

Faith in Motion

Hi everyone! We’re back together and busy learning with our Holy Moly! Grapple! and re:form! Active programmes for young people ages 5-teen. You know what? your friends are always welcome to come to church with you. If you like to be here, maybe they would too!**Messy Church and Board Games** **Night** – check the dates and times in our monthly calendar in this newsletter.

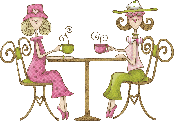
**Church Groups and Activities**

**The Choir** – under the direction of Music Director Joanne McLennan, practices Thursdays from 7:00-9:00PM. September to mid-May. We are 20+ strong but there’s room for more! If you would like to join in this ministry, please speak with Joanne.

**United Church Women** – our active group meets the second Monday of each month except July and August. At these meetings, you could be learning from knowledgeable guest speakers or learning a new skill. Call the church 905 987 4515 to find out about up-coming meetings.

**Euchre** – every second Friday at *7:00 PM* in our hall. $5/person includes refreshments. Mentors are available for anyone wishing to learn Euchre. All are welcome. Check our advertisement in The Village Voice for dates.

**Board Game Night!** September through June we get together on a Friday night for a really fun evening of games and munchies. Everybody is welcome.

**Friendship Connection** – we meet monthly October – June for a time of refreshment and chats and going to the movies. Up-coming get-togethers are posted on the church website.

**Baptism and Church Membership** – Anyone who has a request for baptism, or who would like to discuss becoming a member of Newcastle United Church, please speak with Rev. Mary-Jane at any ti

me.

**Bible Study Group**: Where the upcoming Sunday’s scriptures meet our lives. We meet Wednesdays at 9:30AM until sometime in June. All are welcome.

**NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH**

**Rev. Mary-Jane Hobden, B.A., M.Div., *Minister***

##### NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

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**Newsletter Fall – Winter 2017**

**Dear Members and Friends of Newcastle United:**

The temperatures are still keeping us guessing about whether fall is here or not, but the leaves are starting to change and, occasionally, there is a nip in the evening air. No matter the weather, in the Church we are beginning to move toward the end of the church year and the beginning of a new one with the arrival of Advent.

While nature is winding down for winter, in the Church we are winding up. If you look at the list of activities in our calendar you can see that fall and the upcoming Advent season are busy ones. We are trying a couple of new initiatives this fall, one from Session to help us reach out to those in our community who are seeking to connect spiritually with something, and one from the clergy in the community (we call ourselves the Ministerial, and at the moment consist of the United, Anglican and Roman Catholic clergy in the village). The Ministerial is seeking ways to bring us all together in our common faith and I feel blessed to have found colleagues who are so open to sharing what we have in common and not dwelling on our differences.

There are activities for all of us, whatever our age or stage. Some may want to just worship together, others may wish to join in the social activities by playing euchre, coming to meals or games nights, while still others may wish to grow their faith through Bible study each week, or during our four week Advent Study. These activities are open to anyone wishing to join us so share them with your friends and family.

We are doing our best to live out our mission statement of being followers of Christ called to be a worshipping and learning, receiving and giving community of faith, hope and love.

-**Rev. Mary-Jane**

Sundays and Special Events

***Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday.***

**NOTE: *Nursery care is provided for little ones to 4 years after Labour Day.***

***Faith in Motion for young people ages 5-12. Youth Bible Learn for teens.***

#### October 2017

8 Thanksgiving Sunday

9 Thanksgiving Day – Church office closed

12-14 Rev. Mary-Jane is at the Festival of Biblical Storytelling 15 Sunday Service – 10:30 AM

Congregational Meeting following worship to discuss the Hall Proposal

18 Spiritual but NOT Religious? – an evening of conversation starting at 7 PM hosted by NUC at The Snug

19 Friendship Connection Lunch at Castle John’s – 11:30 AM

22 Sunday Service – 10:30 AM

27 Spooky Games Night – 7 PM

28 East Clarington Men’s Breakfast at NUC

29 New Members Service – 10:30 AM

Coffee Plus following worship

30 Official Board Meeting – 7 PM

**November 2017**

5 Remembrance Sunday – 10:30 AM

Roast Beef Dinner

6-12 Rev. Mary-Jane on study leave

12 Sunday service – 10:30 AM

19 Sunday service – 10:30 AM

Newcastle Santa Claus Parade 5:30PM

20 Session Meeting – 7 PM

24 Messy Church – 10 AM – 1 PM

26 Reign of Christ Sunday with Communion – 10:30 AM

Coffee Plus following worship

27 Advent Study – ‘The First Christmas’ begins – 7 pm

**December 2017**

2 Advent Event for the whole congregation. 2-4PM

3 First Sunday of Advent – 10:30 AM

4 Advent Study – 7 PM

6 Community Carol Fest sponsored by The Ministerial

Watch for more information soon

10 Second Sunday of Advent – 10:30 AM

11 Advent Study – 7 PM

17 Third Sunday of Advent – 10:30 AM

Choir Cantata – “Sing Joy To All The World”

18 Advent Study – 7 PM

24 Fourth Sunday of Advent – 10:30 AM

**Christmas Eve Service – 7 PM**

25 Christmas Day

31 Sunday Service – 10:30 AM

New Year’s Eve

**January 2018**

1 New Year’s Day

7 Epiphany Sunday – 10:30 AM

14 Sunday Service – 10:30 AM

21 Sunday Service – 10:30 AM

28 Sunday Service – 10:30 AM

Coffee Plus following worship

**WHAT IN THE … CHURCH?!**

This Newsletter we begin to explore more about Newcastle United, The United Church of Canada and our faith. This time we look at what the **Session** is and does.

The words **Session** and **Elder** are ones we hear around the church and may wonder about. Session is the name of the committee and Elder is the name given to a member of the Session. The Session is the committee responsible for the spiritual and worship life of the congregation. It is the Session where decisions about how worship is conducted and how the sanctuary is to be used are made. Session also oversees membership by ensuring the historic roll is kept up to date along with our database of all members and adherents, as part of this Session makes decisions about receiving transfers of memberships, re-affirmations of faith and confirmation along with permission for baptisms and weddings. Through Session pastoral care for our church community is coordinated. Christian Education for all ages is also a responsibility of the Session. Rev. Mary-Jane is a member of the Session and, at present, John Smithson is the Clerk of Session. All members of Session have a district grouping of people for whom they are responsible. This means your Elder will check in with you from time to time, drop off things like your newsletter if you haven’t had a chance to pick it up. Our Elders are: Rob Pascoe, Laurel Bell, Romona Worden, Wendy Bracken, Anne Harrison, Debbie Dunham and Ken Crichton.