the most current information about events, go to our web page at **asburyandwest.org** and click on the blog link (just below the scrolling pictures).

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NEXT DEADLINE – Sunday, December 10, 2023 Next Edition – Sunday, December 24, 2023

Material accepted ANYTIME (the earlier the better). Please email the editors at: <u>jocelynshewalter@gmail.com</u> or <u>rsm56@sympatico.ca</u> (Articles are subject to editing for length & clarity.)

ORANGE **SHIRT D**AY

On September 30, people all across Canada wore orange shirts to remember and honour Indigenous children who were taken from their communities and families to residential institutions.

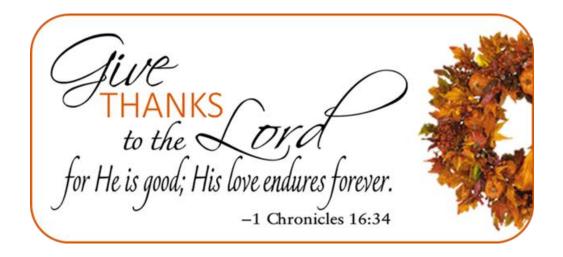
This year, Indigenous communities across the country continued to share the truth they have always known: that many of the children who never returned home remain on the grounds of those institutions in unmarked burial sites. These communities are now seeking to honour the missing children.

On Orange Shirt Day we also observed the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. For non-Indigenous Christians in particular, this was a time to reflect on their role in colonialism and the ongoing responsibility to make reparations.

Why Orange? Phyllis Jack Webstad from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation went to St. Joseph Mission Residential School. On her first day of school, Phyllis wore an orange shirt that her grandmother had given her. It was immediately taken away, and that marked the beginning of Phyllis's long separation from her family and community, a separation caused by actions of the church and federal government.

Source: United Church of Canada Website





United Church Of Canada Prayer For National Day For Truth And Reconciliation

Powerful Christ, we are grateful that you came to us as a child, who grew out of a community that nurtured, supported, and taught you the way of your ancestors. You have asked us to do the same: to treat every child as we would treat you, to love every person as you have loved us. We are grateful that your power is rooted in love, not force; your strength is displayed through community, not might. You have taught us to work toward a better world where all of creation thrives, and where every child matters. On this Orange Shirt Day, we remember Phyllis Webstad as a child, and the stolen childhood of all the children forcibly raised by church-run institutions, known as residential schools. We lament how these institutions stole from children the opportunity to grow in a safe and loving environment, stole from Elders the opportunity to share their teachings and wisdom with younger generations; and stole from communities the opportunity to live intergenerationally. We mourn the children who never made it home, the communities that were destroyed, the broken hearts, the stories never shared, and the shattered relationships. We ask that you provide comfort to all who are seeking healing and who daily wrestle with the ongoing harmful legacy of these colonial institutions, strength to all who name how colonial powers have harmed us as peoples and as a nation; often at great personal cost, and courage to all who are working toward reconciliation. Christ Child. As you grew, you reminded us to always welcome and care for children. We remember your children today. We lament and acknowledge the sinful ways that colonial powers tried to eradicate Indigenous cultures within Canada, breaking Indigenous families, removing children from their homes while destroying communities. And we pray for healing, so that we who live together in this country can also work together to build a better future where all children are cherished, beloved, and given what they need to thrive. Editors' Note: So that we may treat all children as we would treat you, our Beloved. May it be so. While this prayer was Amen.

While this prayer was written for September 30th, it should be said often throughout the year.

Remembrance Day

11 November



"In Flanders Fields" by Col. John McCrae,

In Flanders Fields The poppies blow Between the crosses row on row That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below. We are the dead, short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved and now we lie In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe To you, from failing hands , we throw The torch, be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us, who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders Fields.

Lest we forget



In honour of Remembrance Day next month I'd like to share a poem by Chief R. Stacey Laforme from his book LIVING <u>IN</u> <u>THE</u> TALL GRASS Poems of Reconciliation. Chief Laforme honours many different people in his poem and brings a renewed perspective to Remembrance Day.



Remember

To all those who came before To all the people that went to war To the men and women who faced death To those who will never again draw breath To the mothers and fathers whose children gave all To the husbands and wives whose mate answered the call To the children who faced life on their own To everyone who talks to a name on a stone No medal and ribbon can repay all that we owe The parade and applause are not enough and we know How do you thank someone for everything you have and everything you are Without you, never could we have accomplished so much or come so far I don't know how to say thank you No words are enough for what you went through There is one promise that I can give One oath that I will never break as long as I live I will remember that we owe all to you A person. A people that I never even knew I will remember.

FUN FALL FOOD FACTS

In 1578, English explorer Martin Frobisher and his crew gave thanks and communion was observed for their safe arrival in then Newfoundland, either on land at Frobisher Bay, in present day Nunavut. The explorers dined on salt beef, biscuits, and mushy peas.

In November 14, 1606, inhabitants of New France under Samuel de Champlain held huge feasts of thanksgiving between local Mi'kmaq and the French. The neighbouring Mi'kmaq likely introduced the French to cranberries, or as they called them, *petites pommes rouges* (little red apples).

The first American Thanksgiving dinner is recorded in 1621 between English settlers (Pilgrims) and Wampanoug peoples. Their menu included fall harvest items including pumpkin, squats, root vegetables, berries, game animals.

FROZEN TURKEY In 1950, John Holmes of Swift & Co. was determined to develop a successful method and delicious recipe for frozen turkey to have white meat as juicy as dark meat. In 1954, after four years of test kitchen trials, the first Swift's Premium Butterball frozen turkeys were sold at Kroger's grocery stores for 0.45¢ pound, 25% less than fresh turkey to promote sales of this new product.

