

**MAY
2026**

NEWSLETTER

CLIFFORD PASTORAL CHARGE

www.cliffordpastoralchargeuc.ca/

clifforduc@wightman.ca

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

519-327-8378

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 to be part of this communication.

Sunday, May 3



10:00 am at Knox– 5th Sunday of Easter
Rev. Sue Hertell leading worship at round tables downstairs.
This will be a special service of music, prayer and discussion around the Discernment and Dreaming work of the Board. Potluck Lunch and fellowship to follow.

Sunday, May 10



10:00 am at Alsfeldt– 6th Sunday of Easter, Family Sunday
Rev. Sue Hertell leading Intergenerational worship including the celebration of **Confirmation** and the sacrament of **Communion** followed by cake, congratulations, and fellowship.

Sunday, May 17

10:00 am at Knox – 7th Sunday of Easter
Rev. Sue leading worship.

Sunday, May 24

10:00 am at Alsfeldt– Pentecost Sunday
Rev. Sue Hertell leading worship.

Monday, May 25

*7:00 pm **Board Meeting** at Knox.*

Saturday, May 30

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

Sunday, May 31

10:00 am at Knox– Trinity Sunday
Rev. Kathy Morden leading worship.

Sunday, June 7

10:00 am at Alsfeldt– Union Sunday
Potluck lunch and fellowship to follow.

Monthly Men's Breakfast

Saturday, May 30, 2026

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.



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.

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



Is this your time to PAR-ty!!! Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)

By signing up for PAR, you make a clear statement of what is important to you. You also give the recipients of your gift the peace of mind that comes with knowing your help is stable and reliable.

Complete the **PAR Authorization Form** and give it to the treasurer in your church. You can indicate on the form how much your gift to your church will be, and how much you would like to give to transform and save lives, inspire meaning and purpose, and build a better world through Mission and Service.

From the Minister's Desk...

If You Are Unable To Give Your Offering At A In-Person Worship Services You May-



*send to your church treasurer

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

Knox- Carman Wepler, 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.



If you were unable to be with us at Alsfeldt on April 26, you missed an awesome worship service led by our youth! To hear each one speak about being on “God’s team”, was truly inspirational! In this Easter season, what better way to be challenged to live as Easter people - with hope and joy and focus on God’s Spirit leading us forward!

Your board has been taking extra time since Christmas to open themselves to how God is leading our pastoral charge into the future; and now they are inviting you to participate in that discussion. On May 3rd, we will join in conversation during our worship service, but the conversation will continue far beyond that date. I hope everyone will feel inspired to be on “God’s team” as we move forward...just as our youth challenged us to do!

Blessings, Sue



Spring Clean Up Thank-You!

A huge shout out and thank-you for the many hands that came to our Saturday morning spring clean ups at both Knox and Alsfeldt! What a huge difference was made in the look, feel and smell of our buildings! They are truly sparkling! From running the vacuum, washing windows, walls, and floors to wiping down pews, shelves and organs, tossing old items creating clutter and sprucing up the outdoor flower beds, trimming trees and picking pine cones, it all made such a remarkable difference! Thank-you, thank-you, thank-you!

Library Report

Hello Readers,



Rain or sunshine, whatever the weather, it's what we have, and it's a joy to see the earth waking up as we say goodbye to winter! This time of year, can get very busy, and for some, finding time to settle down with a good book may feel like a challenge – but I'm not giving up that easily.

Last June, I introduced you to author, Lee Strobel and his book, "The Case for Christ". You may recall that Strobel was an investigative journalist and self-proclaimed atheist who set out to disprove the existence of God after his wife becomes a Christian. His work tells a true and compelling story, tracing his journey from atheism to Christianity. I was pleased to hear from some of our readers who later discovered the story in its movie adaptation and borrowed it from Clifford Library. They found both the research and the story fascinating, and highly recommended it.

Recently, I discovered that Strobel also writes kid's books. This month I want to introduce our young folk to four of his books:

- The Case for Faith for Kids**
- Off My Case for Kids**
- The Case for a Creator for Kids**
- The Case for Christ for Kids**



You meet skeptics every day. They ask questions like: Why does God allow bad things to happen? Are your science teachers wrong? Can you have doubts and still be a Christian? Was Jesus really born in a stable? Is the Big Bang Theory true? These books are written in kid-friendly language to give you the answers to some pretty tough questions. Filled with humorous illustrations, they are easy and enjoyable reads that can offer wisdom, comfort and direction for daily life ... and will help you blossom into the best version of yourself.

