



Collier Street United Church

LINK Newsletter

A LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

"You are...God's own people, that you may proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." 1 Peter 2:9

This has been the coldest winter stretch many of us can remember. As someone who doesn't enjoy the cold, the saving grace of this season has been its beaming sunlight. Though a colder winter, it has been an especially sunny and bright one.

Usually around this time of year (late February), I can begin to tolerate the cold a little more because the days start to get longer and I'm reminded that spring is just around the corner. There is, literally and figuratively, a light at the end of the tunnel.

The light at the end of the tunnel is a phrase with resonance in many areas of our lives. When we're going through difficult patches, most challenges become more bearable when we know our trial is coming to an end, when we can begin to see that at least we're headed in the right direction.

Sometimes, however, we face challenges that seem to have no light at the end of the tunnel. Though it can be hard to see at times, we always have just such a light as God's people. The first letter of Peter features a wonderful phrase about God having called us out of the darkness and into *his* light! This speaks to me of a God who cares for us, who wants the best for us and who has a plan for us – who brings us from darkness to light. When our worldly hope fades, as in time it will for all of us, we have a confident hope that even death is no barrier between us and our maker—the living God in whose light we live, both now and forever. May you be blessed in God's light this Easter.

William Haughton



Christmas Eve Nativity Scene



March 1st, after church, Collier offered hot chocolate to skaters at City Hall. Several went skating or volunteered to help (Kayla, John and Vickie pictured). Over 100 cups were served and a great time was had!

UCW

Shrove Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at Collier was once again a great success. Everyone seemed to love having fresh fruit to accompany the fluffy pancakes and sausages with real maple syrup. When the fire alarm went off and everyone had to clear the building, it added some unneeded excitement to the evening! Thankfully, we were allowed back in and finished the happy event. Special thanks to the women and friends of the Amicae UCW unit!



March 28 is shaping up for a "first" Marketplace Vendors show. There will be many different products and great deals. Bring a friend and enjoy a spring shopping spree. Coffee and sweet treats are available to share with your friends before or after shopping.

Marketplace - March 28 9:30 am – 2: 00 pm Hosted by Amicae UCW unit

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE – "GENERATIONS"

On Saturday June 6th from 9:00am to 2:00pm, we will be hosting our first annual women's conference here at Collier Street United Church. This year, we are featuring a "Generations" themed conference with the focus of cultivating lasting relationships among the generations of women as sisters in Christ. Our guest speaker Lisa Elliot will share with us some helpful tools on how to mentor the next generation, and also how to receive excellent mentoring by others. In addition to this fabulous speaker, we are also featuring Angela Turner to lead us in worship for this special event. Tickets will be \$20 for early birds and \$25 at the door.



Lisa Elliot

FROM THE FRONT DESK

Once again, many thanks to those volunteers who man the central location of our church! The "Eyes & Ears" that aid our office and watch our halls and direct the 'traffic'. Please consider being a part of this important team... its only 3 hour shifts a couple times a month and training is provided...it could be a new meeting place for you or maybe a new challenge! Call Jane 705-728-2695 or Peggy 705-728-2628 for more information.

LOCAL FUND INCOME & EXPENSES TO FEBRUARY 28, 2015

	2014	2015
Envelope Givings	43,146	40,122
*PAR	23,485	22,405
Open Plate	679	571
Other	6,437	19,693
Sub Total	73,747	82,791
Expenses to Feb. 28	92,998	81,279
Local Operating Balance as of Feb. 28	(19,251)	1,512
Missions		
Collier Mission Fund		12,413
UCC Mission & Service		3,386

*PAR: Pre-Authorized Remittance is an option which can be started, changed or cancelled at any time.

May we be thankful for God's great abundance!

John Welsh, Treasurer

CHOIR REPORT

Darlene Steingard, Choir Director, left the position suddenly at the end of January. Tom Loney, our organist, subsequently assumed the responsibility for both the Senior and Junior Choirs and will direct them until his retirement from Collier Street on June 21st.

During the change in its leadership, the Senior Choir continued to provide excellent music during each worship service. The Junior Choir has resumed rehearsals after Sunday services and, soon will take an active part in worship each week.

