



# Collier Street United Church

## LINK Newsletter

### THE STORY

In 1974, Yale theologian Hans Frei published an influential book: *The Eclipse of the Biblical Narrative*. It is a long and difficult book that can be summarized, more or less: in modern times, Christians have forgotten the long biblical story that goes from Genesis to Revelation. This realization has led more recently to a renewal of reading the Bible as a diverse but coherent collection of writings that has been fit together purposefully to tell the story of the universe God made through creation, "fall" and new creation.

Last year, ministry staff and children's program leaders began researching possible alternatives to our Sunday school curriculum that might do a better job of nurturing in our children a sense of God's love, as we find it in the stories, and Story, of the Bible.

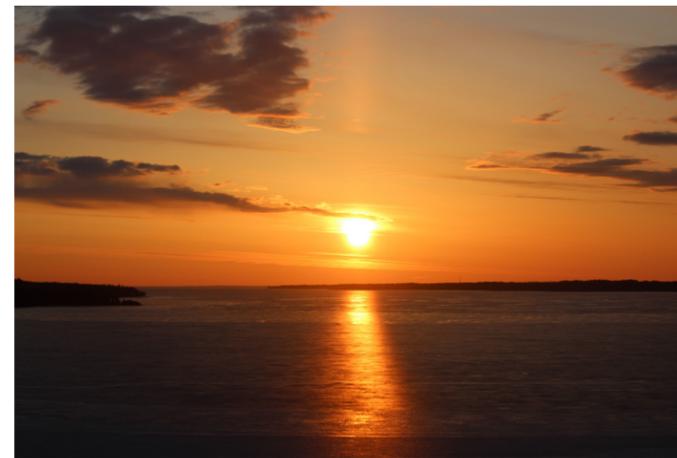
We have decided to implement an increasingly popular curriculum, used in several United Church congregations, *The Story*. *The Story* is an abbreviated, chronological rearrangement of the Bible into 31 sections/chapters. It provides materials for all ages as well as simple resources to help everyone follow along at home, if they wish. We will provide the age-appropriate resources at no cost to all our youth and children and also make available the adult resource at a reasonable cost to anyone in the congregation who may be interested in following along at home.

Starting in mid-September, and running for most of the school year, *The Story* will become the emphasis of our Sunday school and worship schedule. It will give us all a chance to learn/re-learn the great drama of God's salvation, in which we are all actors. Ministers I know who've used this program say that it is a great experience for a congregation and I'm really excited to give it a try in 2015-16. Please give me a shout if you have any questions. Until then, have a great summer.

Will



*Easter Sunrise Service at Heritage Park*



*Sunrise from downtown Barrie on Easter Sunday. Thanks to Chris Reichenbacher for both photos*



### COLLIER'S 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



This year we are returning to the beautiful Innisbrook golf course on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> 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

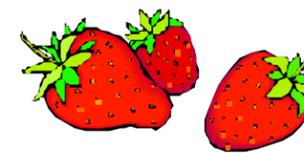
- 18 holes of golf and your cart
- Lunch and coffee during the tournament
- A Ticket to our fabulous prize table, every golfer wins a prize that match's their ticket (there were some fantastic prizes last year!)

Registration sheets will be available online on our website [www.collierunited.ca](http://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](mailto:csoucie@eastpenncanada.com), 416-882-4946

Chris Soucie

### STRAWBERRY SUPPER



Thursday, June 25th at 6:00 p.m.  
Collier Church Hall

Adults \$15.00/\$18.00 at door  
Children under 12 - \$8.00

Come & enjoy a BBQ Chicken dinner with Salads and strawberry shortcake for dessert!

Tickets available at reception desk or contact: 705-726-1511

### SILENT AUCTION

The 2015 Silent Auction is just wrapping up and was a huge success! We're still doing final calculations however it looks like we'll have raised close to \$25,000!

Hundreds of people enjoyed the Gala dinner, the Friday lunch, the All-You-Can-Eat Pasta dinner, pie and ice cream, bought baking and books and placed bids on great items.

