

**February
2024**

NEWSLETTER

CLIFFORD PASTORAL CHARGE

www.cliffordpastoralchargeuc.ca/

clifforduc@wightman.ca

P.O. Box 205, Clifford, ON N0G 1M0

519-327-8378

Alsfeldt, Ayton
101429 Concession 6
Normanby Township
R. 2, Ayton
N0G 1C0



Knox, Clifford
11 Allan Street East
Clifford, ON
N0G 1M0
519-327-8292

Combined Worship at 10:00 am, alternating between Alsfeldt and Knox

Weekly emails are sent informing of each Sunday's Worship Service details and announcements. If you are not receiving these emails, and would like to, please email the church office clifforduc@wightman.ca to be part of this communication.

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|----------------------------|--|
| Sunday, February 4 | 10:00 am at Knox
Rev. Arthur Hiley leading worship followed by a time of food and fellowship. |
| Sunday, February 11 | 10:00 am at Alsfeldt – Transfiguration Sunday
Rev. Kathy Morden leading worship. |
| Sunday, February 18 | 10:00 am at Knox - 1st Sunday of Lent
Rev. Gail Clarkson leading worship including Communion |
| Sunday, February 25 | 10:00 am at Knox - 2nd Sunday of Lent
Norm Egenraam leading worship.
Annual Meeting at 11:00 am with a Potluck Lunch to follow. |
| Sunday, March 3 | 10:00 am at Alsfeldt – 3rd Sunday of Lent
Rev. Diane Eurig leading worship followed by a time of food and fellowship. |

UCW:

The UCW (United Church Women) are continuing to collect the items listed below. Please drop off your contributions in **the green baskets labeled 'UCW'** at each church.

- **Stamps** - used; if you are able, please trim with ¼" of envelope around the postage stamp and put them in an envelope or bag. They are purchased by collectors from the Canadian Bible Society to buy Bibles.
- **Pop tabs** - to help purchase wheelchairs through the sale of the aluminum.
- **Milk bags** –the outside bag holding the 3 litres; please flatten and fold. The bags, when cut into strips are crocheted/woven into mats for the homeless.



Benevolent Fund is available for those in our church and community who are in need. If you, or someone you know, is in need you can contact the church secretary Ellen Underwood 519-327-8378 (office) or email clifforduc@wightman.ca or call her home 519-392-8573, cell 519-418-9560.

Thank you to all who submit photos and information to each monthly Newsletter. We can always use more submissions. Send to the church office clifforduc@wightman.ca, drop off at the church office, or call Ellen at home 519-392-8573, office 519-327-8378.



How to Continue Your Financial Gifts to Alsfeldt and Knox

If you are unable to give your offering at in-person worship services you may-

***send to your church treasurer**

Alsfeldt- Chris Newman, P.O. Box 197, Ayton, ON N0G 1C0

Knox- Donald Douglas, 45929 Huron-Bruce Road, Clifford, ON N0G 1M0

***send your cheque to the church office**

Clifford Pastoral Charge, P.O. Box 205, Clifford, ON N0G 1M0

***contribute by PAR. Pre-Authorized Remittance.** If you would like to set up a pre-authorized remittance account, please contact your church treasurer.

Western Ontario Waterways Prayer Cycle invites Prayer each week for a Community of Faith in the Region

February 4: Port Elgin United Church

February 11: Goldstone United Church

February 18: James Street United Church, Palmerston

February 25: Wingham United Church

March 3: Northside-Cavan Pastoral Charge, Seaforth





Rev. Dr. Arthur Hiley – **Pastor Art - will be visiting on Friday, February 3, 2024 and Saturday, February 4, 2024.** If you would like to arrange for a visit, or if you know of someone who needs or would appreciate a visit, contact the church secretary Ellen Underwood 519-327- 8378, or at home 519-392-8573.

Pastor Art is planning to be at Clifford Pastoral Charge one weekend of each month; doing visits on Friday and Saturday and leading worship on Sunday. **In March, he will be here on Friday, March 8th to Sunday, March 10th, 2024.**

You can connect with Pastor Art by calling 519-851-5445 or email pastorart5477@gmail.com at any time and he will contact you as soon as possible.

Saturday Morning Men's Breakfast and Conversation



Men, you are invited to a **monthly breakfast event from 8:30-9:30 am at Cindy Lou's Diner in Clifford on Saturday, February 3, 2024.**

Breakfast/Conversation/Faith – Questions and Answers with Pastor Art Hiley. Come when you can, you are always welcome!

