



Centennial United Church

Stayner, Ontario

Message from the Minister



Orange Shirt Sunday-September 27th, 2026

As we come back together to worship in our beautiful sanctuary this autumn season I am amazed once again by the commitment, faithfulness, generosity, resilience and loving kindness that is Centennial United Church. Even as I seek to support and strengthen this congregation, I am supported and strengthened! As Thanksgiving approaches I find myself counting these blessings and giving thanks.

This isn't to say that there are not difficulties and struggles that lay before us. This year as we read the Bible stories of the people of Israel escaping Egypt only to wander for years in the wilderness, scared and unsure about their future, it seems to me that there is more and more to which we can relate! What lessons can we learn from them about becoming the people of God? I think sometimes we get caught up in thinking that if we were truly following God's way then everything would be easy and wonderful all the time. But these Exodus stories remind us this isn't the case.

Pretty much everything that can go wrong, does go wrong—from running out of food, to not finding water, to turning to other gods, and even having their leader die before reaching the promised land! And yet, God continues to live and move in their midst—they continue to become God's people.

So, I am encouraged that we too can keep putting one foot in front of the other on our way to the Promised Land. That we can overcome setbacks and obstacles and even budget deficits! We can keep trusting in God's love and our love for one another to help us find our way just as we have for the past 135 years!

As we journey, each week Pat and I send out updates and worship links to help keep us connected even when we are apart. If you would like to join this mailing list e-mail me at jennifer@ucstayner.ca. We can also mail a copy of the weekly bulletin and Sunday Sermon to those who can't join us Sundays online or in person. Contact the church office at 705-428-3711 to arrange that with Pat.

Jennifer Irving, Minister

Office News

Pat is in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am-1pm. Jennifer tries to be in the office on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:30am-2:30pm. Although the door to the church is kept locked for safety reasons, please don't hesitate to ring the doorbell!

Announcements and requests to sponsor a bulletin can be submitted to Pat by Thursday mornings to make it into the upcoming Sunday bulletin.

News from General Council

After a thorough search process, the General Council Executive has confirmed Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly as the next General Secretary



Credit: The United Church of Canada

The United Church of Canada is pleased to announce the appointment of the Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly as its new General Secretary beginning January 1, 2027. The role of General Secretary, General Council is a permanent position, providing leadership in the direction, management, and coordination of the denomination working in close collaboration with the Moderator, who is elected every three years as the church's spiritual leader.

BABY NEWS

Congratulations to Centennial families who welcomed children, grandchildren and great grandchildren into the world this summer & fall including but not limited to:

-  Megan & Dave Arksey
-  Myrna & Jim Whitley
-  Dave Hopper
-  Greta Horton
-  Pat Elson
-  Donna & Ron Nadolny

May they know joy as they grow together in love with the support of their Church family.

Finance, Property & Stewardship

Suddenly it is Fall again, Thanksgiving and Anniversary time is here. I don't know how the time has flown by. Our finances are similar to last year but unlike last year, we will not be receiving a Faithful Footprints Grant to the tune of \$29,000.00 so it will require some creativity on top of our congregation's amazing generosity to make up the shortfall. Ideas for extra fall fundraisers are gratefully received. For the month of August we were short \$5,447.86.

An extra special thank you to everyone who helped to maintain and make improvements to our church building and grounds this past summer. Especially to Dave Hopper for keeping our grass cut (and for all the other jobs behind the scenes inside and outside of the church), Elaine Lighthead for all her gardening skills and work on the flowerbeds, Maxine Coutts-Reid and Chris Valentine for our clean and shiny floors, Jim Beecroft for the new stair hand-rail in the CE Wing, Barb & Doug Dickinson for arranging for all the carpets to be cleaned and doing all the prep work for that along with cleaning closets and cupboards and more to prep for: June Robinson, who repainted the ceilings in the offices, a repurposed Sunday School storage space, and touched up the paint jobs on walls and closets and anywhere else that needed a refresher (for a fun game, try to find all the places June did)!

One job we will have to hire someone to do for us is cladding the outside of the windows around the narthex and repainting the wood of the bell tower. One estimate we received for this work was over \$8,000.00. We hope you will consider making a special Anniversary Gift towards the upkeep of our beautiful and historic building.

END OF SUMMER FINANCIAL UPDATE

	YTD Aug 2026	YTD Aug2025
Total Income	\$72,079.25	\$69,626.32
Total Expenses	\$103,738.50	\$103,241.44
Shortfall	\$31,659.25	\$33,615.12
M&S Givings	\$7,655.00	\$8,049.00

John Squire, Treasurer

Upcoming Centennial Events

Centennial United Church Turkey Dinner

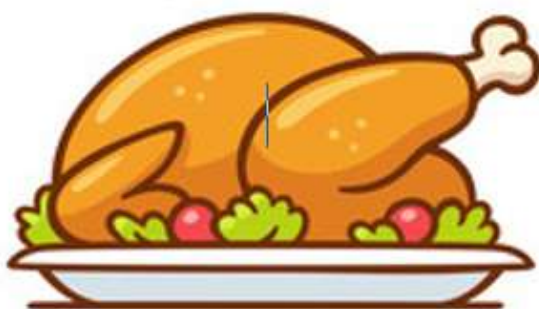
(with all the trimmings & home-made pie for dessert)

Wed November 4th, 2026

Dine-In (limited) or Take-Out

4:30pm to 6:30pm

234 William Street, Stayner



All Meals must be pre-ordered

705-422-1201 or fundraisers@ucstayner.ca

Deadline for orders: Sunday November 2nd

Cost: \$30/meal

Payment can be made by e-transfer to office@ucstayner.ca
or by cash or cheque when you arrive!

