

Summer 2022 Newsletter: From The Minister...

Who Is My Mother

(Kindred in Spirit through Jesus Christ)

MV 178

1. **Who is my mother, who is my brother?
All those who gather round Jesus Christ:
Spirit blown people born from the Gospel
sit at the table, round Jesus Christ.**
2. **Differently abled, differently labelled,
widen the circle round Jesus Christ:
crutches and stigmas, culture's enigmas,
all come together round Jesus Christ.**
3. **Love will relate us colour or status
can't segregate us round Jesus Christ:
family failings, human derailings
all are accepted round Jesus Christ.**
4. **Bound by one vision, met for one mission
we claim each other, round Jesus Christ:
here is my mother, here is my brother,
kindred in Spirit, through Jesus Christ.**

Grace & Peace to you, Dear Friends,

The choir will be singing this hymn, **“Who is My Mother?”** this Sunday as the anthem. Coincidentally, we sang it also at the Annual Conference of Antler River Watershed Region (formerly known as London Conference). We thank Marlain Wolfe for being the rep from Bothwell. On Friday evening it was all on Zoom. But all of Saturday **we met in-person** at the Rudy Brown Centre in Ridgetown. It was a very inspiring time & Marlain & I want to pass on some of the energy & enthusiasm to you as we continue to recover from the Pandemic of the last 2 years +. So many of us have found it to be such a difficult time. We want to raise our spirits. **“Rejoice in the Lord. And again I say rejoice”.**

The theme of the Regional AGM this year was: **“Fear Not! Be Bold & Courageous!”**

(Joshua 1:9)

Rev. Jane Van Patter welcomed us and led with a reflection & prayer. This year there was an informative anti-bullying video presentation and an Indigenous-led learning session about the use of the word “Mission”. We also covenanted with the regional council’s Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (L.L.W.L.) President Jane said: “The Spirit guides on, encouraging and calling us forward”. Indeed, the music was very uplifting and raised our spirits to look ahead to the tasks before us.

Saturday evening, June 11, Sharon Campbell-Rayment and Charmain Bailey were ordained in the Celebration of Ministries Service at Erie St. United Church in Ridgetown. Sharon will be serving in Wallaceburg at Trinity UC. We remembered Rev. Thomas “Ross” Williams who, with 4 others was celebrated in the “In Memoriam”.

The next Regional Meeting will be October 29 and the Spring Regional meeting is set for May 12 & 13, 2023.

Earlier this month, I was pleased to meet in person with the **Joint Board of Bothwell-Wabash Pastoral Charge (BWPC)**. Dave Annett very capably led us as co-chair (Terry Smith is the other co-chair) and Joanne Lewinsky was our excellent secretary. We thank them both for lending their talents for the ministry & mission of Jesus, the Christ. We are blessed with faithful council/board members in both of our churches. “Praise be!”

Our plan is to have regular services in August, beginning on **AUGUST 14**. Masks are now optional. We thank you for your continued support both by your presence & by your donations. All encouragement & monies are much appreciated.

We are planning to have our **Wabash Anniversary Service on September 25**. Wanda Burse will be our guest speaker with LUEY providing us with special music. Please spread the word & encourage friends & neighbours to join with us to celebrate.

October 17th. Jim Stirling L.L.W.L. will be Bothwell’s anniversary guest speaker.

Thank you for your financial support for Kenesserie Camp. Ruthie, Nina, Barrett, Hannah & Chance participated in the walk again this year. Thank you so much for your enthusiasm! If you have not yet given & would like to donate the address is: 18669 Kenesserie Rd. Ridgetown, ON N0P 2C0.

Thank you for your prayers, cards, phone calls and messages to the families of Randy Badiuk, Diane Logan, Helen Kerr, Lisa Power, Donna McRitchie and Rev. Ross Williams during their recent sorrow. So many of you take the time to uplift others. It is a shared blessing to let others know God loves them & upholds all of us on our life’s journey.

We were delighted to hear of the recent graduation of Scott Annett. He has received a doctorate in Physics from the University of Guelph. Congratulations Scott!

Our final service before the summer holiday will be **June 26**. The theme is **Celebrate Creation**.

Please bring your stories & photos. It is also possible to have pets blessed. **The service will take place outdoors at Wabash UC 9:30** and indoors at Bothwell.. Bring a hat & a comfortable chair. Lunch will be provided. Come & celebrate God’s amazing creation.

Finally, the sun is shining more and our thoughts turn to relaxing & outdoor activities. Enjoy and celebrate God’s presence in this awesome world that He has given to us. We “count our many blessings”.

Let us live in the Light of Christ.

Shalom, Annalee



“Spirit of Life”

(VU 381)

Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart
all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand,
giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close;
wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me,
come to me.