

# CONNECTIONS

## News and Views of Oxford County United Churches

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### DEMANDING COMMON TASK

As followers of Jesus, we 'walk each other home' to Easter, to new and renewed life. We experience deep fellowship as we fulfil our demanding common task. Our time together is precious as well as precarious as weather patterns change and warm but our collective reliance on fossil fuels doesn't change. Jesus meets us at the cross.

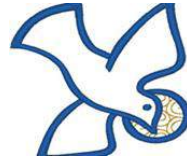
**OUR CONTEXT (p 2)** of congregations in the search process for new leadership; energizing words from Rev. Jennifer Canning, at Plattsville; Camp Tanner plans a bottle drive and needs kitchen help; refugees doggedly work through application processes; Operation Sharing updates their website; the UCW looks forward to their virtual Annual Meeting.

**In Christ (pg 7)** resistance grows to stop increasing privatization of health care in hospitals and long-term care homes; celebrate Earth Day in new ways imagining resurrection as a cosmic pattern of transformation; seek to make acknowledgements meaningful.

**A NEW CREATION (pg 9)** our prayer cycles; the Artic Wooley Bear; Muddy Thoughts for Spring Thaw; invitations for Reusapalooza; Canadian Campaign to Stop the Arrest & Detention of Palestinian Children; help for Ukraine from Oxford County; Pope Francis' apology for residential school abuse; and Grandmother's Tea is back!



Marg Murray co-editor



### FOOD FOR THE SOUL

#### The Road to Easter

*"April is the cruellest month, breeding  
Lilacs out of the dead land,...stirring  
Dull roots with spring rain."*

You will recognize these lines from T.S. Eliot's poem **"The Wasteland"**. Written in 1922, the poem is generally a lament. Eliot discerned that after the first World War, the "war to end all wars," the world had not changed. **It had not learned the ways of peace.**

As we travel the road to Easter, we remember that it was **Jesus who said that of Jerusalem**. It is the phrase, sadly, that comes to mind when we see pictures of Ukraine, now resembling "Wasteland." **"We have not learned the way of peace."**

Long before Palm Sunday and Jesus's ride on a borrowed donkey into the "Holy City" we were made aware that the "Kingdom of God" would face adversity. According to Mathew's story of Jesus's birth King Herod ordered the killing of all male children in and around Bethlehem in order to get rid of this new King.

**Jesus had a less poetic way** than Eliot's "breeding lilacs out of dead land" when he described the way to a better world. **Jesus said that if we wanted to follow him, we needed to deny ourselves and take up our cross.** That is necessary because we have membership in both the Kingdom of God and in the kingdoms of this world. **We slip too easily into the latter.**

**We recognize our part in the damage done to Indigenous and Metis people in our own period of empire building.**

In March we heard eco-theologian Jessica Heatherington give us another [excellent sermon](#). In the discussion following, our "crucifixion of nature" was identified. **Our**

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**pursuit of prosperity has put our planet and its people in peril.**

Changing is not easy. Something in us must die in order for new life to take place.

**The road to new life for our Indigenous and Metis sisters and brothers and our planet is slow and painful and ongoing.**

We are witnesses to those who suffer on the way to a more peaceful world when we watch the daily news from Ukraine. No government is able to live out the radical nature of the "Kingdom of God" but people who are able to choose their own governance, i.e. democracy, have the best chance of living out that Kingdom's justice.

Good Friday worship will stir in us a compassion for those in Ukraine who sacrifice their lives so others may be free.

**SO WHERE IS THE GOOD NEWS? WHERE IS EASTER? It is in the raw courage shown in Ukraine** by so many who are giving up their lives so that future generations will live in freedom. **Easter is 9-year-old Amella Stelios singing the Ukrainian national anthem, first in a bomb shelter in Ukraine and then in a packed stadium in Poland.** There is more power in that performance than in a battalion of tanks. **Easter is a Canadian doctor on a plane carrying a Ukrainian child with cancer enroute to Toronto's Sick Kids Hospital.** On the way he taught his patient a Canadian card game and saw the delight in her face when she won. It was a resounding "Hallelujah".

