

Howick United Church Newsletter

June 2024

Volume 5, issue 2

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the
Howick United Church Congregation
(1924-2024)

The United Church of Canada is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2024. Unionists met for the first time at the Howick Temperance Hall in November 1924, with the Federal Parliament of Canada passing the Church Union Bill in December 10th, 1924. At that time, the Howick Unionists were considering the Gebby Mill site to build their church.



For more information/suggestions :

Newsletter: Suzelle.barrington@consumaj.com

Board of Stewards: Malcolm Orr

Board of Trustees: Scott Templeton

Church Session: Alan Cullen



In this issue:

- Word from our Minister, Barbara.
- HUC activities.
- Your church financial health.



A word from our Minister, Barbara.

What a busy time we have been having lately! We have celebrated Easter and Pentecost; we have renovated and retrofitted the basement with newly insulated walls, a new floor and two new heat pumps, thanks in part to the United Church's Faithful Footprints program; and we have begun to celebrate the centennial of both our own congregation and of the United Church as well. We still have more to look forward to in the coming weeks: Ormstown Fair, Graduation celebrations, the Outdoor service at the church, as well as the Open House we will be holding on June 23, 1-3:00 to display all the work that has been done. So this is a great time to say "Thank you" to all who have supported; volunteered; and helped out in a variety of ways. Now we can look forward to all that we can share together in the future. I hope you can also look forward to sometime resting and enjoying the summer as well. Have a blessed summer, everyone! Barbara



Worship Schedule:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| June 9 | No service (Fair) |
| June 16 | Father's Day service |
| June 23 | 11:00 Outdoor service with Communion at Howick United Church, and lunch
1-3:00 Open House at Howick United Church |
| June 30 | Closing service for Franklin United Church at 11:00 followed by lunch |

July Vacation

August beginning of new worship schedule:

- First Sunday 11:00
- Second Sunday 9:30
- Third Sunday 9:30
- Fourth Sunday 11:00

And when there is a fifth Sunday, combined with Ormstown.

HUC blogs :

howickunitedchurch.ca or howickunitedchurch.blogspot.com

Picture to the left: Saint-Patrick's Day service with clover leaves being added to the Lenten Promise Tree.

On February 18th the HUC celebrated the Baden Powell Anniversary along with the Howick Sparks, Embers and Scouts.





The Howick United Church held its Annual Meeting on March 3rd, 2024, along with the regular service.

Besides the regular reports, the Faithful Footprints committee was happy to announce that a \$30 000 grant had been confirmed by the United Church of Canada to carry out renovations aimed at reducing our energy and carbon footprint. Renovations were to start shortly along with the replacement of the two oil furnaces by heat pumps. A letter was also circulated by the committee to ask for donations to cover the remaining cost of the project estimated at \$20 000.

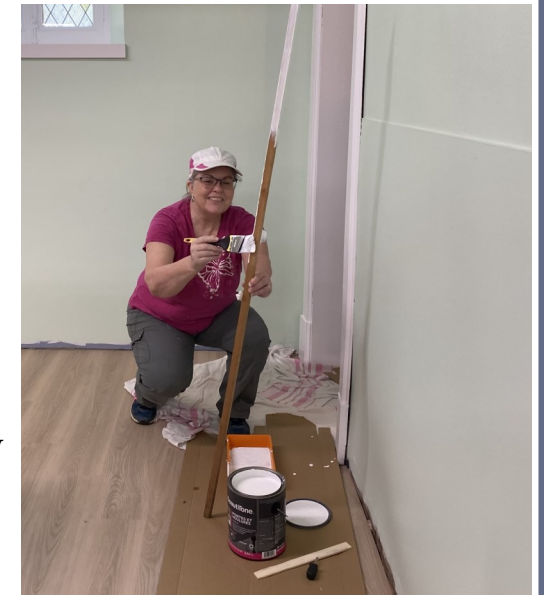




March to May 2024

**Howick United
Church Basement
renovation.**

**Thank you to all
volunteers and the
Faithfull Footprints
Committee (Wilene
and Alan Cullen, Andy
Greig, Glen Tannahill,
Carol Ness, Mac Orr
and Brent Tolhurst).**





Our newly completed carbon-neutral renovations!