Wishing you all a beautiful month - May your May-days be bright and blooming!

Happy reading!

Jennifer Devlin



Just to let you know!

The Pastoral Charge Board is aware that on Sunday, July 5, 2026 there are two Homecoming Church Services happening in our area. Ayton-Normanby Homecoming Service is July 5th at 11:am at the Arena and as well the Howick Homecoming is the same weekend.



Therefore, there will be no Worship Service at Alsfeldt or Knox on Sunday, July 5th so folks may attend these community events or attend a church of your choice.

We hold in prayer...

Please keep those of our congregations & community in your thoughts & prayers:

Joy Burnett
Joyce Cook
Saige Dosman
Elaine Field
Claude Field

Larry Grummett
Sam Matthews
Jim & Rita Measures
Larry Nancekivell
Sharon (Dunn) Stevens

Jayden D.
F.E. Madill Secondary
School, Wingham
All who mourn the loss of a
loved one



**Larry Grummett at Guelph Lake Commons
enjoyed a recent visit from Rev. Sue.**



**Recently Claude Field's
family had an outside visit on a warm, sunny day.
Claude enjoyed watching Matthew's Tree Service
cutting down a tree in front of Caressant Care,
Harriston.**



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

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

Ellen Underwood, Secretary
Phone: 519-327-8378 office
Home: 519-392-8573, Cell: 519-418-9560
Email: clifforduc@wightman.ca

April in Sunday School

I must start by telling you how full my heart is...no it's **OVERFLOWING**...after the youth service this past Sunday! It was spectacular!! Job very well done to Beth Ann and our youth!!

April showers have indeed brought on the spring flowers! Time just keeps on rolling along, whether we are ready for it or not, and I feel like April has whizzed by in the blink of an eye!



April 5th was Easter Sunday where our children and youth stayed in church to enjoy the joyous **Halleluiahs** of our **Risen Christ!** Mason, Lyla, Logan and Theodore each played a solo piece on the Piano and then served a tasty *"light breakfast"* after the service. They served everything from fruit, sausage, hot dishes to hot cross buns and oodles of Easter treats. It was a delicious way to celebrate our Easter morning, together in fellowship!

Sunday April 12th, it was back to the classroom at Alsfeldt with Beth Ann and our youth putting the final touches on their upcoming service and Jennifer leading our younger ones. Myla and Kathy joined Jennifer where they had



fun tracing hands to make peace doves. They were reminded of the story where Jesus appeared to his disciples after His resurrection and said **"Peace be with you"**.



Thank you Jennifer for being a part of our Sunday School team and sharing your light with our wee ones!!

On April 19th Beth Ann and our youth had their final practice while the younger class gathered for our **FINAL** part in our **King David Series (1 Samuel: 16 to 1 Kings: 2)**! It was a big day!! Here is our recap (as it's been a LONG series) and our NEW learning as well!

RECAP

1. Shepherd Boy

- While tending his sheep, young David was chosen by God and anointed by the prophet Samuel to be the next KING!

2. Lyre

- David plays his beautiful lyre music for King Saul who is troubled and not loved by God.

3. David & Goliath

- David, with only a slingshot and his faith, defeats 9ft tall Goliath saving Israel.

4. David and Jonathan

- David is a hero and becomes best buddies with King Saul's son Jonathan. David is invited to go to the kingdom and live with King Saul, Jonathan and their family.



NEW LEARNING

5. King Saul Becomes Jealous of David

- David is a brave warrior, he can play the lyre perfectly and everyone loves him – especially God! King Saul becomes jealous and tries to kill David.

6. David Runs Away

- David runs away and hides from King Saul for 7 years – eventually David comes out of hiding and forgives King Saul for his jealous behavior.

7. King Saul Passes Away and DAVID IS KING!

- David unites Israel and makes Jerusalem the Capital!

8. A “Heart for God”

- Was David a perfect King? Absolutely not, he became full of pride and made a lot of mistakes. But because David loved God and confessed his sins to God, he was forgiven!
- King David loved God deeply and often wrote to God in songs, known as Psalms.
- King David wrote 73 Psalms. The most well known Psalm is *Psalm 23: The Lord is my Shepherd!!*



David is remembered for being a brave and faithful King!

April 26th was a spectacular Sunday (as I had mentioned at the beginning). WOW!!

The youth have been on their **“Road to Confirmation”** since the fall of 2025 and have been

working on planning their own youth lead service since

February of this year. It was a special day in our church’s

history that will

be

remembered

for a long time!