**This year on the road to Easter our love will be deeper, our prayers more heart-felt and along the way we will look not just for the lilies, but for the lilacs and the sunflowers.**

Blessings for the road. **We travel together.**

Glen Wright (co-editor)



*The sections of **Our Context, In Christ and A New Creation** invite us to think about what is going on now in this time and place; how with Christ, we dare to face challenges and be changed in our faith and life journey to become a new creation.*

## OUR CONTEXT

### COMINGS AND GOINGS AROUND OXFORD



### CONGREGATIONS SEEKING MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP:

*We hold in our hearts and prayers **all** our communities of faith (see prayer cycles on page 11) as we live out God's mission.*

### Congregations In Search Mode – Accepting Applications:

- **Avondale UC** (Tillsonburg) and Otterville UC
- **Beachville Pastoral Charge** (Sweaburg UC + West Oxford UC)

### Congregations Working Through Steps of Search Mode:

- **College Ave. UC**
- **Kintore and Brooksdale UC**
- **Foldens UC** has a Shared Ministry Agreement with Beachville PC.
- **Burgessville UC** has LLWLs.

**Rev. Margaret Trapnell** has been appointed short term supply at Dundas UC until August 31.



**See their [webpage](#) Current Programs and**

### Possibilities.

*A sacred place for peoples of all faiths as well as spiritual seekers to gather in community to live, work, learn, pray, play, heal and act for justice.*

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### A WARM WELCOME TO REV. JENNIFER CANNING

PEACE UNITED CHURCH, Plattsville

Hi folks!

Hard to believe more than two months have passed since I started at Peace United in Plattsville! It's been a busy time... meeting people, moving, trying to empty and prepare to sell a multi-generational home in Brantford (the house my Dad, and my sister and I grew up in), continuing to navigate COVID, planting way too many seeds while dreaming big garden dreams, the never-ending job of unpacking, the list goes on...

I don't like being put in boxes and I'm claustrophobic, so I probably shouldn't try to put myself in a nutshell, but here goes:

- Born and raised in Brantford;
- Started violin when 3, switched to viola when 9 (I was already playing a full-sized violin, so was a good candidate - I'm 6'1");
- Undergraduate in music from Laurier, and MDiv from Emmanuel at U of T;
- Ordained in 2010;
- Settled to the Maynooth-Madawaska Pastoral Charge, a four-point charge East of Algonquin park and near my family's home on Papineau Lake;
- Accepted a call to Fairview United in 2015 and moved "temporarily" into the family house in Brantford that had been un-lived-in for a couple of years;
- I play viola in the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra and other orchestras as needed including the Stratford Symphony and Brantford Symphony;
- I have two cats, Patrick and Flash;



- In the summer I garden and raise monarch butterflies;
- Last year I released 456 healthy monarchs, most of which I'd found as eggs;
- I like to swim, kayak, cross country ski and read.

I look forward to getting to know people in this area! I'm especially interested in getting to know colleagues and folks involved in the work of the wider church. Despite its proximity to my current location, Brantford was aligned Eastward when it came to church involvement, so I am starting fresh in all areas when it comes to Plattsville.

Once Easter is over, I look forward to meeting some of you!

My number is 613-334-6549 and my email is [peaceunitedminister@gmail.com](mailto:peaceunitedminister@gmail.com).

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[Facebook page](#) and  
[website](#)

### BOTTLE DRIVE!

**FRIDAY, April 22, 5-7 pm.**

**One Drop off at Knox UC, Embro**

To arrange pickup, please email  
camptanner@gmail.com.

