

**SEPTEMBER  
2025**

# NEWSLETTER

## CLIFFORD PASTORAL CHARGE

[www.cliffordpastoralchargeuc.ca/](http://www.cliffordpastoralchargeuc.ca/)

[clifforduc@wightman.ca](mailto:clifforduc@wightman.ca)

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

519-327-8378

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

Rev. Sue Hertell

403-578-6027

*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](mailto:clifforduc@wightman.ca) to be part of this communication.

**Sunday, September 7**

**10:00 am at Knox** –Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Rev. Sue Hertell leading worship followed by **Potluck Lunch**.

**Sunday, September 14**

**10:00 am at Alsfeldt** – Creation Time begins  
Rev. Kathy Morden and Rev. Sue Hertell leading worship.

Wednesday, Sept. 10

10am-4pm Sharing Our Faith Quilting at Knox.

**Sunday, September 21**

**10:00 am at Knox** – Creation 2, UN International Day of Peace  
Rev. Sue Hertell leading worship.

Wednesday, Sept. 24

12pm Seniors' Dining Program at Knox. Call 519-638-1000.

**Saturday, September 27**

8:30-9:30 am **Men's Breakfast** at Dell's Diner in Clifford.

**Sunday, September 28**

**10:00 am at Alsfeldt** – Creation Time 3, Orange Shirt Sunday  
Rev. Bonnie Holliday leading worship.

**Sunday, October 5**

**10:00 am at Knox** –Worldwide Communion Sunday  
Rev. Sue Hertell leading worship including **Communion**  
followed by **Potluck Lunch**.



# Centennial Give 100 Campaign

Our "Give 100 Campaign" to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Church of Canada is back in action this September! This month we will be collecting for Ramoth House in Mount Forest. Ramoth Life Centre is a non-denominational, non-profit, charitable organization. The name "Ramoth" was inspired by an Old Testament city which was designated as a place of refuge. Ramoth Life Centre was created to be a modern-day place of refuge for young women and infants. For more information on what they do and to watch testimonials from those that have benefited from their 3-step program visit [www.ramoth.ca](http://www.ramoth.ca) This is an exciting opportunity to spread God's love to these young women and their infants!



For the month of September,  
we will be collecting the following items.

\*\*\*all items must be NEW\*\*\*

Diaper Cream	Vinegar	Ladies Slippers size 8-10
Baby Wash and Shampoo	Toilet Paper	Gift Cards for No Frills, Foodland, Tim Horton's, Walmart, Dollarama, Canadian Tire
Diapers size 5,6,7	Mr. Clean	
Clothing size newborn- 24 months	Blue Dawn Dish Soap	
Baby Books	White Face Cloths	
Teethers/Rattles	White Bath Towels	Cash Donations

Let's give these young moms and babies a huge dose of LOVE and HOPE!  
Donations will be accepted at both Alsfeldt and Knox for the month of September.  
(white laundry baskets will be available for your items)

<sneak peak at October...>



## From the Minister's Desk...



I recently visited Jasper a year after the fire destroyed 1/3 of the town including the United and Anglican churches, many people's homes and businesses. What encouraged me the most as I walked around the town and visited with friends is the resilience and spirit of hope that I encountered in the people who call Jasper home. Most of the fire debris has been cleaned up (a huge undertaking in itself!), and repairs and new builds are beginning to take shape. Walking around nearby Lake Annette, I noted the stark destruction of the burnt forest on one side that sits in sharp contrast to the living forest; and yet there was startling beauty in the charred stumps and the new growth of fireweed and asters! It is a humbling experience to sit in the midst of all this and feel God's presence!!

As we enter a new school year and celebrate the Season of Creation in our church, we are once again challenged to live in God's World with hope and resilience. The world has a different feel to it when hatred and lies become the norm... as Christians, much is required of us in this time and place as we work to share God's vision of love... Micah 6:8 notes: "What does God require of us? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God.". May God's Spirit guide us into this new season.

*Blessings, Sue*



**We did it!** All costs for our 2025 VBS Program have been covered!!

We estimated an expenditure of \$35 per chef and with your thoughtful generosity, we were able to match our totaled amount!!

With overwhelming gratefulness, we say Thank you!!

May God Bless You,

***Beth Ann Weppler  
& Kathryn Rehorst***

### 100 Words of Hope

#### More Peace in Us

Instead of brooding over threats and mirroring demeaning insults, let's focus on reflecting the kin-dom values of love, forgiveness and grace.

Jewish writer Etty Hillesum consoled other Jews enroute to Auschwitz. In the midst of these terrorizing times, she helped those around her not lose their humanity and still find compassion. She wrote, "Ultimately, we have just one moral duty: to reclaim large areas of peace in ourselves, more and more peace, and to reflect it toward others. And the more peace there is in us, the more peace there will also be in our troubled world."

—Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd, Winnipeg, MB



**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](mailto: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. Send your submissions to the church office [clifforduc@wightman.ca](mailto:clifforduc@wightman.ca), drop off at the church office, or call Ellen at home 519-392-8573, office 519-327-8378.



**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- Carman Weppler, 5705 Minto-Normanby Townline, 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.**



To learn what the benefits of PAR are and how you can easily have your monthly offering happen easily, go to: <https://united-church.ca/.../giving-monthly-through-par>

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## **Reduce/Recycle/Reuse as you reach out to others:**

The Pastoral Charge continues to collect the items listed below. Please drop off your contributions in **the green baskets** at the entrances of 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.

**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.

**Glasses** – used eye glasses are given to the local Lion's Club to distribute as needed



### **Monthly Men's Breakfast**

**Saturday, September 27, 2025**

Men, you are invited to a **monthly breakfast from 8:30-9:30 am on the last Saturday of each month at Dell's Diner in Clifford.**

Contact Lorne Underwood for more information 519-392-8573.





If you or someone you know is in need of some pastoral care, please let us know so we may respond. We would

also appreciate if you would let us know if anyone is having a celebration such as a special birthday, anniversary, birth.

**Rev. Sue Hertell**

**Phone/text: 403-578-6027**

**Email: [revsuetell@gmail.com](mailto:revsuetell@gmail.com)**

**Anne Matthews (Alsfeldt)**

Home: 519-327-8306

Email: [matthews1978@wightman.ca](mailto:matthews1978@wightman.ca)

**Judith Anne Douglas (Knox)**

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

Email: [jad335@hotmail.com](mailto:jad335@hotmail.com)

**Ellen Underwood, Secretary**

Phone: 519-327-8378 office

Home: 519-392-8573, Cell: 519-418-9560

Email: [clifforduc@wightman.ca](mailto:clifforduc@wightman.ca)

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### **We hold in prayer...**

*Please keep those of our congregations & community in your thoughts & prayers whether they are at home, or in hospital.*

Joyce Cook

Saige Dosman

Allie Eaton

Elaine Field

Claude Field

Larry Grummett

Erma (Dunn) MacDonald

Sam Matthews

Jim Measures

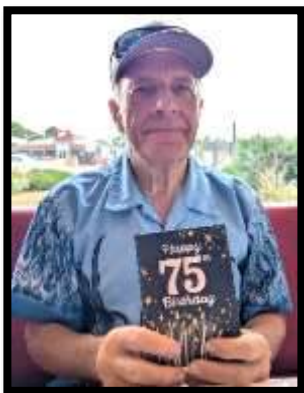
Sharon (Dunn) Stevens

All who mourn the loss of a loved one

**Our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of Trevor McHarg** who passed away on August 14<sup>th</sup>. He is the son of the late Hartley and Marlene McHarg, members of Knox, and sister of Melanie and Troy.

**Our sincere sympathy to Jean and Dale Ersman** and their families on the passing of Jean's sister-in-law Mary Becker of Ayton on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**We wish Larry Grummett** all the best as he settles into his new home in Guelph. His new address is:  
Guelph Lake Commons, Apt. 302,  
520 Victoria Road North, Guelph, ON N1E 0E6  
and his telephone # is 519-327-8133 (cell).



**Best wishes to Stan Newman** who celebrated his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Congratulations to Murray and Audrey Garrett** who will celebrate their 55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on September 11<sup>th</sup>.



## LIBRARY REPORT

Hello readers-

I hope you all had a lovely summer and are now enjoying this cooler weather ... the first signs of fall are here for sure. The darker evenings make it more appealing for me to relax with a good book before I go to bed. I would like to introduce to you a book written by Dani Pettrey. Dani captivates readers with an intense blend of suspense, love and faith in her book entitled, **“One Wrong Move”**. She writes at a wicked pace, has snappy dialogue, and provides us with the most likeable characters. I think you are going to love this one.

*“Christian O’Brady was pulled into a life of crime at a young age by his con artist parents. Now making amends for his corrupt past, he has become one of the country’s foremost security experts. When a string of Southwestern art heists targets one of the galleries Christian secured, he is paired up with a gifted insurance investigator who has her own checkered past.*

*Andi Forester was a brilliant FBI forensic analyst until one of her colleagues destroyed her career, blaming her for mishandling evidence. She now puts those skills to work investigating insurance fraud, and this latest high-stakes case will test her gift to the limit. Drawn deep into a dangerous game with an opponent bent on revenges, Christian and Andi are in a race against the clock to catch him, but the perpetrator’s game is far from finished, and one wrong move could be the death of them both.”*

Wow! Maybe you won’t be able to sleep after reading this killer’s game! If this sounds like the type of book you might enjoy, then pop by the Church Library and sign it out ... you will find it under “P” for Pettrey.

