



A Summer Message of Hope

As we head into the summer, I am filled with gratitude for the important and faithful work Centennial has done in voting to become an Affirming Ministry in the United Church of Canada. By this action, you dare to name publicly and explicitly what has long been at the heart of this community of faith: that the love of God is wide, generous, healing, and for everyone. I know the courage, care, prayer, conversation, learning, and commitment that brought you to this point will continue as you proclaim the love of God loudly and clearly—not only within the walls of Centennial United Church, but in this community and in every place your lives will carry you this summer.

While I am away, we may not be gathering for regular worship, but that doesn't mean we won't continue to find ways to stay connected and celebrate God's love. Even as our rhythm changes for a season, the church is not "closed." The Spirit of God continues to move among us—in our conversations, our acts of kindness, our laughter, our rest, and our care for one another.

My prayer is that this summer will be a gift for us all. May we be revitalized by all the blessings of the season: swimming and sunshine, flowers and gardens, warmth and long evenings, birdsong and breezes, campfires and quiet mornings, time with friends and family and all the wonders of God's glorious creation.

Wherever we go, may we carry with us the good news we have proclaimed so clearly: that all are beloved, all are welcome, and all are held in the love of God.

Jennifer Irving, Minister

LOOK FOR "Inventions of Summer"

This ready-to-use Summer Sabbath booklet and worship series invites you to enrich your summer through simple reflections on sunflowers, string beans, rainbows, mosquitoes, and fireflies.



Can be used anytime during the Summer!

Summer Services

Wherever we meet we are gathered in community to celebrate God's love. Unless it is otherwise noted our summer gatherings will be at 10:30AM.

June 21 Sunday School Wrap-Up & Welcoming New Members (worship in the Sanctuary)

For the summer season we move into a more relaxed form of worship. Please bring your own lawn chair for those gatherings happening outdoors!



June 28 Outdoor worship hosted by Myrna and Jim Whitley at their farm (3770 Concession 3 South, Nottawasaga Creemore).

Directions to Whitley's Farm: drive south on County Rd 42, if leaving Stayner, go through Cashtown and continue to Avening. Cross the bridge in Avening and turn right onto Sideroad ¾ (at the school house, some might remember it as Peggy's Pies), go to the top of the hill and turn left at the "T" (head south on Concession 3) we are on right hand side of the road about 1km from the "T".

July 5 Berries and ice cream on the church lawn.

July 12 We are invited to a PRIDE Sunday worship with Trinity United Church in Collingwood (10:30 AM) with pop up mass choir practicing at 9:30 AM.

July 26 Tea and biscuits on the church lawn.

August 9 Outdoor worship at Geoff and Deb Allen's (1698 County Rd 7, Stayner).

Aug 23 Potluck dinner at Barb and Doug Dickinson's (14 MacAllister St S, Collingwood). Arrive at 3:30PM!

We begin our Fall Worship:

Sept 6 Geoff Allen to lead worship in the Sanctuary.

Sept 13 Sunday School Rally Sunday!

We look forward to seeing everyone in these different spaces!

Financial Report

Well, we are mid way through June. Summer starts in a week's time. (*June 21*)

On behalf of the Finance, Property and Stewardship Committee we would like to give you an update on our financial position as of May 31, 2026, and what is being planned for the summer months.

Finances are something we all talk about whether it be in our personal lives, the government or in business.

The same holds true for our church. The finances are being stretched.

These financial numbers are for the actual period ending May 31, 2026 compared to last year.

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>Comparative</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 50,638	\$ 54,689
TOTAL EXPENSES	68,283	68,919
DEFICIT	\$17,645	\$ 14,230
M&S	\$ 5,050	\$ 5,141

Over and above these numbers are some repairs: door closers to go on the new front doors, new emergency lights need to be installed for safety issues, repainting of office space ceilings and base boards in the CE Wing. An estimate was also received last year to do various window cladding with an estimate of \$8,000 as of last year, a new price has not been finalized.

As we all are aware, owning your own personal buildings, they require constant repairs and upkeep. The church is no different.

With summer months contributions in the past have slowed down however our expenses continue to be incurred.

Thank you for your past support and ask for your continued support to address this shortfall. Please keep Centennial United, your church, in your budget for the balance of 2026.

We need you, as you need us. We are thankful for all the ways we support one another and reach out into the community through your generous donations. We are proud of the ministry we share.

Remember PAR (pre-authorized remittance) is available, to make it easier to give on regular basis. The forms are available at the office.

John Squire, Treasurer
Chair of Finance, Property & Stewardship

Keeping in Touch

Pat Elson plans to be in the office from 9:00am to 1:00pm on **June 23 & 25, July 7 & 16 and August 10 & 18**. She will be able to come in upon request or in case of emergency as needed. She will be checking email regularly and voice mail periodically.

You can reach her at 705-428-3711 or by email – office@ucstayner.ca with e-mail being the most reliable communication for urgent matters.

Please note: there will be no outside rentals of the church building during the summer months.