While the financial rewards are fantastic as they go to support the many programs that our Church provides, it's how the congregation works together with enthusiasm, fun and camaraderie that's the most important. Almost 100 people were involved! We were also supported by over 60 local businesses, who are listed on our website.

Thanks to everyone for helping, eating and bidding...only 11 months to go till the 21st Annual Silent Auction!



## FILM FAITH AND FUN SMALL GROUP

Our group of 10 enjoyed companionship and laughter, sprinkled with a few tears, prayer and serious discussion of the films we viewed weekly. There was no homework!

We saw 1000 Good Nights, Boy in the Striped PJ's, Awakenings, 100 Foot Journey, Elsa and Fred and Life's a Breeze. As with any church function, food was involved. We enjoyed a small bite to eat prior to the film and as a closing went to celebrate at the Mandarin.

Marnie Neale and I hope to run one in October/November. If you wish to be part of the Film small group, please call me at 705-737-2207.

Erryle George

## COLLIER MISSION COMMITTEE

We are pleased to report that your Collier Mission Committee has assisted the following organizations since the last LINK report:

- Barrie Native Friendship Centre
- Barrie Youth Haven
- Emmanuel's Wish Foundation
- Georgian Native & Outreach Ministry
- Hope International Development Agency
- Mercy Ships
- Teen Challenge Farm

Year to date, your committee has made donations of **\$12,000** on your behalf. Thank you to the congregation for supporting this committee.

Larry Murray

## 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL FASHION SHOW



UCW will be hosting a Fall Fashion Show on Saturday, September 26th at 1 p.m. Mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend this fun-filled event.

## CAMP AWESOME! Vacation Bible Camp



When: Monday July 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday July 17<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm  
Celebration for friends and family.

Where: Collier Street United Church

Who: All children, ages 5-12 welcome!

Cost: \$35.00/Child before June 1<sup>st</sup>  
\$45.00/Child after June 1<sup>st</sup>

Under the theme of **God's Mission, Our Gifts** we will have fun as we learn about how we can share our gifts to spread God's love.

Come for games, stories, crafts, songs, fun, adventure!

For more information contact William Haughton 705-705-726-1511

Registration forms are available online at [www.collierunited.ca](http://www.collierunited.ca) and in the church foyer! Please register by Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup> 2015

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY CAMP AWESOME

Any teens looking for volunteer hours are welcome to sign up for the fun filled week of VACATION BIBLE CAMP, July 13<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up outside M5 or contact William Haughton. There are also lots of roles for Adult volunteers. Please sign-up outside M5 or talk to Rev. William Haughton.

## LOCAL FUND INCOME & EXPENSES TO April 30, 2015

	2014	2015
Envelope Givings	87,466	80,420
*PAR	46,964	44,224
Open Plate	1,989	1,471
Other	17,044	35,308
Collier Mission Fund	8,101	15,653
UCC Mission & Service	5,225	5,660
Sub Total	166,789	182,736
Expenses to April 30	187,925	162,185
Collier Mission Fund	4,520	11,067
UCC Mission & Service	5,195	5,655
Total Expenses	197,640	178,907
Total Operating Balance	-30,851	3,829

John Welsh, Treasurer

## GENERATIONS

Collier Street United Church Women's Conference 2015  
Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Our theme is about cultivating lasting relationships among the generations of women as sisters in Christ.

Our guest speaker, Lisa Elliot will share with us some helpful ways to reap and invest into the lives of others. In addition to this fabulous speaker, we are also featuring Angela Turner to lead us in worship for this special event.



Lisa Elliot  
Presenter



Angela Turner  
Worship Leader

Tickets will be \$20 for early birds and \$25 at the door, price also includes lunch. For Tickets contact Lisa Tisi at 705.726.1511 or [ltisi@collierunited.ca](mailto:ltisi@collierunited.ca)

## UCW

The members of Amicae hosted our first Vendors Fair Saturday, March 28. It was a huge success, we had 35 vendors! Many people enjoyed shopping at an event that had such a variety of items. The vendors were pleased with the exposure and sales. This might be an annual event! Special thanks to Terry Oram who coordinated this vendors show.

The three units of UCW will be celebrating the end of their season in June. Start up for the next year will begin in September.



