

UNITED NEWS

From Wyman Memorial and Côte St. Charles United Churches

January & February 2020

Photo Credit: May's Studio

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From Outreach

Your Outreach Committee is putting together a special baking fundraiser for February 9 delivery. Join us at coffee hour on **January 26** to sample the goodies before placing your order! Stay tuned for more details.



Our contributions this year go to:

- Zam-mi-nan aki (Touch the Earth) – a retreat for Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth together
- Equine Assisted Learning – A United Church program developed in response to injustice and systemic racism faced by Indigenous youth.
- Safe House, Safer Society – a gift toward running a safe house for children and youth who have been victims of human trafficking in India near Bangladesh.
-and a small gift to the M&S fund that works throughout Canada and around the world.

Contributions for this year from our congregation total \$465.00. Together, we make a difference in the world!

From the Minister

Doom and gloom often surround congregations. But we do not need to live in that generalization. Our own congregation shows many positive signs. Yes, we have a significant financial deficit for 2019. But the deficit is not as severe as expected. Moreover, there are other important indicators. The first is you. The fact that you are reading this means that you are one of the people who has a concern for the congregation. And then.... more people! Attendance is up from 2018, with a statistically significant difference. A part of that is because of new folk in the congregation - what a delight! And we have a strong music tradition that carries on. In addition, we see all those volunteers - volunteering a helping hand in the congregation, or in the community - making a difference. We have some big challenges ahead - - but we are far from dying!

From the Choir

Thank you; thank you; thank you all for your support and participation in helping us put forth a truly glorious Christmas Concert last December. We can hardly wait until next year!



Fundscrip

Thank you to all those who used Fundscrip for your gift giving this Christmas season. Just a reminder that there is a variety of cards available every Sunday at coffee hour. This is an easy fundraiser for our church at no extra cost to you. Every month certain retailers give a larger percentage. Here are the ones for January:

- Gap 5% → 7%
- Banana Republic 5% → 7%
- Old Navy 5% → 7%
- Jack Astor's 5% → 7%

Christian Unity

An important ecumenical action for us each year is to gather for a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service. This year, our community celebration will be held at St-James Anglican Church on **Sunday, January 19 at 4:00PM** with pot-luck following. (642 Main Road, Hudson Heights) All are encouraged to attend to show that we are people of one faith.

Black History Month

Recognition of Black History Month will take place during the service on **Sunday, February 2.**

Annual General Meeting

This year's Annual General Meeting will take place following the service on **Sunday, February 23.** A light luncheon will be served.

Ash Wednesday

There will be an Ash Wednesday service on **Wednesday, February 26 at 7:30PM** at Wyman.