Send us your e-mail to join our Centennial Family e-mail list. Keep us connected by sharing your summer photos and stories to our [Centennial Facebook Group!](#)

Summertime Pastoral Care

Jennifer is taking her ¼ time off this year from June 22-September 8th, 2026. During this time, Trinity United Church in Collingwood (705-445-3901) will be covering any Pastoral Emergencies for Centennial members.

In July, Reverend Beth Kerr can be reached at minister@collingwoodunitedchurch.ca

In August, Reverend Mary Elizabeth Piercy can be reached at maryelizabethpiercy@gmail.com

For non urgent pastoral care for yourself or others (perhaps a card or visit would be appreciated) you can contact **Valerie Willock: 705-422-1201** throughout the summer.

Don't hesitate to reach out.

SUMMER DONATION OPTIONS

There are still ways to give over the Summer!

Cheque mailed to: Centennial United Church

234 William St, Stayner, ON L0M 1S0

E-Transfer: sent to office@ucstayner.ca

Set up a monthly **PAR** (pre-authorized remittance)

Online through "Canada Helps"



*Each donation is received gratefully
and used faithfully to share God's love
through our ministries.*

Community Food Cupboard Update

Our little cupboard is being used regularly and it is restocked on a daily basis by many members of the church and the wider community.

We are so grateful for the many donations, including those from the Clothing Swap (well over 300 items and some cash too).

The big movers are pasta and sauce, Kraft Dinner, small noodle packets and noodle cups, pop top cans of chili, soup and stew, and tuna, ham, and turkey, breakfast bars and other treats.

Over the winter there were donations of warm socks and hats too!

The Outreach and Social Action Committee are making future plans for an outside refrigerator in order to offer cold drinks and perishable food items, and any kind of food that might melt or spoil in the summer heat. This will also be useful in the wintertime to allow us to keep items that cannot be frozen available.

A big thank you to Jim Beecroft who saw the need to refurbish the cupboard itself. Check it out, it now has metal siding!

We don't know who is using it, but it obviously fills a need and we will continue to offer what we can. If you are available this summer time and would like to help keep the cupboard filled or buy supplies please contact Geoff Allen (geoff.allen.re@gmail.com).

Broadview Magazine

Small churches are quietly holding communities together across Canada. But too often, small churches are talked about only in terms of decline. Broadview's upcoming Small Church Issue tells a different story.

This special issue explores the resilience, creativity and impact of small churches across Canada — and asks an important question: What if small churches are not failing... but helping shape the future of the church?

To pre-order copies or honour a small church or leader who changed your life through a tax-deductible donation and inclusion in the special Honour Roll please contact Pat before July 7 (office@ucstayner.ca)

NOTE: If you would like to renew your regular subscription or newly subscribe to receive Broadview every month, please contact Pat before August 10!

Centennial Reads Summer 2026!

This year's list of Summertime Reading has been selected with the intention of inspiring hope

NON-FICTION

The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times by Jane Goodall & Douglas Adams. This urgent book explores one of the most sought after and least understood elements of human nature: hope. *Recommended by Marilyn Beecroft*

From the Ashes: My Story of Being Métis, Homeless, and Finding My Way by Jesse Thistle. An extraordinary and inspiring memoir, about overcoming trauma and addiction and finding truth. *Recommended by Leanne Campbell*

Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others by Barbara Brown Taylor. Barbara Brown Taylor recounts her moving discoveries of finding the sacred in unexpected places, revealing how God delights in confounding our expectations. *Recommended by Greta Horton*

FICTION

Spoon Stealer by Lesley Crewe. For those who know this amazing Canadian author, this is a classic Crewe book: full of humour, family secrets, women's friendship, lovable animals, and immense heart. *Recommended by Pat Elson*

The Correspondent by Virginia Evans. This gentle epistolary novel (that means the story is told solely through letters like Paul's contributions to the Bible!) is a story of one woman that gives hope for all of us. *Recommended by Jennifer Irving*

The Baby-sitters Club: Dawn and the Impossible Three by Ann M Martin. Pretty much any book from this series is a fun read. *Recommended by Blythe Sterrenburg*

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Throwback Read: The Boat Who Wouldn't Float by Farley Mowat. A perfect read for while you're waiting for books on hold!

Canada Reads Winner 2026: The Cure for Drowning by Loghan Paylor.

Mark your calendars for a book sharing on
Wednesday September 23 at 7:30pm
Help choose Centennial's winning book for 2026.

HAPPY READING!

Congrats to Centennial's Grads!



Hailey Coutts graduates from Grade 8 at SCI and plans to attend Our Lady of the Bay in the fall.

Lucas Dunlop is graduating from Grade 8 at Worsley Elementary School in Wasaga Beach!



Cali Collicutt graduating from Grade 12 at SCI and plans to attend McMaster University for Medical Radiation Sciences.



Bethany Robinson graduates from Grade 8 at True North Academy and plans to attend SCI in the fall.



Olyndra Irving graduating from Grade 12 at SCI and plans to take Physics at McMaster University.



Hannah Meijerink graduated from Trent University with Honours degree in Psychology and Sociology.



Tori Collicutt graduated on June 8, 2026 from Landscape Architecture at Guelph University!