### LOOKING FORWARD TO SUMMER!

**Registration for campers is OPEN!**

July 10-15 is intermediate camp

July 17-22 is junior camp

July 24-29 is intermediate camp

July 31-August 5 is junior camp

August 7-12 is senior camp

August 14-19 is junior camp

#### **Reminder:**

Junior Camp - ages 7-10

Intermediate Camp - ages 10-13

Senior Camp - ages 12-15

**Registrar: Kate Wintermute  
(Tondue)**

Phone: 226-927-3353

Email: camptannerinc@gmail.com

### CAMP TANNER SEEKING KITCHEN HELP

#### **Greetings to all.**

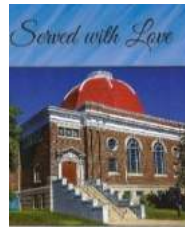
We will hire a head cook for the morning shift (7:30am – 2:30 pm) and for the afternoon shift (3:30 pm – 7:30 pm). **We are looking for two people (fully vaccinated) to assist the head cook on each shift.** There will also be a hired kitchen support person who will wash dishes and supervise the campers setting the tables and cleaning up.

**Would anyone in your congregation or community be interested?** Students could use their camp time for volunteer hours.

Interested people, please contact Marg Dykeman (519-532-4875) or  
marg.dykeman@gmail.com.

**Thank you,** Sheila Greason.

### **St Paul's UC, Tillsonburg**



88 Bidwell Street

**Community Kitchen**

**Hot Take-out Lunch**

**Every Saturday** from  
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

*Serving from ramp entrance.*



Operation Sharing has recently reworked their website. See [here](#) for taxable items which are still needed in their cupboard.

**Food For Friends** As food costs increase, we are blessed to be able to give a Dollar at the till for others to make nutritious choices as they shop with dignity.



On the new [website](#), are stories of **The Inn** (Oxford's Emergency Shelter). **The Meeting Place, Bullwinkle's Eatery and Hospitality.**

#### **\$ DONATIONS\$**

Donations can be made on their website or mail Treasurer of Operation Sharing, P.O. Box 20081, Woodstock, Ontario, N4S 8X8.

CONFLICT MAY DIVIDE US  
BUT COMPASSION  
ALWAYS UNITES US



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### OXFORD UNITED REFUGEE

#### SUPPORT COMMITTEE (OURS)

We have some progress to share. **The Knox United sponsorship application for Maqssoud** is complete and has been sent to the refugee office of the United Church in Toronto. Maqssoud entered Pakistan as a refugee from his home country of Afghanistan when he received death threats from the Taliban. We are hopeful that his application will be forwarded for approval to Immigration Refugees Citizenship Canada, IRCC before summer.

**Trinity United's sponsorship application** has passed another hurdle as the IRCC approved the application and has forwarded it to the visa office in Ankara, Turkey. **The Al- Mohammedawi family of 5** will undergo interviews, medical exams and gain assistance with obtaining travel loans, exit visas and other preparations as needed. This application has moved forward more quickly than expected. However, it is difficult to know how long it will be before this last step is completed.

**Westminster United in Thamesford** are early in the application process for a Syrian family of 5 who are living in Lebanon as refugees. We wish them well as they prepare to submit the application to the refugee office of the United Church of Canada.

Your donations for Refugee Sponsorships will be welcome and appreciated. **Tax receipts for donations come from the sponsoring church. Please make cheques out to the sponsoring church with "Refugee Sponsorship" in the memo line.**

The sponsoring churches accepting donations are:

#### **Knox United Church**

116 Kincardine St.,  
PO Box 59,  
Embro ON N0J 1J0

#### **Trinity United Church**

118 Church St.,  
Ingersoll, ON N5C 2X6

#### **Westminster United Church**

115 George St,  
Thamesford, ON N0M 2M0

*Submitted by Marjorie Martin,  
Chairperson OURS committee*

**NOTE:** The United Church of Canada (UCC) is a Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH). A sponsoring church is a Constituent Group (CG).

Resettlement Operations Centre – Ottawa (ROC-O or ROCO) is a department of the Immigration Refugees Citizenship Canada (IRCC).



