

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER



FROM ST. JOHN'S STEVENSVILLE UNITED CHURCH

ISSUE: LENT 2023

A Lent Prayer For God To Bring Beauty From Ashes



Dear God,

In this season of Lent, we're reminded of our own difficulties and struggles. Sometimes the way has seemed too dark. Sometimes we feel like our lives have been marked by such grief and pain, we don't see how our circumstances can ever change. But in the midst of our weakness, we ask that you would be strong on our behalf.

Lord, rise up within us, let your Spirit shine out of every broken place we've walked through. Allow your power to be manifest through our own weakness, so that others will recognize it is You who is at work on our behalf. We ask that you would trade the ashes of our lives for the beauty of your Presence. Trade our mourning and grief for the oil of joy and gladness from your Spirit. Trade our despair for hope and praise. We choose to give you thanks today and believe that this season of darkness will fade away. Thank you that you are with us in whatever we face and that you are greater than this trial. We know and recognize that you are Sovereign, we thank you for the victory that is ours because of Christ Jesus, and we are confident that you have good still in store for our future.

We thank you that you are at work right now, trading our ashes for greater beauty. We praise you, for you make all things new.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen.

[Christianity.Com]

Habitat For Humanity

~John Bedell



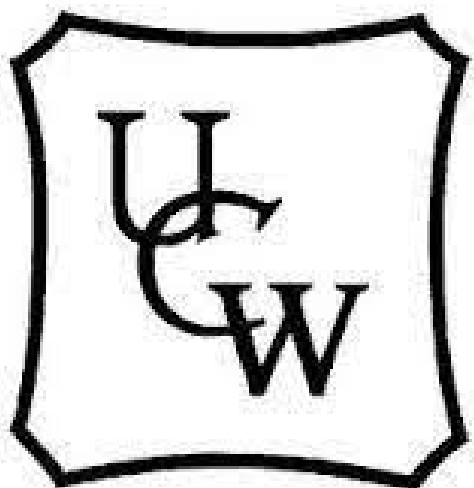
Planning is well underway for our 2023 Habitat build at Saugeen First Nation on June 19 & 20. That's the same site that we went to last year, but with some notable differences: Last year we had a team of 7, this year we will have about 18. Last year we were on site for just one day, this year we're staying two days with accommodations overnight near the site. Last year the cost of the trip was sponsored by a donation from my mother's estate, this year each participant will be making a contribution that will contribute to covering the cost of transportation + overnight accommodations + meals + a donation to Habitat. Our Outreach committee will be helping as well, and we're planning a fundraising lunch after church on March 19. The free-will offering from that lunch will go toward the trip cost, as will any private donations anyone may wish to make (which would be tax deductible). All of that will allow us to increase the donation to Habitat Grey Bruce, which will increase the impact of our visit. Same as last year, someone from the Saugeen Band Council will come and talk to the group on one of our breaks, to add an important educational component to the experiential one.

Looking forward to leading another great team on another real, tangible "Reconciliation" action.

Welcome to Canada!

Our very own Omar Al Shami has welcomed his parents to Canada at the beginning of February. Omar has been here for 7 years and we have been blessed to have him as a part of our church family. As a whole congregation, we would love to send out our whole-hearted welcome to both of them as they begin their life in Canada!





THANK YOU!!!!

~Phyllis Booth

The UCW Women want to give a BIG thank you to ALL who attended our Soup Luncheon on Jan. 29. It was nice to have so many in attendance and it sure Was Delicious. It gave us a project to work together again. The grand total was. 285.00 YA!

Also want to give a shout out to Audrey Ogilvie for organizing the Helpers for the Coffee hour. I love seeing all the people getting involved for this time together.

Finally, thank you for everyone who came out to support our Muffins for Missions! We raised a total of 182.50, and the muffins were delicious. Thanks to all of those who took the time to bake for us!