The choirs are currently working on the music for Passion Week and for Easter. New members for both choirs are always welcome.

On the radar screen: Men's Congregational Chorus for Mother's Day 10 May 2015

COLLIER'S 4th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



This year we are returning to the beautiful Innisbrook golf course on Saturday, September 19th 2015 for another afternoon of fun, excitement and fellowship.

Each year this proves to be not only a great opportunity to meet new friends and old, but is also a great opportunity to showcase your business within our church community. We are currently looking for Hole sponsors, prize sponsors and volunteers to help make this year the best ever!

The cost will be \$100 per person which includes

- 18 holes of golf and your cart
- Lunch and coffee during the tournament
- A Ticket to our fabulous prize table, every golfer wins a prize that match's their ticket (there was some fantastic prizes last year!)

Registration sheets will be available online on our website www.collierunited.ca or at the front desk at church.

More details to come over the coming months. If you are interested in being a sponsor or volunteering on the committee or during the tournament please contact Chris Soucie – csoucie@eastpenncanada.com , 416-882-4946

Chris Soucie



Are you looking for a way to have your wee one blow off some steam while you connect with other local parents? Then

Mommy's Playdate is just for YOU!

Our program provides a safe and fun play environment for preschool children.

Mommy's Playdate will meet weekly for interactive play time and once a month we will have a special event.

Come join us on Tuesday's 10:00am-11:30am.

Please contact Lisa Tisi, Minister to Adults at Collier Street United Church at 705 726 1511 or ltisi@collierunited.ca

FILM, FAITH AND FUN

4 groups have met successfully for 6 consecutive weeks. They have met at Collier and in homes. We have tried evening and afternoon sessions, hoping to attract different segments of our congregation.

This group develops a covenant (contract) to ensure everyone has an opportunity to contribute when ready and expects confidentiality, compassion and respect of their views. There is no expectation of biblical knowledge required to join this small group, but we share prayer.

Our group shares a social time, then 2+ hours devoted to film and discussion on the issues the film highlights. Examples of films shown are Unfinished Song, Amour, Doubt, We Were Children, Boy in the Striped Pyjamas ,The Lemon Tree to name a few.

Anyone wishing to be contacted for future groups, please contact Erryle George 705-737-2207 or Marnie Neale 705-737-3350.



Dr. Ken Hedges and Lt. Col. Martin Brochu

Dr. Ken Hedges recently completed an appointment as Honorary Colonel of the Canadian Forces Health Services Training Centre at Borden. Upon his departure, he donated his Royal Army Medical Corps sword (from his time in the British forces) which will be presented each year to the top graduating officer from the Training Centre. As a thanks for his service, Ken was presented with a flag from Alert (the northern most settlement in the world) in honour of his world record polar expedition in 1968-1969

Do you have a special photo or story to share? Please send it to Nicole at churchoffice@collierunited.ca

SENIORS FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

The Srs. Fellowship Luncheon group encourages and welcomes new members to come and meet new friends and share a hot catered meal with friendly conversation. This is followed by interesting speakers on a wide variety of subjects.

In January, 70 of us were spellbound listening to Alan Mallory tell of his family's climb to the summit of Mt. Everest. They certainly experienced a variety of exhilarating, exhausting, scary, harrowing times. We soon learned from his talk & pictures that it takes a very exceptionally daring, experienced hiker, well trained & courageous to continue the climb with the many obstacles.

On February 18th - A change of pace with Lisa Moles as our speaker. Lisa is the area Representative for Central Ontario for Copper County Foods which delivers nutritious meals ready for the freezer & for you to cook at a moment's notice. It is free delivery & it caters to Special Diets. She brought a dessert for everyone.

Wednesday, March 18th - Steve Travers, the Town Crier will be our Guest Speaker and will take us on a Pictorial Walk-About Tour of Barrie. Steve is always an enthusiastic, entertaining speaker.

Wednesday, April 15th. - Jeff Lehman our Mayor has been our Speaker for April the last several years. He is always informative, knowledgeable and open to any questions that we may have concerning our City.

We look forward to seeing you on the third Wednesday of the month. Don't forget to sign in at the front desk the Sunday before or sooner.