## ACTIVE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl group continues to meet in the library at Collier every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. There are 10 faithful members who gather each month to share their time and talents in thoughtful prayer, with loving hearts and laughter. There are also a few members who are unable to attend, but contribute from home.

All donations are greatly appreciated, whether they are skeins of wool, knitted shawls or money to purchase supplies. Such donations enable the group to continue this healing ministry. We are thankful for the support and encouragement given to us by the members of this congregation and the ministerial staff.

Last year, we were able to 'gift' 33 shawls to people who were struggling with health issues or the loss of a loved one. At present, we have a large selection of prayer shawls and blankets ready to make their way into your home. If you, or a member of your family, are in need of the comfort that can be offered from this ministry, please contact a member of the group or call the church office.



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
of Barrie and District

For just a few hours a month, you can help a child succeed. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Barrie & district is seeking volunteers who are committed, consistent and willing to serve for at least a year. Studies show by doing so, our mentoring services help kids stay in school, avoid risky behavior and experience first-hand the importance of helping others in their community. For more information please contact 705-728-0515 [www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/barrie](http://www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/barrie)

## THE FRONT DESK

Our wonderful environment at Collier is here for everyone to enjoy. Whether it's the spiritual windows, the friendly faces behind the desk, people offering workshops or children's activities...it's an inclusive happy environment...

...and it needs you!!!!

While Collier has committed staff, it's the volunteers who help connect the threads of activity here. Its volunteers at the front desk who direct people when they come in. There is such a need for volunteers to help in so many ways, it's also a great atmosphere in which to spend time.

Answering the phone, helping out staff and people to find their way, ensuring every guest is wanted.

Please consider being a part of our team...it's a great place to be a part of Collier's fellowship.

Contact Jane at 705-728-2695 or Peggy at 705-728-2628

## COLLIER BOOTC

As everyone knows it has been a particularly cold winter which resulted in Collier BOOTC serving 1208 guests this season. A special thank you to all of our volunteers who so willingly provided leadership, food and fellowship this season.

BOOTC was the recipient of a \$25 065 donation from the Simcoe County Builders Association's Fishing Tournament in February. Thank you to their organization for selecting us as their charity and to the BOOTC volunteers who came and helped out on that very cold Saturday morning. These monies will definitely assist in the financing of our program.

Bob Monteith, one of Collier's volunteers, is organizing a golf tournament at Springwater Golf Course for July 16<sup>th</sup> with the proceeds going to BOOTC. Bob has had a great deal of experience with this kind of venture. For further information, please contact Bob at [env123@rogers.com](mailto:env123@rogers.com) or Michelle Plowright at [michelleplowright@gmail.com](mailto:michelleplowright@gmail.com). Please contact your friends and join us on July 16<sup>th</sup> for a day of fun as well as supporting a very worthwhile cause.

Enjoy the summer and hopefully I will see everyone in the fall as we begin our new season for BOOTC.

Carol Forget (coordinator for BOOTC)

## CHILDRENS MINISTRY

It was a joy to see so many children & their families out for Easter Sunday service! The after-service Egg Hunt was very popular amongst the younger members of the congregation and was fun for others to watch.

A new curriculum has arrived for next year. It is called "The Story" and features all the major stories of the Bible. We have heard rave reviews about "The Story" from congregations who have used it in the past and there is excitement about implementing it at Collier.

The Sunday program, Learning in the Loft for teens, is growing as the younger "tweens" are moving up from Sunday School. This group will also follow "The Story" curriculum next year.

The young teen group, Chaos, continues to meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month with most recent activities of tobogganing, mini golf and dodge ball. This is a faithful and fun group of about 6-8.

For the Senior Youth group, we are planning a summer outing to Canada's Wonderland to attend a Christian Concert as well as to take in and enjoy all the rides.

Confirmation classes have started & we have a bright group of confirmands who meet every second Friday evening to learn & study various topics such as Jesus, God, Worship and the Early Church. Confirmation will take place on June 7.

There is an invitation in the bulletin from Presbytery for teens in grades 10 – 12 to attend at trip to Nicaragua next year. Anyone interested can contact Presbytery directly and/or let us know.