July 15-17<sup>th</sup> at Five Oaks

Nurturing a narrative of hope, joy and transformation, the [Skylight Festival](#) is a celebratory and creative space where diverse communities connect to explore arts, faith, peace and justice.

Register [here](#)



To order call 1-888-6680871; email [sales@grandriverbooks.com](mailto:sales@grandriverbooks.com); online <https://www.grandriverbooks.ca/>  
Mail delivery \$5.00.

### THE OXFORD LEGACY FUND

still taking requests in 2022!

Submit your requests  
to Lynne Dunlop

[lynndunl@execulink.com](mailto:lynndunl@execulink.com)

For details of Fund see [here](#)

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### **Antler River Watershed - UCW Annual Meeting** ZOOM

#### **"Risking Loving, Serving"**

**APRIL 23, link opens at 9:30 am**

*Music begins at 9:45 am*

*Meeting from 10-11:30 am*

#### **Worship + Communion: Mary Dillon**

*Please have your own elements ready*

**Speaker: Karlene Kimber** – a diaconal minister who has worked at the Dundas resource centre.

#### **Installation of Officers: Jane Van Patter, President of ARW Region**

<https://united-church.zoom.us/j/93298218153...>

Meeting ID: 932 9821 8153

Password: 008312

*Telephone Audio*

*855 703 8985 Canada Toll Free*

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**George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill** "I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend, if you have one."

#### **Winston Churchill, in response**

"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... if there is one."

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**Hikmet Kaya, retired forest engineer from Turkey, standing in front of a land which he afforested while holding a photograph of it from 41 years ago when he started.**



*In Lent, we dare to listen to voices which have been silenced and reflect critically how both war and the climate emergency are re-shaping our world. We connect our actions with the needed systemic changes.*

## **In Christ**

### **Oxford Coalition of Social Justice**

#### **joins the fight to stop privatization of health care.**



On April 2 the Oxford Coalition for Social Justice held an [instructive virtual emergency health care privatization summit](#) hosted by Bryan Smith, Coalition Chair. See [here](#). **Speaker Linda McQuaig**, journalist, reminded us of the principal of equality which has undergirded our medicare system – that those at the front of the line are the 'sickest people not the wealthiest people'. Generally, huge backlogs and chaos have been used to allow private profit-making corporations to come in and fix things even though their focus is profit making not patient care. She reminded us of the problems (care and mortality rates) in Long Term Care (LTC) homes which were publicly exposed during Covid. **Speaker Randy Robinson**, Ontario Director, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) provided solid [money facts](#) that our Provincial government is not broke but is one of the richest GDP/capita with a strong economic foundation. 'Fiscal effort' is the term used to assess how hard a government raises money from its Own Sources. He compared Ontario's "Own-Source" revenue (i.e. percentage of each province's total economic activity, Gross Domestic Product (GDP)) showing that Ontario's is 15.2% (2<sup>nd</sup> from bottom) and the average for rest of Canada is 17.5%. Yes, Ontario needs to make a 'fiscal effort'

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to raise revenue – to pay for public services. Instead, since 2018, Ontario provincial tax cuts and credits have taken away from public coffers. **Facts:** an aging population needs more health care; we have [exhausted health care workers](#) and [families in poverty](#).

Let us reflect critically when we vote in the June 2 election. We need more money in health care. We can afford it.

The [Ontario Health Coalition](#) represents more than ¾ million Ontarians and 400 member organizations committed to the fight to protect our public health care system from cuts and against increasing Health Care Privatization.