Christina and Donald Jay



Mike Cromwell, Chef Stefan Schulz & Steve Harding cooking for Collier volunteers.

COLLIER MISSION COMMITTEE

We are pleased to report that your Collier Mission Committee has assisted the following organizations thus far in 2015:

- Barrie Literacy Council
- Canadian Food Grains Bank
- Ghana Rural Integrated Dvlpmnt
- New Life Girl's Home
- Elizabeth Fry Society
- John Howard Society

This year, \$6,000 has been given away on your behalf.

Thank you for supporting Mission at Collier!

Larry Murray

FRIENDSHIP BIBLE STUDY

We enjoy meeting together every Sunday morning before our worship service in M5 at 9:15am to hear the lesson that our coordinator Bernie McLellan prepares for us each week. We have an excellent attendance record even in the midst of winter, but we are all really looking forward to spring and the warmer weather. One of our group who has been very ill and hospitalized for a long time actually came to our class lately with her support worker. We were all very glad to see her and we know that Friendship has certainly played a big part in her life. She enjoyed her reunion with us and hearing us speak of God's Word. Hopefully, she will be able to return and be a part of our group once again.

We thank our Church family for keeping us in your prayers.

Hilary Cowan

CHILDREN AND YOUTH UPDATE

Sunday school, from nursery and Kindergarten groups to Multi-Age and Learning in the Loft for older students is going smoothly with a dedicated group of volunteer leaders, thanks to all of them! Based on feedback from parents and leaders, we are close to deciding on a new curriculum for Fall 2015.

CHAOS, for grades 5-8, meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays for activities like skating, tobogganing, baking, games and spiritual growth.

Sr. Youth had a games night and pizza, hosting the group from St. Andrew's Presbyterian in January.

Confirmation class will begin in late March, with professions of faith made June 7th.

Arleigh Alexander

COLLIER'S TABLE & COLLIER'S CLOSET

On Saturday, January 17, we welcomed community members living with poverty to join us for a winter dinner at **"Collier's Table"**. This was our 10th event and once again, it was very successful! We hosted 140 guests for dinner, serving approximately 300 meals.



In December, we hosted the refreshment time for the choir concerts for Bravado and King Edward Choir. These events are an excellent fundraising opportunity for our Outreach programs and share our message of support for this community outreach. As a result of our fundraising efforts, we shared 25% of our proceeds with the Busby Centre and our Friendship Group. The balance of funds will help support our meals and clothing drives during 2015.

Our next Collier's Closet and Collier's Table event is on Saturday, May 23. More info will be available closer to the event date.

Please set aside your:

- spring and summer clothes
- Summer shoes
- Linens and bedding
- Bath towels
- Sun tan lotion

Please note dress pants and dress shirts are not popular items. Thank you for your consideration and future donations. We will let you know when they can be brought into the church for this event.

These events happen because of all the helping hands and hearts that work together – there are so many volunteers who support these events in so many ways. The vibe in our church at Collier's Closet and Collier's Table is absolutely amazing – there is so much care and respect and energy – and we have fun as we work alongside each other – and we build relationships and community as we help others! It truly is the hands of God in action!

Thank you to each of you for your support and care of **"Collier's Table"** and **"Collier's Closet"** – we couldn't do it without each of YOU!

Jane Craig, **"Collier's Closet"** Coordinator and Lianne Patterson, **"Collier's Table"** Coordinator

RAINBOWS

We were asked by Rainbows to take a picture of ourselves dressed in Blue to Celebrate the Children's



Grief Awareness Day that took place in November last year.

It shows the dedication that my team had not only to our Rainbows program but to supporting Rainbows Canada and their commitment to helping children and families deal with grief.

COLLIER L.I.F.E. GROUPS

Studying the Bible together breathes new life in faith in our everyday journey. We anticipate wonderful times together as we continue this program of studying the Bible, using The Seasons of The Spirit, an Interdenominational weekly resource, to help nurture our actively growing faith. Questions we have can be shared, encouraging us to open our hearts and minds to new insights and ways to live our lives in faith every day.