Thank you to all for the continued support and all the wonderful volunteers that make these programs for children and youth happen.

Alreigh Alexander

## BRADFORD GREENHOUSE FUNDRAISER

Once again we have been accepted for the Bradford Greenhouse Fundraiser & counting on your participation. Just let them know at the cash register that you are collecting points for Collier Street United Church and at the end of the season we will receive a gift card for garden supplies. The program runs until October 15<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for your help!

## FRIENDSHIP BIBLE STUDY

Everyone in our group is anxious to come to Collier Street United Church each Sunday morning to our Bible Study in M5. Our coordinator is Bernie McLellan. As well as our own lesson, we also learn more about the word of God in the sanctuary from Will, Arleigh and Lisa. It is a real blessing to meet together with one heart, and we are always reminded of the precious love that God has for us. It's really too wonderful.

As I write this, winter is only weeks behind us, but we feel a breath of summer in the air. So we are already thinking about making plans for our annual barbeque on the patio in front of the church in June. Everyone loves this get-together. Burgers and hot-dogs, who wouldn't? It will also be our last day of Friendship (June 21) and then we will take a break until the fall again. Bernie is also planning a trip for us to go to see the Blue Jays play as well. That is always a big hit with the Blue Jay fans in Friendship.

Thank you, our Church family, for all your love, prayers and support.

Hilary Cowan

## SENIOR FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

Don and I feel confident that spring is very close. The grass is looking greener, the ice has left the Bay and each day we see more birds arriving....all good signs.

The Seniors Fellowship Group has had a good year thus far with great fellowship, wonderful hot catered meals and a variety of interesting speakers.

We appreciate the good number of people who regularly support the meetings.

Jeff Lehman, our April speaker was very informative about the great plans for our city, many already in progress.

We look forward to the following meetings:

June 17<sup>th</sup> - Bob Mayes, a Collier member, will show pictures and talk about birds around North America

Fall Season

Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> - Heather Stone from the Canadian Red Cross. She is Program Coordinator for Community Support Services

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> - Lynn Holden will have a picture presentation of historical places of interest she has personally visited across Canada.

Mark your calendars, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. of each month and sign in at the front desk no later than the Sunday before the Wednesday meeting.

Thank you to all who come and those who assist in any way on the day of our get togethers.

On behalf of this group, we would like to say a special thank you to Tom Loney, Lillian and family for their contributions in so many ways to our Sunday worship services and their help with our senior's fellowship December meetings at which you have added a lot of fun. We will continue to keep in touch with you. God bless all of you in your future plans.

Don and Chris Jay



*Mayor Jeff Lehman speaking at April's Senior Fellowship Luncheon.*

## COLLIER L.I.F.E. GROUPS

This warmer spring weather boosts our spirits and lets us get out to enjoy and contribute to the natural beauty that God has given us. It is an opportunity for us to reconnect with Him. Collier L.I.F.E. Groups continue with their Bible study, Seasons of the Spirit, about Lent and Easter. Our current section is between Easter and Pentecost. It is a comforting study, as we look at God's connection with us. L.I.F.E. means Living In Faith Everyday, discovering the relevance of the Bible to our daily lives. We have great discussions which help us grow in our faith. In our groups, confidentiality is key. We invite you to join us for learning, laughing, fellowship and fun. If you have questions or would like to visit us, please do not hesitate to contact Leona Appleby at 705-726-1884, Carol Duckworth at 705-424-5408, Lisa Tisi or Rev. William Haughton at the Church at 705-726-1511. The New L.I.F.E. Group which meets at the Church Tuesdays from 9:45-11:45a.m. continues to meet through the summer. This might be a good time to visit us as you can, if you are in the area.

You might want to consider this thought from one of our Collier L.I.F.E. Group members. "I'm here because it gives me time to reflect on God's ways and His effect on my life. It prompts me to reflect on my response." Coordinators, Leona Appleby and Carol Duckworth.

New L.I.F.E. Group.  
Tues. 9:45-11:45a.m. at Collier  
Contact: Leona Appleby 705-726- 1884

Women's L.I.F.E. Group.  
Thurs. 7:00-8:00a.m. At Deb's Restaurant.  
Contact: Leona Appleby.