To join the fight, posters, lawns signs and Facts Sheets are available from Brian Smith ([bryasmit@oxford.net](mailto:bryasmit@oxford.net) NOTE: Corrected email address). Fact Sheet is also available [here](#). MM



### CARE OF THE EARTH INCLUDES CARE OF ALL THE CREATURES OF THE EARTH

#### LONG TERM CARE – CRISIS

##### Update

April 7, the Ford government [announced](#) that Caressant Care in Woodstock will get 26 new beds as well as upgrades for 138 beds. Additional beds for Oxford is welcome news. However, as noted previously ([pg 10 March issue of CONNECTIONS](#)) the increasing privatization of Long-Term Care puts profit ahead of patient care. We are hopeful that the County of Oxford through Woodingford Lodge will apply for more beds.

## Mark Earth Week



**Wednesday, April 20 1:30 p.m**

**Join United for the Love of Creation** and others engaged in climate work to learn more about [Give it Up for The Earth!](#) Campaign and the General Council 44 Climate Proposal. **Register [here](#).**

#### Proposed Agenda

Welcome

Land Acknowledgment

Prayer

Sharing

**Give it up for the Earth**

[GC44 Resolution on Climate](#)

Announcements/Updates of other Climate initiatives

Open Space

Wrap Up

Earth Day, April 22 worship resources and blog are available [here](#).

#### Are you ready to Give it up?

1. Reduce personal and household greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Commit to learning about and building relationships with the Indigenous communities on whose traditional territories we live, work, and play.
3. Send a letter to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Steven Guilbeault, urging follow-through on existing climate action commitments and calling for a legislated just transition that centres Indigenous rights; promotes fairness and inclusion; and creates good, secure, green jobs. This letter is available in three formats:
  - [downloadable letter](#) (one letter, one signature),
  - [downloadable petition-style letter](#) (one letter, up to 85 signatures), and
  - [digital letter](#) (one letter, one signature, submitted online).

Norwich UC's Creation Care rep ([Dawn Jones](#)) can answer questions.



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### "Resurrection - a cosmic pattern of transformation"<sup>1)</sup>

Astronomers, who study outside the scope of the earth, tell us that the universe is **almost 14 billion years old**. Continual expansion of hydrogen and helium fabricated molecules, stars, galaxies; next came the solar system; then evolved biological life; then animal life; then human life filled with wonder, creativity to make things, and self reflection. Humans as we know us, have been here only 200,000 years.

**On April 4, 2022**, the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change of the United Nations) issued their most discouraging report. António Guterres, the UN secretary-general summarized this report. **"Some government and business leaders are saying one thing — but doing another. Simply put, they are lying....** Climate activists are sometimes depicted as dangerous radicals. But the truly dangerous radicals are the countries that are increasing the production of fossil fuels. Investing in new fossil fuels infrastructure is immoral and economic madness." Frustrated by the global lack of response of governments, last week, 1,000 scientists from 27 countries resorted to civil disobedience – chained themselves to the White House fence, blockaded government buildings in Germany, shut down banks, etc.

**Easter is about new life.** When we see ourselves as part of the history of the universe, we have responsibility to cooperate with evolution to live with mutually enriching relationships with all beings. MM

1) Carol Kilby, Evolutionary Dancer page 504

### Making Land/Territorial Acknowledgements Meaningful

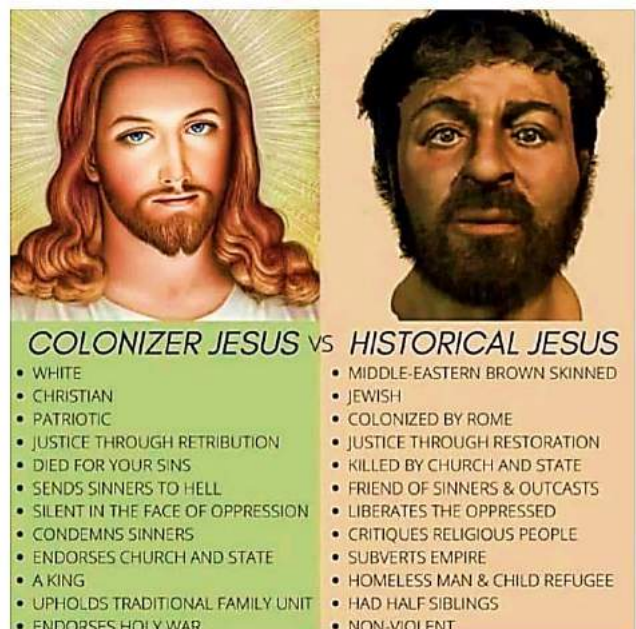
April 27, 10 a.m.