Please note - you can come and have breakfast or just have a coffee, or just come for the discussion. **In March, the breakfast will be March 9th.**

The Clifford Pastoral Charge Annual Meeting is planned for Sunday, February 25, 2024 at Knox.

Worship at 10:00 am followed by the meeting and a Potluck Lunch.



Clifford Pastoral Charge received a thank you this week from the Clifford Food Bank.

"A note to express warmest thanks – Thank you very much for the donations given to the Clifford Food Bank. It is greatly appreciated and be used to restock our shelves to help those in need." The thank you includes the monetary donation from the UCW.



Knox Fundraising Committee is planning an event on Friday, October 18, 2024 at 7:30 pm.

Naomi Bristow – The Singin' Cowgirl – will be performing at Knox. She is a young music artist from rural Ontario who has been performing for the past 15 years. More details to come.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Suppers – Tuesday, February 13, 2024

James Street United Church, Palmerston serving from 4:00-6:30pm; Adults \$15, 5-12 yrs. \$7, under 5 Free. Proceeds to Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

St. Paul's-Trinity Anglican Church, Wingham serving from 4:30-6:30pm; Adults: \$15, kids under 12: \$8, pre-school: Free.





If you or someone you know is in need of some pastoral care, such as illness,

bereavement, lonely, suffering a loss – please let us know so we may respond.

Pastor Art Hiley is also available during the month to talk with you via the telephone or Zoom.

If you email him he will get back to you. He can also set up appointments for when he is here. Feel free to contact him.

We would also appreciate if you would let us know if anyone is having a celebration such as a special birthday, anniversary, birth, achievement, so we may acknowledge that also.

Anne Matthews (Alsfeldt)

Home: 519-327-8306

Email: matthews1978@wightman.ca

Judith Anne Douglas (Knox)

Cell: 519-292-1496, Home: 519-335-3802

Email: jad335@hotmail.com

Pastor Arthur Hiley

Phone: 519-851-5445

Email: pastorart5477@gmail.com

Ellen Underwood, Secretary

Phone: 519-327-8378 office

Home: 519-392-8573

Cell: 519-418-9560

Email: clifforduc@wightman.ca

We hold in prayer...

Please keep those of our congregations & community in your thoughts & prayers whether they are at home, at †Royal Terrace, Palmerston; †Caressant Care, Harriston; †Hamilton Hometown Retirement, Harriston, or in hospital.

Alieda Murray†
Arthena Underwood††
Murray Donaldson†
Larry Grummett

Esther Hallman
Jack Shannon
Sharon (Dunn) Stevens
All who are mourning the loss of a loved one



Murray Donaldson has moved to a new home as of February 1st.
His address is c/o Hamilton Hometown Retirement Living, 294 Elora Street South, Harriston, ON N0G 1Z0. Phone # is 519-292-6658.
Murray enjoys everyone's visits, phone calls, and cards.

WOW UCW Event – Celebrating our Camps

Saturday, February 10th, 2024 - Virtual Zoom Gathering

Link Opens 12:30 pm, Gathering Music 12:45 pm, 1 pm- Welcome

Guest Speakers, Singing, Worship, Optional Chat Time

To join meeting, click on this Zoom Link: <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/88259084126...>



Sunday School in January

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

We hope that each of you has had a positive start to the New Year!

On January 7th, our eager minds started the year at Knox by learning about Epiphany and the arrival of the three wise men. After Lachlan read the story about these noble astrologers from the East, also known as Magi, we watched a short video illustrating their presentation of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh to the new born King. We then did a step-by-step drawing of the three wise men by *Kids Art Hub*.



The Snow sure did come down over the next week or so, bringing us together next on the 21st of January, back at Knox. Because of all the snow we'd had, I thought it was a great opportunity to talk about God being our shelter, being lost and how God can help us find our way. We initially gathered in the Library where we read a book called: *Little Puppy Lost* written by: Linda Jennings. It's a story about a small puppy that sees snow for the first time. He loves the way the little snowflakes feel and



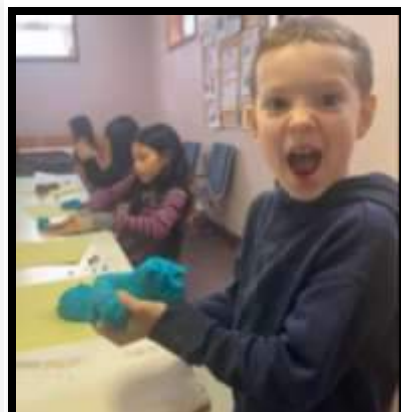
soon his wonder turns to fear as he finds himself lost in all the snowflakes.