Read Ahead This Season

Sunday, February 26, 2023 – Lent #1

Matthew 4:1-11 The Temptation of
Jesus
Psalm 32 (VU#759)

Sunday, March 5, 2023 – Lent #2

John 3:1-17 – Nicodemus
Psalm 121 (VU#842)

Sunday, March 12, 2023 – Lent #3

John 4:5-42 Samaritan Woman
Psalm 95 (VU#814)

Sunday, March 19, 2023 – Lent #4

[John B. Preaching]

Sunday, March 26, 2023 – Lent #5

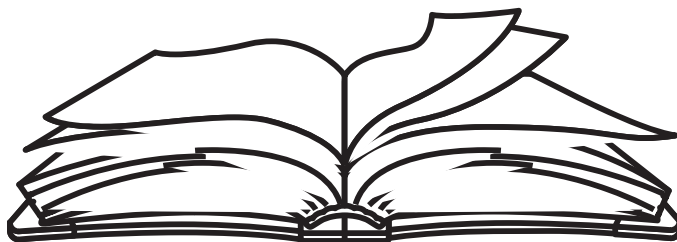
John 11:1-45 – Lazarus
Psalm 130 (VU#852)

Sunday, April 2, 2023 – Lent #6 Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11 – Jesus enters Jerusalem
Psalm 118 (VU#837, part 2&3)

Sunday, April 9, 2023 – EASTER

Matthew 28:1-10



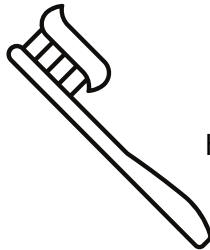
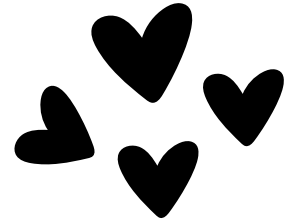
Announcements



Looking to help out? Sign up sheets are available on the bulletin board next to the hall entrance. Sign up as a reader, greeter, hospitality team member and more.

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Love Songs Concert! It was a wonderful time and we appreciate all of the support!



The Embrace Center has been busy feeding people over the last few weeks, and as we move into the Lenten season, we would like to ask for donations of hygiene products (pads, deodorant, toothpaste, etc). If you are able to help us out, it would be greatly appreciated!

Games Night: Join us on March 17th for an evening of cribbage, euchre, and other games as we unwind together in the fellowship hall!
March 17th, 2023 @ 6:00pm



Maundy Thursday is April 6th. Come meet together at the church that evening, for a congregational potluck. Participate in a service to commemorate Jesus' last dinner with his friends.

April 6, 2023 @ 6:00pm

Good Friday Service will be held on April 7th, at 7:00pm.



Want to get your name on our address list? Just let us know! If you miss a newsletter, we can mail it right to you.

Old newsletters can also be found on our website under



Jeff gives it up for Lent.



Fun Stuff

N V N N P P P K L N H N Q T S Y O Z
 N I R C S T E S O L T R V N N W P H
 R M G N M A E I P V G X D N G Z C K
 Y M G Y O K N L T S L T U B O X G N
 I P M R X U W H E J I B R A O R C I
 Q Y U K M J W V L V H N W M D J Z D
 F O P M R Q A P A P W B Q X F J S C
 G B O B I E D K C U I C J Q R O F K
 Y C W V L M G D C R F I U N I U K W
 D G P M Y F K E I R R S Y C D R L P
 R V L V O E Y R V S O G Q D A N S W
 A A L A C R E U A X C S W A Y E L Z
 P I C F Y T Z M H H A I S E C Y G L
 K N F L S P E E G G S J P R X W B I
 K K L A S T S U P P E R T L G B Z W
 E S E F T G A Y R L K D H G E O C O
 W R J E S U S X Y I J Q C J B S A O
 T D O F V V E P T G O M L E N T W J

- Good Friday
- Last Supper
- Palm Leaves
- Communion
- Disciples
- Journey
- Easter
- Bunny
- Cross
- Jesus
- Eggs
- Lent

We use Eggs to help celebrate Easter because they represent life and new birth, both important aspects of our Resurrection story.



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Check Us Out

Come worship with us Sunday mornings
at 11:00am, in person or online at
www.niagaraonlineworship.com

Embrace Center Drop In - Monday to
Thursday, 10am-4pm

Wondering where to find out even more
information about the upcoming events and
ongoing activities;

-  www.stjohnsstevensvilleunitedchurch.com
-  St. John's Stevensville United Church
-  The Embrace Center
-  www.niagaraonlineworship.com



Contact Us

St. John's Stevensville United Church:

14789 Sodom Road
PO Box 267
Stevensville, ON
L0S 1S0
905-382-3344

Rev. Cheryl Wood-Thomas:

905-6872664
rev.cheryl.wood@gmail.com

Rev. Bill Thomas

289-213-3153
rev.bill.thomas@gmail.com