

## WORSHIPPING TOGETHER

### Note from James

I, along with Terry Davies and David Leyton-Brown, will be in Oshawa attending the GC43 from July 21 – 27. Pray for everyone as they discuss together, make decisions, and elect a new moderator.

I will then be attending the Skylight Festival from July 27 – 29 where Glen and I will be presenting and co-leading, with another Forest Church leader from Kitchener Waterloo, about 'Forest Church'. There is still time to register at [skylightfestival.ca](http://skylightfestival.ca).

### Skylight Festival – register now!

Skylight Festival: **July 27-29** at Five Oaks Retreat and Education Centre in Paris Ontario. Come and listen to a presentation by "Science Mike" McHargue of "The Liturgist Podcast" as he explores the intersection between science and spirituality. Come and explore justice topics like #ChurchToo, racial justice, the intersection of ecology and faith. Come and listen to a variety of musicians, including Matt Epp, Micah Bournes and Diem LaFortune, and spoken word artists like Emily Joy. Come and participate in creative worship experiences like "Courage", worship through the music of The Tragically Hip. **Come learn about "Forest Church" (James and Glen will be presenting and co-leading with another Forest Church leader from Kitchener Waterloo).** Come and be nurtured in spirit and heart at this amazing retreat centre along the banks of the Grand River. Founded in 2015, Skylight is a celebratory and creative space where diverse communities connect to explore the arts, faith, peace and justice. Register at [skylightfestival.ca](http://skylightfestival.ca)

### Worship Notes

We look forward to the return visit of our guest preacher, The Reverend Jane Sullivan, on July 29. She is the Minister for Congregational Support with Living Waters Presbytery.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding worship services please speak to a member of the Worship Committee, or to Rev. James Ravenscroft. The members of the Committee are as follows: Anne Dunn, Anne Leyton-Brown, Craig Lee, Dawn Moon, Dominick Shelton, Harry Ramsaran, Joan Verner, Linda Clark, Barry Peters, and Rev. James Ravenscroft. Sandra Loughton, Chair of Worship is currently away, but will be available in mid-August. Please note that Sandra's term as Chair of the Committee will end on September 1st and a new Chair has not yet been appointed. **Thank you, Sandra for your years of dedicated service.**

### Christian Development

We are looking ahead to our children's programming for next year. **We are now searching for one or two people to coordinate Sunday Morning Programs for Youth. Jennifer Townsend has taken on the role of Coordinator for Sunday Morning Programs for Children.** There is an honorarium for these positions. If you are interested or know of someone who might be, please contact Joan Verner at [joanverner@rogers.com](mailto:joanverner@rogers.com) or 905-539-1222.

## HOSPITALITY & WORKING FOR JUSTICE

### Minute for Mission *Called to be the Church*

Our gifts for Mission & Service, alongside our emergency appeal funds, support Haitian farmers in the wake of Hurricane Matthew. On the night of October 3, 2016, Hurricane Matthew tore through the southwest region of Haiti. Powerful winds and torrential rain washed away fields, livestock, and homes and ripped roofs off houses, churches, and schools. The only bridge linking the region to the rest of the country was destroyed. Suddenly, farmers who had been exporting agricultural produce could no longer feed even their own families. People of The United Church of Canada responded generously. The money raised was divided among Mission & Service partners in Haiti: the Methodist Church in Haiti, ACT International (an ecumenical emergency and development coalition), and the Institut Culturel Karl Lévêque (ICKL). \$25,000 was directed to ICKL, a popular education and development agency that is a long-time United Church partner. ICKL used these emergency funds from the United Church to purchase rice, maize, beans, and cooking oil and to truck it over nearly impassable roads to communities where people had gone for days without food or shelter from the heavy rain. The food was distributed not only to groups associated with ICKL but also to the wider community. "They were hungry, too," the farmers say. It is this spirit of cooperation, mutual support, and self-sufficiency that ICKL encourages and nurtures through its training and group animation workshops that are supported by our ongoing gifts for Mission & Service. Mission & Service supports our ongoing partnership with ICKL and its work that feeds both body and soul.

## ENGAGING, CHALLENGING & GROWING OUR FAITH

### Special Occasions

While we include in our prayers, the names of people who are ill or mourning, we are not always aware of the special occasions which give rise to rejoicing. Please let us know to add any special occasions that are coming up.

### RHUC Book Club

The RHUC Book Club is taking a break over the summer and will reconvene on **Wednesday, September 19th at 7 p.m.** in the Chapel. (Please note that this is the third Wednesday of the month instead of the usual 4th or 5th Wednesday.)

We will be discussing John Steinbeck's novel *East of Eden* which was published in 1952 and is often described as the author's most ambitious novel. The book for discussion for the meeting on October 24th will be *The Lightkeeper's Daughters* by Jean Pendziwol. New members are always welcome to join us and see if a book club is for them! For more details, please speak to Sandra Loughton in person or e-mail Sandra at [bookgirl8@hotmail.com](mailto:bookgirl8@hotmail.com). Happy summer and happy reading!

## CREATING AND NURTURING COMMUNITY

### Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee is looking for volunteers for our after worship coffee teams. We are currently updating our schedule and have some vacancies due to losing some volunteers because they're moving, retiring from their coffee team or have taken new opportunities to serve our congregation.

Our teams have generally have 5 or 6 members and prepare the tables in Centennial Hall before the service, then serve the tea, coffee and juice and finally wash the dishes and generally clean up. Each team is "on" 7 times a year.

If this would be something you would be interested in doing, either as a team member or as a spare; please contact me at 905 884 2169 or [janetcenta@gmail.com](mailto:janetcenta@gmail.com) or talk to me this Sunday in Centennial Hall as I will be serving the cold drinks that we serve during the summer. Thank you for your consideration. Janet Centa for the Fellowship Committee

To unsubscribe, please write to: [office@rhuc.org](mailto:office@rhuc.org), and put "unsubscribe" in the subject line. Published by Deb Fratin. Please submit notices by noon on Wednesday.