An online practical Workshop for individuals and communities of faith. A PowerPoint presentation developed by Rev. Matthew Stevens, introduces some key questions and considerations as we consider our acknowledgment of territory.

Find out more, and register [here](#). Sponsored by 3 regions of the United Church.

### COLONIZATION

This poster below depicts several aspects of what I understand to be colonization, although I prefer 'Empire' Jesus to 'Colonizer' Jesus due to Emperor Constantine's influence in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century. Today, we acknowledge that the Historical Jesus was killed by the Jewish state, a puppet government of the Roman Empire. What challenges and/or comforts you as you look at the poster and read the comparisons? Let us know. MM





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### A NEW CREATION

*Being called beyond our comfort levels, we commit to use **our power to love** others and creation to effect change: to be **a new creation in God as Love**. Our work is **power with**. Fully human and alive with the Spirit, we treat others and nature as subjects (not objects).*

### PRAYER CYCLES



*We are invited to pray for each other and our mission in the world – our communities of faith in Oxford, in the Antler River Watershed Region and our General Council. Sharing with each other, we support each other. We are not alone.*

**For Oxford United Churches:** Full list is [here](#). Note: For congregations with a vacancy, Pastoral Charge Supervisors are noted.

Apr 17 [Retired Clergy](#)  
Apr 24 Jane Van Patter + Exec. ARWRC  
May 1 Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa,  
+ Staff ARWRC  
May 8 Marg Murray PCS, Kintore-Brooksdale  
May 15 Jeff Smith PCS, College Ave,

#### For ARW Region:

<https://www.prayercycles.ca/antlerriverwatershed>

Apr 17 [Richwood](#)  
Apr 24 [Dunwich](#)  
May 1 [Ausable](#)  
May .....8.. [Littlewood](#)  
May .....15 [Innerkip](#)  
May 22 [Essex](#)

### For GENERAL COUNCIL 44



Who Do You Say I Am?  
General Council 44

We join the commissioners in prayer during this unique General Council meeting:

**We name ... with prayers of love and blessing today.**

**Holy God, reveal yourself and your words as we pray for ...**

**Come, Holy Spirit. (listen for God)  
Jesus is here... A thanksgiving...  
Pray for someone else...  
Pray for yourself...**

### FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES The Arctic Wooley Bear

The Arctic Wooley Bear caterpillar is a cousin of the larger black and orange Wooley Bear caterpillar that we see here in the fall.



**The Arctic version is unique because when it is cold it sleeps and when it's warmer it eats. It**

eats for one month and sleeps for eleven. Since it only grows during the eating month It takes about 7 or 8 years to pack on enough micrograms to finally become an adult.

**In the long 11-month Arctic winter this caterpillar freezes solid. It does not die because it has a built in microdrop of an antifreeze-like liquid that protects its vital organs.**

In the long journey to become human we did not inherit that trait. Maybe because our ancestors came from Africa instead of the Arctic.

The adult has to look out for its number one enemy, the bat. However, the moth has a built-in bat radar sensor. **It can pick up a pursuing bat at 30 metres, enough time for a quick flight plan change.**

In the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> year, usually in June, this caterpillar is mature enough to spin a cocoon, emerge as a beautiful moth, find a mate, lay about a hundred eggs and die. It does this in just four weeks. **It has been doing this for millions of years.** Now isn't God wonderful?

This is my question. **During the last ice age, which lasted for about 75,000 years, did the Arctic Wooley Bear sleep through it? If it did and if it could talk, what a yawn that would be.**

Just wondering. . .