CRANBERRIES In 1931, Marcus Urann ordered a risky new process to harvest the entire crop of cranberries in New England that resulted in the harvested cranberries being mushy. Undaunted, the crop was transformed into the first bottling of Ocean Spray Cranberry Cocktail. In 1941, Marcus was inspired by Libby's canned pumpkin and produced the first Ocean Spray Cranberry Jelly and later, Whole Cranberry Sauce.

GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE Dorcus Reilly, culinary technician, was challenged in 1954 to create new uses for Campbell's Cream of Mushroom Soup. After trial and error, she added milk, soya sauce and canned fried crispy onions to canned green beans to create the classic staple. Her original hand-written recipe card is located in the American Inventors Hall of Fame (along with Thomas Edison's light bulb).

STUFFING Ruth Siems made delicious stuffing in her turkeys. In 1972, her General Foods boss told her "Now make it without the bird. Our stuffing will be instant." She painstakingly toiled to find just the right size of bread crumbs for taste and texture. Stove Top Stuffing was first sold in March 1972 for 0.49¢ a box that served 6. Two decades later, a microwave version was developed

Submitted by Jocelyn Shewalter-Pattersn





On a thundering rainy day a Mom went to pick her six year old son up from school thinking that he will be fearing the lightening. She found him smiling up at the sky for every lightening bolt. She asks, "Why are you smiling? He replied "God is taking my picture and I need to look good." "FLOCK TALK"

GAMES PLUS MORE

Halloween Costumes Word Search

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Words Angel Bumblebee Cat Cowboy Doctor Firefighter Ghost Gorilla Monster Mummy Princess Superhero Vampire Werewolf Witch





Help Tommy Turkey get to his Thanksgiving pie!



*M*inistries *A*nd *C*ommittees

COMMUNICATIONS Chair: Vacancy

> HOSPITALITY Chair: Vacancy

MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE Chair: Ianthe Spencer

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL (M&P) Chair: Vacancy

PROPERTY Co-Chairs: Clayton Johnson & Yvonne Wright

STEWARDSHIP Chair: Vacant Secretary: Cheryl Holliday

WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rotating Chair: Lisa Crawford, Cheryl Holliday

> WOMEN'S MINISTRY Chair: Kim Davidson

MEMORIAL Committee Cheryl Holliday, David Tuck

> SHINING WATER REGION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE Vacancy

CONGREGATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE You are welcome to attend any meeting of Council.

COUNCIL Chair: Melvyne Beckles



Membership And Pastoral Care Ministry

The members continue to work, making daily phone calls, sending greeting cards and visiting with our Home Members.

We said farewell to our beloved Rev. Carol, on Sunday June 18^{th} , her final day with us as our Minister. We will miss Rev. Carol and wish her a much deserved retirement and God's many blessings. (See page 2 for the event).

Our sympathy is extended to Sylvia and Melissa Nielsen on the death of Randy in May and to Janiss Johnson on the death of her Sister. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and wish God's comfort and support to uplift them.

The members of the Membership and Pastor Care Ministry are:

Ianthe Spencer (Chair), Janiss Johnson (Secretary), Shirley & Melvyne Beckles, Linda Cobon, Lisa Crawford and Lucille Hunt.

Ianthe Spencer, Chair



I thank everyone who attended my 90th Birthday celebration on Sunday, June 18. Thank you for your cards, flowers and gifts and a special thank you to the Sunday School.

Thank you to Rev. Carol who changed her vacation so that she would be there on my special day. I really felt special on that day!

Ianthe Spencer



See page 2 for pictures.

October 8, 2023	"FLOCK TALK"	Page 19
October Sunday October 15 -	Worship & CE meets at noon	
Sunday October 29 - Tuesday October 31 - November	Council meeting Halloween	
Wednesday November 1 - Thursday November 2 - Sunday November 5 - Wednesday November 8 - Saturday November 11 -	All Saints' Day All Souls' Day Daylight Savings Time Ends – turn your clocks back one hour National Aboriginal Veterans Day Remembrance Day	
Saturday December 2 - Sunday December 3 - Sunday December 17 - Thursday December 21 - Sunday December 24 - Monday December 25 - Tuesday December 26 -	Christmas Potluck Dinner, 5:30pm First Sunday of Advent Sunday School Party This marks the December Solstice marks the shortest day north of the equator an longest day in the south.) Christmas Sunday and Flock Talk Christmas Boxing Day	d the
Monday January 1 - Saturday January 6 - February	New Year's Day Epiphany	
Wednesday February 14 - Wednesday February 14 - Monday February 19 - March	Ash Wednesday Valentines Day Family Day	
Sunday March 17-Sunday March 24-Friday March 29-Sunday March 31-	St. Patrick's Day Palm Sunday Good Friday Easter Sunday	





ASBURY AND WEST UNITED CHURCH

3180 Bathurst Street Toronto, ON M6A 2A9 Office: 416-783-6503 Office Administrator: Church Custodian: Editors: Amrita Aphan <u>secretary@asburyandwest.org</u> Alvaro Perez <u>custodian@asburyandwest.org</u> Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson jocelynshewalter@gmail.com Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen <u>rsm56@sympatico.ca</u>





Acknowledgement Of The Land

Asbury and West, acknowledges the sacred land on which our church stands. It has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and Confederacy of the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on this territory. We are also mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations. The original nations continue to cry out for justice. As treaty people, we commit to listen, learn, and work toward justice and reconciliation.