Our youth lead

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Each individual wrote their

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demand enthusiasm from our whole congregation. It was upbeat, uplifting and encouraging to see how their faith has blossomed as they followed a sports theme *“On God’s Team”*.

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The topics included lots of personal experiences along with scriptures and were as follows:

- Lyla spoke on **Leadership** while being the goalie for her hockey team.
- Lachlan on **Hope** when on the curling rink
- Ethan spoke on the **Joy** that comes with success, but also the joy of being on a team
- Darcy's topic was on **Coaches and Mentors** and how they motivate him to do his best
- Mason spoke about **Pressure** and how we have a choice to turn to God or away in times of pressure
- Rea described **Training** and the importance of being with her sheep on a daily basis to see improvement.
- And Lydia brought it all together at the end and ended with a scripture reading.

Thank you to our youth! Your faith and positivity is infectious!!

We can't wait to stand by you at **Alsfeldt on Sunday May 10th** to celebrate your Confirmations!! Bravo!!

May God bless you,
Kathryn Rehorst



On Easter Sunday, the sanctuary was adorned with Easter lilies and flowers that were placed by family members in memory of loved ones.



We were pleased to welcome Rev. Bonnie Holliday who led worship on Sunday, April 12th.



More Spring-Cleaning Pics



The geocache at Alsfeldt has been replaced in a new location.



Silver Lake Camp Work Bee May 30

Join us **Saturday, May 30, 2026** from 9am–3pm at **Silver Lake Camp** (94 Southline Ave, Kinloss). Help us prepare for the season—jobs for all skill levels (cleaning, painting, yard work, repairs, trades). Complimentary hot roast beef lunch provided!

If you have tools (chainsaw, weedwhacker, shop vac, basic tools), please bring them if you can—tools will also be available onsite.

Can't attend?

We'd welcome donations of cookies or squares for volunteers.

RSVP if able/ or for questions contact: Rhonda (rhonda@calvaryunited.com) or Crystal (farmerswife79@hotmail.com)

To register or to find what camps are available, go to: <https://silverlakecamp.ca/registration/>





WANTED: a volunteer to look after the outside urns at the front and side entrances at Knox. There is a Beautification Budget to be reimbursed for expenses; watering in summer is a major duty. Contact Lorne 519-392-8573.

Bargain Basement and Bake Sale
Harriston United Church
 57 Young St. W (corner of John St. S)

Thursday May 21, 1:00pm - 6:00pm
Friday May 22, 8:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday May 23, 8:00am - Noon

Donations accepted:
 Tue. May 19 & Wed. May 20, 10:00am - 5:00pm
 Thurs. May 21, 10:00am - Noon

Clifford Dining Program hosted by the Seniors' Centre for Excellence is **Wednesday, May 27, 2026** at Knox United Church, Clifford. Doors open at 11:30am. Lunch at Noon. \$20 each. Guest speaker will be Doris Cassan- My Trip to New Zealand. **RSVP by Friday, May 24th** at 519-638-1000 if you plan to attend.

Check out the Seniors Centre for Excellence new website at: <https://www.mapleton.ca/services-and-resources/senior-services/seniors-centre-for-excellence/>

 **CLIFFORD ROTARY CLUB** 

BBQ Half Chicken Dinner

DRIVE THRU ONLY

on Friday May 29th, 2026 from 5:00 to 7:00
 Pick up location **Clifford Community Centre**
 (2 William Street, Clifford, ON)

\$25 each

Available from any Rotarian
 or call 519-510-9787.
 Deadline for tickets is May 22nd.

Summer – the season of construction and detours!



Be mindful as you travel this summer of any detours you may encounter. A "heads-up" from Margaret Hern: Beginning in the near future Hwy 23 at Russeldale & (Hwy 83) will be closed to construct a round-a-bout. Some of you may have reason to use Hwy 23 from Harriston for appointments in London or just a summer drive. Pending detour signs are going up on surrounding routes here and we have a sense that detours will be the long way around. Use the good old road maps and find another road south is my advice or from Kitchener to Grand Bend. We see a bottle neck coming on for summer sun traffic.

Canadian Foodgrains Bank - "Right now I sit in Sudan, meeting with colleagues who live this day in and day out. I'm incredibly moved by their passion for helping people, which often means putting their own lives on the line. They yearn for peace with a longing that comes from witnessing the consequences of war." - *written by Foodgrains Bank director of resources and public engagement Christina Philips during her recent time in Sudan.*

Follow the link to read the full article:
<https://broadview.org/aid-in-sudan/>