GW

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### MUDDY THOUGHTS FOR SPRING THAW

Years ago, I took an evening class to learn the basics behind working with clay; wedging, reproof and correction is where we began, to remove the impurities in our lump of dirt for the process ahead. I became somewhat familiar with the wheel as I learned to remove the air pockets trapped in the dirt. **I learned why centring was important to create a symmetrical pot.** Boy, was that ever a tough job! Then, as the wheel spun, we learned how to apply pressure to begin to shape our pot. Every movement was important, and we had to be quite clear about the shape we had in our mind to get it right.

Once the masterpiece emerged on the wheel, we learned how to lift and scrape to remove it whole and set it to air dry. At any point before the dried item was placed in the kiln, it could be squished back into a lump, recycled and reformed and begun anew.

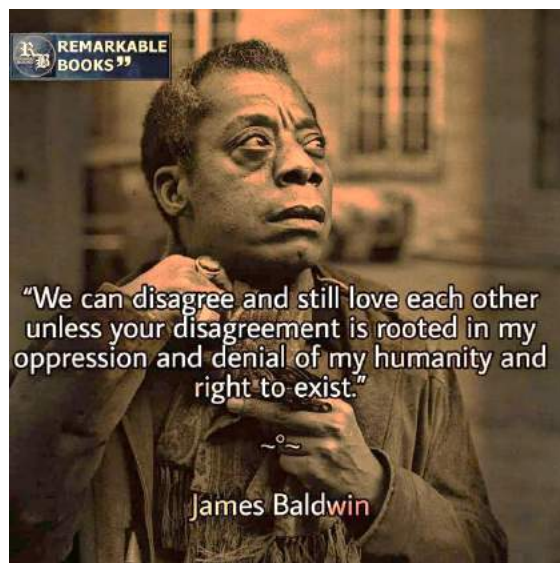
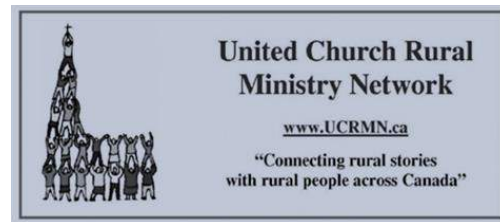
Lately, enjoying the spring thaw and sloshing through the mud brought back those long-gone lessons and also reminded me of Isaiah's words: **"You, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand."**-Isa.64:8

The Bible tells us time and time again that God is the Potter and we are his clay. In God's eye an unimpressive lump of Clay becomes a useful, beautiful pot. **Once we have been through the kiln, we can never return to the clay we were before.** Only in the skilled hands of the Master Artist is a lump of dirt made into a beautiful vessel. In God's hands we are changed into a new creation.

**"Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old has passed away;**

**behold, the new has come."**- 2Cor.5:17.

Olga McKellar



### Reuseapaloozaha

**Saturday, April 30, 8:30 'til noon**

### A GIANT FREE SWAP MEET

At the Brownsville Pavilion in SWOX\*

#### Thanks to:

\*The Township of South-West Oxford  
Volunteers, Donors, Friends  
Donors, pickers, helpers

#### DETAILS here:

<http://www.reuseapaloozaha.ca/>

#### POSTER here:

<https://tinyurl.com/ReuseapaloozahaApril-30>



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### UNITED NETWORK FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE AND ISRAEL (UNJPPI)



May 5 6:30 pm  
Public Event at  
King's College:

**"Canadian  
Campaign to  
Stop the  
Arrest &  
Detention of  
Palestinian  
Children**

**May 6-8, 2022, London, Ontario** at the  
Best Western Stoneridge Inn.  
Registration \$225 (inquire about  
bursaries) More information at  
<https://www.unjppei.ca>



### **Oxford County Helps Ukraine**

**David and Karen Murray  
of Thamesford formed a**

Facebook group for those who are  
wanting to host a newcomer family from  
Ukraine. If interested, they use [London  
Ukrainian Humanitarian Action \(LUMA\)  
intake form](#). You can also email them at  
[oxfordhelpsukraine@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordhelpsukraine@gmail.com). April 5  
story from Heart FM found [here](#).

