



this issue

Growing up in Alberta Ranch Country

Emmanuel's Nature Pilgrimage

MHI Tulipathon

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

We are glad once more to see spring finally arrive and the blossoms back on the crab apple trees in the front yard. The red dresses look beautiful blowing in the wind among the spring blossoms.

This is our third issue since we entered the Covid world. We have made a lot of progress towards resuming some of our in-person church activities. Our attendance numbers, combining in-person and on-line attendance each Sunday, are moving up to where we were with in-person attendance pre-Covid. In June, we will start meeting for lemonade in the garden after Sunday services.

This issue showcases some of our new initiatives like our very successful yard sale in the parking lot in May, thanks to Joyce White and others.

At the end of June we look forward to the return of our very enjoyable garden tour, strawberry tea and on-line garden sale organized by Carol Campbell and her team. Your publishing team wishes everyone a healthy and enjoyable summer.

Phyllis MacRae

June 2, 2022



If you have items for publication, suggestions or comments, please send them to:
newsletter@emmanuelunited.ca

Banner photo by Russell Smith



FROM BRIAN'S DESK

One beautiful summer day, Sandra and I had a wonderful picnic lunch sitting on a bench by the canal at the Arboretum. It was a delightful respite from the day and the week's busy schedule and the pause refreshed us like a cool jump in the lake on a hot day. Summer can be about vacations and staycations and urban activity of festivals and concerts and races but the pandemic has so altered our way of being that a simple lunch by the canal can be as therapeutic as a two week holiday out west.

Sitting by the Canal surrounded by the variety of trees in the Arboretum, one breathes in the Spirit of God just from the environment. There was a gentleness that noon hour which eased its way down our nostrils and filled our spirits with the presence of God from all that the Holy One created. It wasn't our usual lunch at the dining room table, the phone ringing, the stove bell-tone calling out, the dishes piling up, rather it was quiet and joy and repose in a beautiful spot in the city.

A word which the spiritual directors claimed long ago, which had its origins in the desert mothers and fathers, is 'mindfulness.' Simply paying attention to the world around us and its graces. Most of us race through life, never stopping to smell the flowers, never pausing to sit on a bench for an hour. Mindfulness calls us to see the butterfly winging its way among the tree branches, to notice the shining wave on the canal at Dow's Lake, to hear our own heartbeat and breathe as we relax and enjoy the world God made. Mindfulness is about listening and seeing and feeling the presence of God in the world around and within each of us.

And that is a summer vacation. Taking time, out of the ordinary routines of life, whatever they may be for each of us, and doing something different for even just an hour and being attentive to the amazing world, the amazing presence around us and, that evening at our nocturnal prayers, to give God thanks. May this summer be a time of respite and renewal for each of you.

Blessings and thanks, Brian

Rev. Brian Copeland



THE LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY

BOOK REVIEW

“Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants”

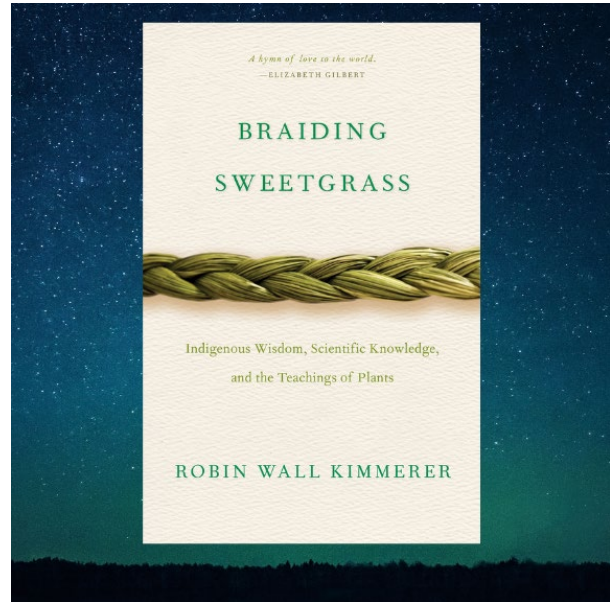
by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Milkweed Editions 2015

I began listening to the book Braiding Sweetgrass on my audio app (Libby; free from the Ottawa Public Library), a couple of months ago, while walking my dog. The Right Relations group at Barrhaven United Church had decided to have a book study with this book, and I wanted to take part. The author, Robin Kimmerer, is a professor and botanist from the Potawatomi First Nation in Northern New York state around Syracuse. She is passionate about plants and the gifts they bring. Many stories about many plants, for example leeks, come to life with her indigenous lens.