We care and share smiles, tears, laughs and requested hugs in confidentiality. We welcome questions and invite you to join us. For information, please phone Leona Appleby at 705-726-1884, Lisa Tisi at 705-726-1511 or Rev. William Haughton at 705-726-1511. Times are Tuesdays at 9:45am at Collier Church and Thursdays at Deb's Place Restaurant, Huronia Road, at 7:00am. See you for breakfast!!

Leona Appleby

JESUS WALK

Jesus Walk is a group designed for adults with disabilities in mind. We are a Christian based group meeting every Monday evening from September until June. We get together for an enjoyable evening of friendship, prayer, devotionals, singing and an activity or guest.

It has been some time since I've gotten an entry into the Link. We have as many of you know been going through a bit of a difficult time with our Leader Doug being ill and in the hospital.

We returned on September 8 for another fantastic year of Jesus Walk, with many fun and enjoyable activities. We have enjoyed an evening of music and fun with Sandra Trumble and our very own member's musical talents as we marched around enjoying music with our music instruments which we received from proceeds from The Silent Auction a few years back. We held our annual member's election night as we welcomed into "office" our new executive which includes: Ryan Smith as our President; Andrew Domashus as our Vice-President; Joe Deitch as our music convenor; and Colleen Baker as our Name Tag Convenor. Congratulations to all our executive.

We enjoyed, as we always do, leading the congregation in Worship on our Handicapable Sunday Service, a big thank you to Will and Lisa for helping to make it such a success. Great job Lisa, considering you only arrived shortly before that first practice. We had our annual Halloween Dance, which finally got off to a great start following a minor glitch in the music. Everyone truly had a fantastic time. That was back in the days of warmer weather and no snow! The Sandy Cove Cloggers paid us a visit and what a great evening that was. Our members really enjoy music and dancing. For Remembrance Day we had our newest leader Rob Murdock give us a Remembrance day message and explained to our members some of his experiences in Military life.



Will on Santa's Knee!

The Joy Bells came to kick start the Christmas season with their rendition of many different Christmas Carols, done completely by Hand bells; truly beautiful. We enjoyed a Christmas craft and received

a Christmas message from Rev Will. Our members really enjoy his visits. We took a break over Christmas and returned rejuvenated for the start of the second half of our year in January with everyone sharing how they spent their Christmas, of course they all had to remind Sharon of all the chocolate they received over Christmas, they tease her with that all the time. We have done well this winter only cancelling Jesus Walk twice so far, hopefully no more. But this deep freeze might have other ideas. We have enjoyed a Valentine's Day craft and our Valentine's Day Dance with DJ Rick Ferreira back in the saddle playing some really great music for us. We are always looking for some new leaders to come out with us on Monday evenings and share God's love with our members. I promise you, you will absolutely leave this place every Monday night feeling deeply blessed and most definitely loved. If you feel a tug at your heart and would like to come out and give us a try, you can contact Sharon Moir at 705-719-0164 or simply just arrive on any Monday night. We meet at 6:45pm until 8:15pm and you are more than welcome to come out and pay us a visit.

In closing this Link submission I would like to say a great big thank you to our Jesus Walk leaders who come out faithfully week after week and make this group possible and the success that it is. We would also like to thank you, our Collier family for your loving support and prayers.

As we close we are always looking for interesting activities and visitors to stimulate and entertain our members. We thank the Collier congregation and the Collier ministry team for their continued support and encouragement, allowing Jesus Walk to look forward to Monday evenings together.

Sharon Moir



Jesus Walk Members Acting out the Christmas Story

20TH ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

THURSDAY, APRIL 30TH – 4:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

FRIDAY, MAY 1ST – 11:00 AM TO 9:00 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 2ND – 9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM



Marnie, Mollie and Emma

DINE & BID

GALA DINNER - Thursday, April 30 6:30 PM

LUNCH - Friday, May 1st 11:00 AM-1:30 PM

DINNER EVENT - Friday, May 1st 5:00PM -7:00PM

LUNCH - Saturday, May 2nd 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

HOMEMADE PIE & ICE CREAM -
Served Friday all day & Saturday until 1:00 PM

HIGHLIGHTS

- Used Book Sale
- Bake Table
- Children's Bid Room
- Pie & Ice Cream Fri & Sat

OVER 500 ITEMS TO BID ON, INCLUDING:

- Furniture
- Antiques
- Gift Certificates
- Dishes
- Framed Art
- China & Crystal
- Sporting Goods ... and more

RUTH AARSON



(From a tribute read by friend Ruby Cox upon rededication of the church Bell, Feb 8th) Ruth came to Canada with her parents from Finland when she was quite young. She was an only child & was well educated. Ruth did not play any musical instruments but her mother taught both piano & voice, so she was always surrounded with good music & she loved it. She worked many years as an administrator in the medical arts building on Wellington Street.