THANKSGIVING COLOUR TOUR

Sunday October 4th at 2:00pm.

We'll meet at the church to form a car rally to tour the surrounding countryside and admire the amazing beauty of our wondrous creation made all the more spectacular by the changing fall foliage!



All ages are welcome.

Please join us!

135TH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

October 18th, 2026 at 10:30am

Join us to celebrate this milestone in our faith community. Special Donations in honour of the occasion can be made using the Anniversary Envelopes at the back of the church or delivered with your newsletter.

COLLECTING HALLOWE'EN TREATS For our children and youth to remind them in these uncertain and sometimes scary times that they are not alone and there is joy to be found! Donations of peanut free treats, money or non-edible items gratefully received to put together these fun Hallowe'en Bags.

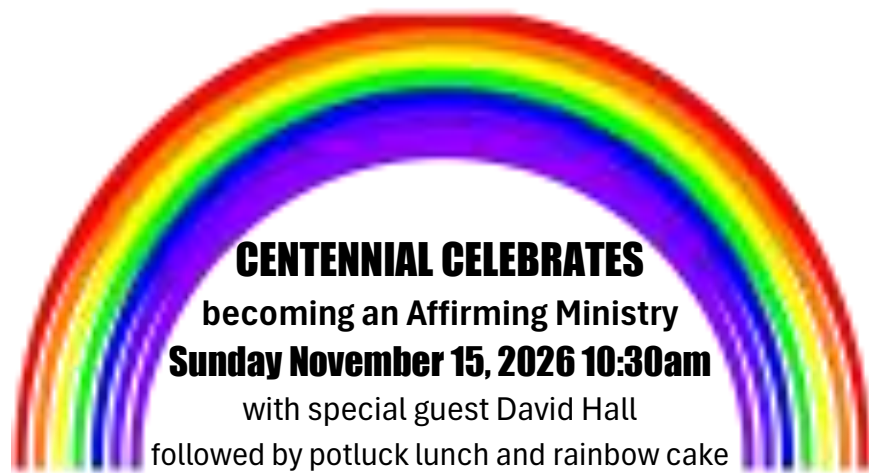
HALLOWE'EN GET TOGETHER FOR YOUTH-October 24th at 3:00pm For Grade 6-12. Bring a friend!



PUMPKIN CARVING EVENT-October 25th at 1:30pm

Our youth are inviting all Sunday School children and their families to come together once again to carve pumpkins! Dress up in your Hallowe'en costume and bring your pumpkin decorating ideas! There will be games with prizes and a fun photo booth to pose with the masterpieces! Each child will take their pumpkin home, along with a bag of treats. All younger children will need an adult to help with their pumpkins.

We would also like to invite all those adults who enjoy dressing up to join us and share in the fun! All adults wishing to carve a pumpkin too will need to reach out to Jennifer to reserve a pumpkin.



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATES
becoming an Affirming Ministry
Sunday November 15, 2026 10:30am

with special guest David Hall
followed by potluck lunch and rainbow cake

WANTED!

ALIVE WITH THE SPIRIT!

Visiting with our Pastoral Care Team
Running Power Point & Live-Stream
Reading in Church
Serving Coffee after Church
In what ways is God calling you to serve?

NOV 21, 2026

9:30am - 3:00pm

Featuring our
Centennial Sunday
School and Youth
Bake Table.
Donations
Welcome!

Christmas Bazaar @ Centennial

- 234 William St., Stayner
- Over 20 vendors
- 10 swag bags at 9:30am and 12
- Collecting for GTHS

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 10 AM
All welcome!

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOPS

Now TWO nights!

Thursday November 26 or
Friday November 27

6:30pm

Cost: \$50

All supplies included
with tasty nibbles and seasonal vibes!
Contact Geoff Allen for tickets at
geoff.allen.re@gmail.com or 519-546-3991

SIP 'n' SERVE



Join the crew Monday mornings at 9:00am as we test the theory that cleanliness is next to Godliness! All cleaners are rewarded with coffee and conversation.
No task too big or too small for this group!

Mark your Calendars!

To come out and see
Centennial's Float in the
Stayner Santa Claus Parade
December 5th, 2026 at 10:30am
& Our Sunday School Play for
White Gift Sunday
December 6th, 2026 at 10:30am



Happy Thanksgiving