HOWICK UNITED CHURCH

OPEN HOUSE

**See our newly completed
carbon-neutral,
eco-friendly renovations**

**A Faithful Footprints Project
through
The United Church of Canada**

June 23, 2024

1:00 – 3:00

Words of Appreciation: 2:00

On June 2nd, HUC thanked Debbie Beattie and Sally Kyle for conducting the HUC service once a month for over 10 years.



Above, Evie adding a ribbon to Debbie's walking stick (more on the following page).

Below, Sunday school story by Barbara on June 2nd.





Debbie's walking stick

While Debbie answered the call and took practically nothing on this journey... I say almost nothing... because her walking stick, presented to her at the beginning of this journey, accompanied her to every circle and interview. And so while it may seem that she took little with her... if her walking stick could talk... it would tell us different.

The yellow ribbon reminded her throughout the journey of "I can't do this"... "what am I doing"... "I'm not smart enough for this"... indeed her journey from doubt to confidence that God's love surrounded her every step of the way. The brown ribbon that Helena tied to Debbie's walking stick two years ago, helped Debbie to never lose sight of her deep roots in this community. The blue ribbon has helped Debbie to get to this place and time as it reminded her to reach for the sky... and I pray that it continues to encourage you to keep reaching... because really the journey has just begun. The green ribbon continues to mean growth... I love it when I get a phone call from Debbie arguing a theological point or a biblical misunderstanding. Indeed Debbie's growth is remarkable but what is even more remarkable is how she encourages others to grow in Christ's love. Well Sister, without a doubt the white ribbon did its job... that is it was tied there symbolizing Christ's light that would guide you... may it always continue to do so. The purple ribbon, and last ribbon we tied on to her walking stick was to remind Debbie to embrace diversity... and promote that all are welcome in our faith community... Debbie does this naturally... Debbie is a natural bridge builder ... a natural relationship maker.

Debbie has gathered other ribbons along the way...



The Howick United Church Unit C for 2023

The HUC Unit C meets at the Church in the evening (as off 7:00 pm) on the second Wednesday of every month, for an activity. In February 2024, members shared books which they had enjoyed reading. Also, Unit C supports the community financially.

Anyone interested in joining, please contact Marlene Stuckey: marlenestuckey68@gmail.com



The Howick United Church Unit C cleaning the kitchen after the renovation work on May 22nd, 2024.

Besides providing services to the church, Unit C gave in 2023 \$ 500 to the HUC Stewards, \$ 250 to the United Church Mission and Service and \$450 to local organizations (La Bouffe Additional \$ 200; Chateauguay Valley for the Ukraine \$ 100; Residence Elle \$ 160; Anchors & Wings \$ 50; Foundation HSL Haiti \$ 50; L'Aguiallage \$ 50; Pacte de Rue \$ 50).



Miller Carmichael

passed away on January 21, 2024. Miller touched everyone who knew him, his family, his friends, and the many people he worked with.

**In lieu of flowers Miller would be happy to know donations were made to Parkinson Canada:
<https://www.parkinson.ca/getinvolved/waystogive/>**



Penelope "Penny" Anderson (1948-2024)

passed away peacefully at the Anna Laberge Hospital in Châteauguay, on January 17, 2024, at the age of 76 years. Wife of Robbie and mother of Danny (Dawn), Anne (Stephan) and Mark (Jodi), Penny also leaves behind 11 grandchildren and 7 great-grand-children. She is survived by her siblings Nancy (Mike), Leslie (DeeDee) and Helen (late Darrell), along with several nieces, nephews, other extended family members and friends. She was preceded in death by her son Jonathan. Penny enjoyed gardening, books and music. A caring soul, she reached and touched many lives in the local communities through her participation in Cub Scouts, the churches in the various villages, the U.P.A., the choirs and the Women's Auxiliary of the Barrie Memorial Hospital. She will be dearly missed by many. In remembrance of Penny, the family suggests that memorial donations be made to the Fondation Anna Laberge or to a charity of your choice.