### **UNIQUE USE OF SHADOWS!**



### POPE FRANCIS APOLOGIZES FOR ABUSE AT RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS



### **Indigenous United Church leaders on Pope Francis' apology**

*Broadview* asked these Indigenous United  
Church clergy: Very Rev. Stan McKay, Rev  
Carmen Lansdowne and Rev. Maggie  
Dieter for their reaction. All applaud the  
Pope's expression of regret for the  
church's involvement in residential  
schools but see it as only a first step.  
Read it [here](#).

"Hope" is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all.

And sweetest in the gale is heard;  
And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land  
And on the strangest sea;  
Yet, never, in extremity,  
It asked a crumb of me.

—EMILY DICKINSON





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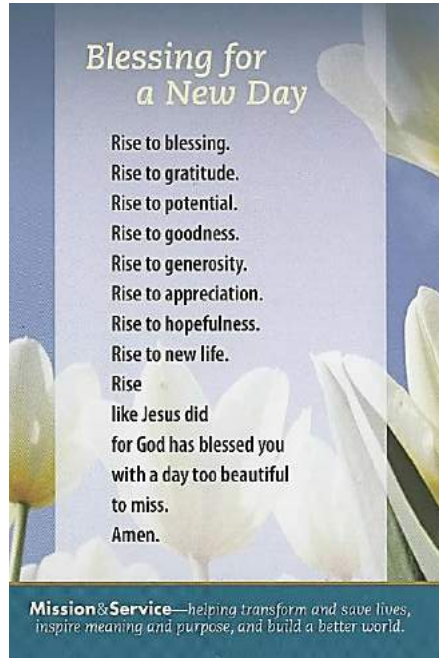
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### Mission and Service

How blessed to give: to help the people of Ukraine; to support justice and peace in Korea; to transform lives here and across the world. **Make a Special Easter Gift through M+S.**



### GRANDMOTHER'S TEA Wednesday, April 27, 2022 Time: Noon - 2:00 pm

*Hello Everyone,  
We would like to invite you all to come out for a potluck lunch with us together enjoying each other in laughs and fun.*

**Hosting Community of Faith:  
Grand River United Church**

1585 Mohawk Rd Ohsweken, ON  
N0A 1M0

Contact:  
Shirley Manning at  
519-753-5789  
or Joan Martin at  
519-445-1941

### WORSHIP SERVICES IN OXFORD

Check with individual churches re specifics of in-person worship, streaming or conference call services. Churches in blue have websites. Check Facebook for Facebook Pages.

**Avondale UC, T'burg**

[avondaleuc@gmail.com](mailto:avondaleuc@gmail.com)

**Burgessville UC, 10:30 am**

[College Ave UC](#)

[Dundas St. UC](#)

**Hebron UC** - [rsstock@execulink.com](mailto:rsstock@execulink.com)

[Innerkip UC](#)

[Kintore/Brooksdale UC](#)

[Knox UC, Embro](#)

[Mt Elgin UC](#)

[Norwich UC](#)

[Peace UC, Plattsville](#)

[peaceplattsecretary@outlook.com](mailto:peaceplattsecretary@outlook.com)

[St. David's UC](#), Woodstock

[St. Paul's UC](#), Tillsonburg

[Trinity UC](#), Ingersoll

[Westminster UC](#), Thamesford

**Willis UC, Drumbo** service available by conference call. [drumbocharge@hotmail.com](mailto:drumbocharge@hotmail.com)

### CONNECTIONS – News and Views of Oxford County United Churches

**Next Publication: Wed. May 11, 2022**

**Submissions welcome.**

**Due by Noon Friday May 6, 2022**

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