I have heard it say that everyone is a reader ... some just haven’t found their favourite book yet. If I can help, please let me know.

Until next time, happy reading.

**Jennifer Devlin**



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### September 30 is Orange Shirt Day

**Orange Shirt Day** is an invitation to everyone to wear an orange shirt to show their compassion for the survivors of the Indian Residential Schools and to say that all children matter.

Orange Shirt Day began with Phyllis (Jack) Webstad’s story, a Northern Secwepemc (Shuswap) woman from the Stswecem’c Xgat’tem First Nation who went to St. Joseph Mission Residential School. On her first day of school, Phyllis’s grandmother dressed her in an orange shirt. When Phyllis entered the school, she was stripped of her orange shirt and she wasn’t able to go home for a very long time – over 300 sleeps by her count. As a child, Phyllis cried herself to sleep every night along with other children who could not go home. No one listened to their pain or showed compassion.



**Let us pray** for the Residential School survivors who are still struggling. Let us pray for all the intergenerational survivors dealing with the trauma that was passed on.

— Taken from a Blog of Honarine Scott who is Omushkego Cree from Fort Albany First Nation and she is the Healing Programs Coordinator in the Indigenous Ministries Circle.

## A Couple of Words from Knox Fundraising Committee

Have you had an opportunity to peek in the kitchen at Knox recently?

This year we have had a new floor installed, the walls and ceiling repaired and painted. The cupboard doors were removed, sanded and painted a soothing blue colour. To finish off the new look, we purchased a new inspirational clock and had a sign made for the wall above the cupboards.

We also purchased a new stainless steel working cabinet which was made possible from donated memorial funds.



The fundraising committee continues to cater the Seniors for Excellence luncheons on the last Wednesday of each month.



## Outdoor Worship on Sunday, August 3rd

Anne Matthews hosted this annual worship service on a warm summer day surrounded by God's beautiful creation tended by Anne. Music was provided by Rev. Sue, Kathy Morden and Brian Damm. Kathryn Rehorst read scripture. A bountiful BBQ potluck lunch and a time of fellowship and visiting was enjoyed following the service.







## Hello, my name is Rev. Rebekah Duncan.

I am currently the **president of Western Ontario Waterways**. Thank you so much for trusting me with this position. It's been a long journey, from finding passion for faith through my parents and youth forum (Maritime Conference), to gaining support through mentors, and the many talented and called classmates and professors I had at the **Atlantic School of Theology**. There are many names I should list, friends, family, my discernment committee, the congregations of **Bethel, Richview, Badjeros, Rob Roy, and Temple Hill United Churches**, and even some strangers. I thank God for bringing them to me, and me on this journey to this place.

I heard God's call sitting at the water's edge, quiet, nudging. Over time it became the roar of a waterfall too loud and insistent to ignore. So, I followed the beckoning, and I found myself listening for God's voice then, as I do now, and God responds, **"Do not doubt what I have chosen for you."** There have been many moments of weeping and gnashing of teeth throughout my short time in ministry, and I suspect there are many more to come, but with that comes unexpected joy, love and even some tangible moments of peace.

I feel called to **rural pastoral ministry** but also called to **serve the broader church**. Stepping into the role of president comes with challenges and great footsteps to follow in.

I hope to be able to **meet you where you are**, make time to sit with the clergy of our region, and figure out how to maintain the connections already made while continuing to foster new relationships. I hope to encourage us all to **work towards the future of our church** which will often mean choosing the road less travelled. Change is necessary for our church to remain, and that will be uncomfortable at times. We are meant to be each other's inspiration and support as we move into our next 100 years. **I pray we all find our way together**, keeping what works and moving away from what isn't anymore with careful discernment.

**Blessings! Love! Light!**

**Rev. Rebekah Duncan** RMT, MA, M.Div, OM, President, Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council

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## The United Church of Canada has a New Moderator!

A huge congratulations to **Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath**, who has been elected as the 45th Moderator of The United Church of Canada.

Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, nominated by Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council, brings deep faith, visionary leadership, and a pastoral heart for the whole church.

She shares: "I was born in Lusaka, Zambia and grew up in small Canadian towns and cities. I studied history at McGill University and earned my Master of Divinity at Emmanuel College before my ordination in 1999. My 25 years of active ministry began with the people of Claresholm-Stavely Pastoral Charge in rural southern Alberta. Since 2007, I have been serving the people of Wall Street United Church in eastern Ontario.

As Moderator I will help to build up the church by deepening faith in Jesus, strengthening what is small and encouraging life-giving connections."

To learn more about our new Moderator, go to: <https://wowrcucc.ca/45th-moderator-of-the-united-church-of-canada-rev-dr-kimberly-heath/> or contact the church office for a printed copy.