Gretta Ethel McKell (1932-2024)

With great sadness the family announce the passing of Gretta Ethel McKell in Ormstown at the age of 92. Predeceased by husband Ross, mother to Wendy (Doug Fitzgerald) and Doug (Sylvie Lussier); Grandmother to Ryan (Sarah Lunny), Selena (Tyler Leschuk) and Corey Fitzgerald; Michael (Marilyn Girard), Robert (Meredith Moore) and Kevin (Heidi Patterson) Whyte; great-Grandma to Brooklyn and Jordyn Fitzgerald, Chloe and William Leschuk, Kiera and Logan Whyte. At Gretta's request, no funeral service will be held and burial will take place at the White Church on Covey Hill at a later date. Sincere thanks to all the staff of the 3rd floor at the Barrie Memorial Hospital in Ormstown. Donations in her memory can be made to the Women's Auxiliary of the Barrie Memorial Hospital or a charity of your choice.



Susan Eleanor Evans (née Campbell) (1943-2024)

Susan, 80, passed away peacefully at home with her family gathered around her on Sunday, January 7, 2024. Sue was a wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, educator, and friend to so many. She was predeceased by her husband, Tony, her parents, Wally and Dell Campbell, and her sister, Heather Shore. She leaves behind her three daughters, Laura, Heidi (Martin Derepentigny), Lisa (Dave Furey), and her son, Chris. Also with her at the end was her sister and brother-in-law, Mary and Steve Kirby. Eleven grandchildren knew Sue as Nam: Zachary (Stephanie), Shane, Aidan (Aya), and Owen Rodgers; Graham (Katrine), Elaina (Jamie), and Gabriel (Taylor) Derepentigny; Brendan and Brian Pallett; Jalyn and Krystin Furey; as well as her great-granddaughters, Charlotte and Victoria Derepentigny. Educated at St. Joseph Teachers College in Montreal, she started her career in high school teaching English and Biology. She worked with children as a founding member of the Royal Victoria Hospital's Daycare Center, and then as Director of the University of Concordia Daycare on the Loyola Campus. In retirement, she enjoyed substitute teaching in Ormstown elementary school as well as playing the bagpipes (self-taught) in the Elgin & District Pipes & Drums to the Garden Club, Scrapbooking, Book Club, Yoga, travel and contributing to the annual Ormstown Fair.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Women's Auxiliary of the Barrie Memorial Hospital, by mail at 28 Gale St., Ormstown, QC J0S 1K0, or by Interac e-Transfer to dabarriememorial@gmail.com. Arrangements entrusted to McGerrigle Funeral Home. Ormstown.



William Blair (1946-2024)

passed away, in Ormstown, on Monday, May 27, 2024 Mr. William Blair aged 78 years from Franklin. Beloved husband of Diane Galipeau. He leaves to mourn his wife Diane, his sons Steven (Andrea), Jason (Lisa) his grandchildren Eric (Jesse), Mya (Daniel), Brad (Caroline), Brandon (Cindy), Darick (Hailey), his great grandchildren Autumn , Matteo, Maverick, Beatrice and Oliver, his siblings Bob (late Suzanne), Brenda (Harvey), Brodie (Marian) and Kyla (Bryan), many relatives and friends.

Donation may be made to his name at Center d'Accueil in Ormstown, 65 Hector Street, Ormstown, QC J0S 1H0



Margaret Bryson Litter (1946-2024)

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the sudden and unexpected passing of Mrs. Margaret Bryson at the age of 78 on May 19, 2024. Loving wife of 45 years to Mr. Richard Littler. She was the daughter of the late Arnold William Bryson and the late Ruth Elizabeth Crutchfield. She will be missed by her daughter Ruth (Joshua Diffley) and her three much-adored grandchildren: Jace, Skylar and Mackenzie. Also by her siblings: Mildred (Ronald Martin), the late John, the late Bill (Lynn McFarlane), Jim, the late Thomas (Sue), Donald (Tina Winter), Harold. Her brothers-in-law: the late Roger (Jacqueline Rondeau) and the late James (the late Donna Craig). She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews and dear friends. The family extends their sincere thanks to the staff and management at the Grace Village for their kindness and support. In lieu of flowers, donation to the Grace Village Foundation would be appreciated.