The small puppy sets out, determined to

find his way back home in a new world of white. He greets many woodland creatures on his journey, each giving him advice on how to get home.



But, it isn't until he takes shelter under an evergreen tree and stays in one place that he can hear his mother's comforting calls. He's reunited with his family and heads home for dinner and a warm bed. What a great metaphor for life: don't head out into the snow storm alone, trying to navigate your way blindly through a world of white. Stay calm, stay put and God will find you and navigate you home - ***Psalm 91 tells us: He is my refuge, my fortress, my God whom I trust.*** After our story we had a challenge to build a protective shelter for barnyard animals using just play dough and tooth picks – Oh the imagination of our youngsters is something else!!!



Our final week in January together was the 28th at Alsfeldt.

On this day we started a new Bible series on one of Joseph's descendants – Moses! And the baby in the reeds is where we started our Moses journey. Lydia read us our Bible story about this young Hebrew baby, we watched a video that gave visual clarity of this small baby's journey and then we made a craft of Moses in a basket among the reeds. For our snack we shared small chocolate



oatmeal cookies in the shape of a basket with a small "baby" (kit Kat circle bite) inside. Thank-you to Beth Ann for supplying us with juice boxes from her Children's Time Lesson ☺



We do eat well in Sunday School!!

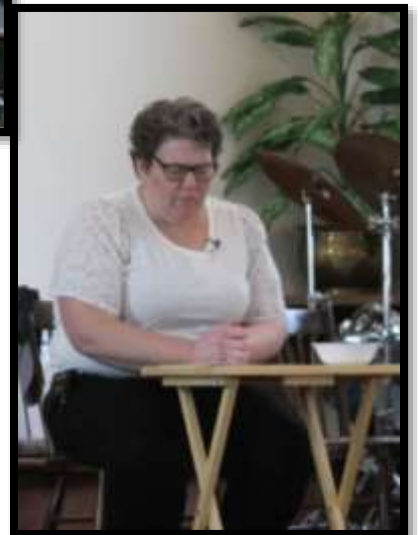
Stay tuned as we travel along with Moses into February!

Kathryn Rehorst

**Some scenes from
Sunday, January 28th**



Happy 3rd Birthday, Maisie!



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Trinity Lutheran Church – Ayton

Invites you to attend

The World Day of Prayer Service

Fri., March 1, 2024 at 2:00 pm

A time of fellowship will follow the service!

You are welcome to wear colourful and embroidered scarves, shawls, tops, etc.!

Offering donations will go towards the Women's Inter-church Council of Canada (WICC) World Day of Prayer Project Grants program.

The International focus this year is on the Women of Palestine!



For more information about this year's theme go to <https://worlddayofprayer.net/palestine-2024.html> or see the church bulletin boards.

Lessons of Racism Learned When Young

*The following is from a **blog** written by Adele Halliday. Your **Mission & Service** gifts support anti-racism programs and initiatives like the ones Halliday develops as the United Church's Anti-Racism and Equity Lead to help all of us be in deeper, more equitable relationships with one another.*

The name calling started when she was about three years old. They were racial slurs, and names, and taunts. My child, my own flesh and blood, was being ostracized for having Black skin. The people slinging the insults? Other children on the playground....

She may not have necessarily always understood the particular terms that they used, but she knew that they were related to her Blackness and her racial identity. And this deeply wounded her tender heart....

Despite all of our intentional modelling, teaching, and proactive actions, our child is still already developing internalized racism and inferior notions of herself.

The children who were taunting her were offering explicit and overt notions of racism, but they were children! They had not even started primary school! And yet, the children had already learned behaviour (at home, or elsewhere in society) that Whiteness is superior. And, they had the audacity to vocalize that to an innocent little child....

This is in part why I am so deeply committed to dismantling racism in all its forms—racism is damaging and destructive for all people in society. It reinforces negative notions for people of colour. I live it in a particular way because of my own racial identity, as a Black person who has lived with racial injustice my entire life.

The systemic nature of racism is something that cannot be ignored.... This effort to overcome racism is a continuous effort. And I am committed to this work for the long haul. I hope that you will be too.