The Church was her family & she was very involved in so many areas. Ruth taught Sunday school, served on the reception desk, was in charge of CGIT, helped with Women's Mission & Society to collect & help to ship clothing to the less fortunate. When WMS changed to UCW, Ruth became a member of the WO-HE-LO- Unit.

She was instrumental in starting the Senior Luncheon that successfully continues today. Ruth lived her final days at Victoria Village, her memorial service was simple but lovely. One of her mother's students played the piano & another one sang.

Ruth would be pleased to know she has helped to update the ringing of the church bell, so when you hear that bell, think of it as Ruth calling on us all to come to service. Ruth's model for life was taken from the book Ephesian's 4:2 "Be completely humble and gentle, be patient, bearing with one another, in love."

EASTER FLOWERS

Easter flowers will decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 5th & following the service will be distributed by volunteers to those who are ill and/or shut in. Anyone wishing to make a donation towards the purchase of a plant in honour of, or in memory of a loved one! Please complete form below, tear off & return with your money to the office no later than **Monday, March 30, 2015**

Name: _____ Env.#: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Amount: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honour of: _____

Upcoming Special Events

LENTEN LUNCHEONS

Tuesday February 24th to Tuesday March 31st

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

Friday March 20th
At 7:00 p.m. in M5

STEWARDS DINNER

Wednesday March 25th at 6:00 PM

SPRING MARKETPLACE

Saturday March 28th from 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM

SHUT-IN LUNCHEON

Tuesday March 31st

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 5th
11:30 A.M. in the Hall

SILENT AUCTION

Thursday April 30th, Fri. May 1st and Sat May 2nd

BLUE JAYS GAME

Saturday May 9th
Rogers Center

COLLIER'S CLOSET/ COLLIER'S TABLE

Saturday May 23rd

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

Friday May 29th
At 7:00 p.m. in M5

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Saturday June 6th

SHUT-IN LUNCHEON

Tuesday June 9th

STRAWBERRY SUPPER

Thursday June 25th

VBS – Save the date

Mon. July 13th to Friday July 17th

COLLIERS 3RD ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday September 19th

IN MEMORIAM

Phyllis Howell	Jack Dunkley
Hillie de Jong	Hap Lowe
Marion Fell	Alex Tait

Worship at Collier

March 22	WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS
March 29	PALM SUNDAY, Communion
April 3	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, 10:30 A.M.
April 5	Sunrise Service at Heritage Park Breakfast following at Collier EASTER SUNDAY 10:30 A.M
April 12	After church Communion, 2 nd Sunday of Easter
April 19	3 rd Sunday of Easter
April 26	Installation of Officials
May 3	Women's Wear your hat to church day
May 10	MOTHERS' DAY After Church Communion
May 17	VICTORIA DAY WEEKEND
May 24	PENTECOST SUNDAY
May 31	WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS
June 7	CONFIRMATION/COMMUNION Celebration of Communion Welcoming of the 2015 Confirmation Class
June 14	WE CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN
June 21	Tom Loney's farewell Sunday

EASTER BREAKFAST

Your help is needed with the set up and serving of the Easter Breakfast which follows each of our worship services on Easter Sunday beginning with the Sunrise Service. If you can help with set up on Saturday, April 4th or the set-up, serving and clean up on Sunday, April 5th we would appreciate it. See the sign-up sheet at the sign up board to fill your name in to help with your preferred task and time.

BLUE JAYS VS. RED SOX

Saturday May 9th at 1:07 PM

Section 126, only \$100 per ticket,

Sign up outside M5 for tickets, they are sure to sell out fast!