## TOM'S FAREWELL



June 21<sup>st</sup> will be Tom's last Sunday before his 2<sup>nd</sup> retirement. There will be a presentation during the service and a reception after worship in the Hall! Please join us in thanking Tom for his wonderful 6 years of musical leadership at Collier.

## CHOIR REPORT

The Senior Choir continues to work diligently to provide a varied program of service music each week. The music has included traditional and modern repertoire. Attendance has been good. Now that spring has finally arrived, we welcome the return of all of our 'snowbirds' after their annual winter migration to Florida. This will restore the Senior Choir to full strength.

Attendance at Junior Choir rehearsals after each Sunday service (11:45 am) has proven to be erratic. Their practice was, therefore, moved to 10 am Sunday morning. After a brief rehearsal with the Senior Choir, they would enter the sanctuary with the adults and sing alongside the Senior Choir until the Children's Time is over. They would then leave the sanctuary and join the children's program in the church hall. The change in timing has not improved the attendance of the Junior Choir. Although attendance still continues to be hit and miss, the two choirs will continue to be combined until the summer is upon us.

On the radar screen:

- Organist/Choir Director auditions in May
- Annual Choir pre-summer party 20 June 2015
- Tom Loney's last service as Organist/Choir Director 21 June 2015
- Summer break for the choir begins after the service Sunday 21 June

June 21<sup>st</sup> will be my final Sunday at Collier. At that time, I will have been associated with Collier Street and its music program for 14 years, six of which were at the post of Organist. It has been a great privilege to be part of the Collier family, and to have played a part in furthering the music tradition of this fine church. For me, it has been a wonderful experience both musically and personally. Collier is the home of many fine people, some of whom have become my closest friends.

It is time, however, to "pass the baton" to another musician. I have every confidence that my successor will competently lead the choir and will provide excellent organ music in support of Collier's worship services. I am hoping that, should the new Organist/Choir Director occasionally take a day off, that Collier will ask me to return (albeit only briefly) to the organ console on which I have happily spent many, many hours.

Tom Loney

## Upcoming Special Events

### NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>  
at 7:00 p.m. in M5

### SHUT-IN LUNCHEON

Tuesday June 9<sup>th</sup>

### WOMENS CONFERENCE

Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>

### STRAWBERRY SUPPER

Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m. in the Church Hall

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

CAMP AWESOME  
July 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, Sept. 19 at 8:00 a.m.  
Innisbrook Golf Course

**Watch the bulletin for updates  
for all worship services and events**

## IN MEMORIAM

Jean Greer	Margaret Duggan
Tom McConkey	Barb MacDonald
Don Roberts	Klazienna Wursten
Bob Lyte	

## MARCH NEW MEMBERS



*Robert Murdock, Will & Linda Fiege and  
Sanja & Scott Goldie!*

## Worship at Collier

### MAY 31

We welcome new members into our church family

### JUNE 7

CONFIRMATION/COMMUNION  
Celebration of Holy Communion  
Welcoming of the 2015 Confirmation Class

### JUNE 14

Sunday School Wrap up!  
Picnic for Children and Youth and their families to

### JUNE 21

Tom Loney's Last Sunday  
Join with your families as we celebrate Father's Day.

### JUNE 28 to AUGUST 30

Summer Worship 10:30am  
Excellent speakers and Special guests musicians



Collier was approached in 2014 about working with the Anglican-United Refugee Alliance to sponsor a refugee from either Iraq or Syria due to the great humanitarian need there caused by civil war and ISIS. The Official Board conducted a survey to see what interest there would be in the congregation to support such an effort. The result was approximately 60% of respondents indicating they would be willing to offer their time and/or financial resources to make this happen. The cost to Collier would be approximately \$13,000 (for one person), spread over 12-24 months. The Official Board has decided that the next step in considering the proposal would be to form a committee which could present a formal and concrete plan about how we could make this happen on top of all our other ongoing ministries. If you are interested in committing yourself to such a project, please contact Robin Milani at 705-735-0697 or robin\_milani@yahoo.ca or William Haughton 705-726-1511 or whaughton@collierunited.ca.