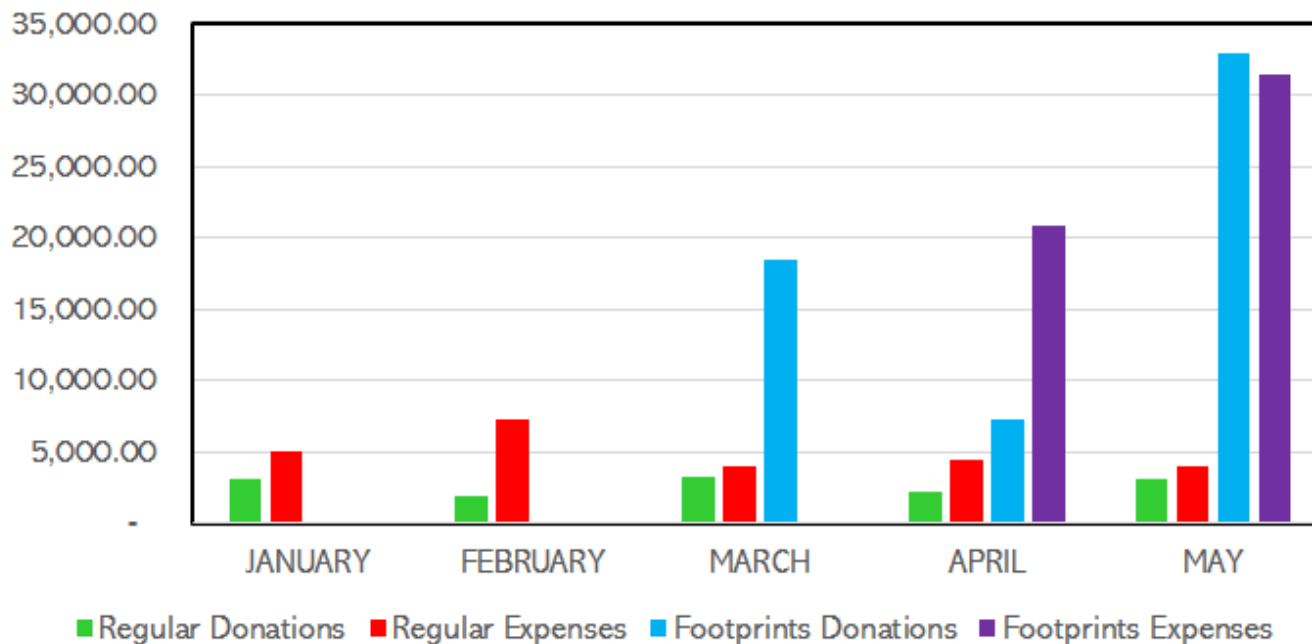
Financial report from Wilene Cullen.

The beginning of 2024 has been a very busy and productive one. The congregation agreed to apply for the Faithful Footprints grant which would pay 2/3 of the costs to reduce energy and carbon emissions. Our project application included a new entrance, removal of the two furnaces and the installation of two heat pumps, improving the insulation in the basement and changing to LED bulbs. We were approved for the grant. On March 19th the new entrance was installed and by day's end March 20th, the two heat pumps were in place. April 1st saw a good number of volunteers helping to remove the old plaster and lathe from two walls and do necessary repairs. On April 2nd spray-foam insulation was applied. Gyproc, plastering, and painting followed, as did a complete kitchen cleaning and cleanup of the nursery room

The letter of appeal response was tremendous with donations over \$28,000. It was decided to use the extra funds to repair/replace the hall floor. Many hands and hours have been volunteered to complete this work and it is all very much appreciated. As can be seen above regular expenses exceeded donations each month. The annual assessment fee (\$1,885) and two oil bills (\$2,565) increased February and March expenses. A refund (\$1,573) for the oil that was removed was received in May. Grant monies of \$29,000 was also received in May; the remaining \$1000 to come in next year. Residual funds will go towards additional insulation and future repairs. Funds have not been needed from Trustees yet this year.

Our church's centennial is on the horizon and these recent energy upgrades will help us reduce our expenses and reach this milestone celebration. Let's continue to support the church, which in turn supports our local community as well as numerous outside charities. Thank you to everyone who supported this endeavor; we are blessed to live in this supportive community. Keep up the good work.

January - May 2024



For donations, please text
Wilene Cullen at
howickunitedchurch@gmail.com

or by mail :
Howick United Church,
2 Bridge Street, Howick, Qc, J0S 1G0.