In the book, Robin reflects on her life as an indigenous scientist, and as a woman and mother. Her text includes how other living beings including maple trees, the three sisters: corn, beans and squash, as well as salamanders, and of course, sweetgrass, offer us gifts and lessons. She shares the indigenous creation story of Turtle Island while acknowledging the forces that threaten the earth today.

A powerful message. The awakening of ecological consciousness requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world. We must respect other beings and appreciate the generosity of the earth, in addition to giving our own gifts in return.



Kimmerer compares how the “Gift Economy of Strawberries” demonstrates abundance versus the scarcity of Capitalism, a model of never having enough. In addition, the reciprocity with humans, the land, and the environment depending on each other, is a sacred relationship. The more something is shared, the more valuable it is.

I really enjoyed this book; it is so rich with stories. Also, the values expressed resonated with me, and I would recommend it for enjoyable summer reading. I am happy to share my copy. There are many YouTube videos online with Robin reflecting on her work, including “The Honorable Harvest” which I shared with my weekly Zoom Coffee time.

Roxanne Delmage



GROWING UP IN ALBERTA RANCH COUNTRY: THE FAMILY STORIES OF DICK RUSSELL AND COLLEEN CALVERT

One day at the turn of the 20th century, a young man born to a well-to-do family in the Lincolnshire Wolds in eastern England, chanced upon an article about the Canadian Rocky Mountains in **St Nicholas** magazine. Bert Riggall (1884-1959) found his attention caught by a photo of a Big Horn Ram standing on a mountain ledge in what later became Alberta. He later told his family that he came to Canada to see what that ram was looking at. Herbert (Bert) Riggall was Dick Russell's maternal grandfather, and became a famous rancher, outfitter, outdoorsman, conservationist, writer and photographer over his long life.

Although Bert's father wanted his son to travel to Australia as he had done himself, Bert was determined to find that ram and set out to travel to western Canada. In January 1904 he boarded a ship in Liverpool and sailed to Halifax. From there Bert boarded the trans Canadian train to Calgary. In deep winter the train froze up at Indian Head near Regina, SK. "The passengers ran out of food, but Russian immigrants saved the day by finding a rail car full of pigs that had frozen to death. They commenced to butcher and cook. Bert had bought a .44 rifle from a fellow passenger, and, during the freeze-up, took target practice beside the train."¹

Bert quickly found a job at the Craighurst Farm and Ranch, near Calgary. At the farm Bert met Dora Williams, a young Quaker immigrant from Ireland, who was working as a cook. Both being non-smokers and non-drinkers, and loving the outdoors, they quickly became compatible.

A year later Bert and Dora married in Calgary. Bert had started working for the Canada Inspector of Surveys and this allowed him to explore the region of southern Alberta. He found his future homestead at Twin Butte in the Waterton Lakes region and determined to settle there with Dora. Following his wedding Bert left to return to his homestead of 6 Sections. When after a while Dora did not hear from her new husband, she sent word that she had decided to follow him south by stagecoach. When Dora arrived at the final stagecoach stop south of Pincher Creek, she found no one to meet her. A local cowboy took care of her and took her home to his wife to welcome her. Eventually Bert turned up at the nearest post office and learned where his bride was. It was February 1906 and Bert had not had time to build a house. He wrote in his diary, "We slept in a ditch and the alarm clock hung from barbed wire."²

Bert and Dora had three children: Richard (1907), Kathleen (Kay) – Dick's mother – in 1909, and Doris (Babe) in 1910. Richard (Dickey) died of a childhood illness at a young age, leaving his two sisters. The family thrived and Bert established a successful outfitting and horse ranching business. In 1919 the family suffered through the Spanish Flu but all survived. Bert became a self-taught photographer and when he died in 1959, he left an archive of 14,000 photographs, which are now stored in the Whyte Museum in Banff, Alberta.



¹ Fred Stenson in "Bert Riggall's Greater Waterton: A Conservation Legacy". Beth Towe Ed. Page 4.

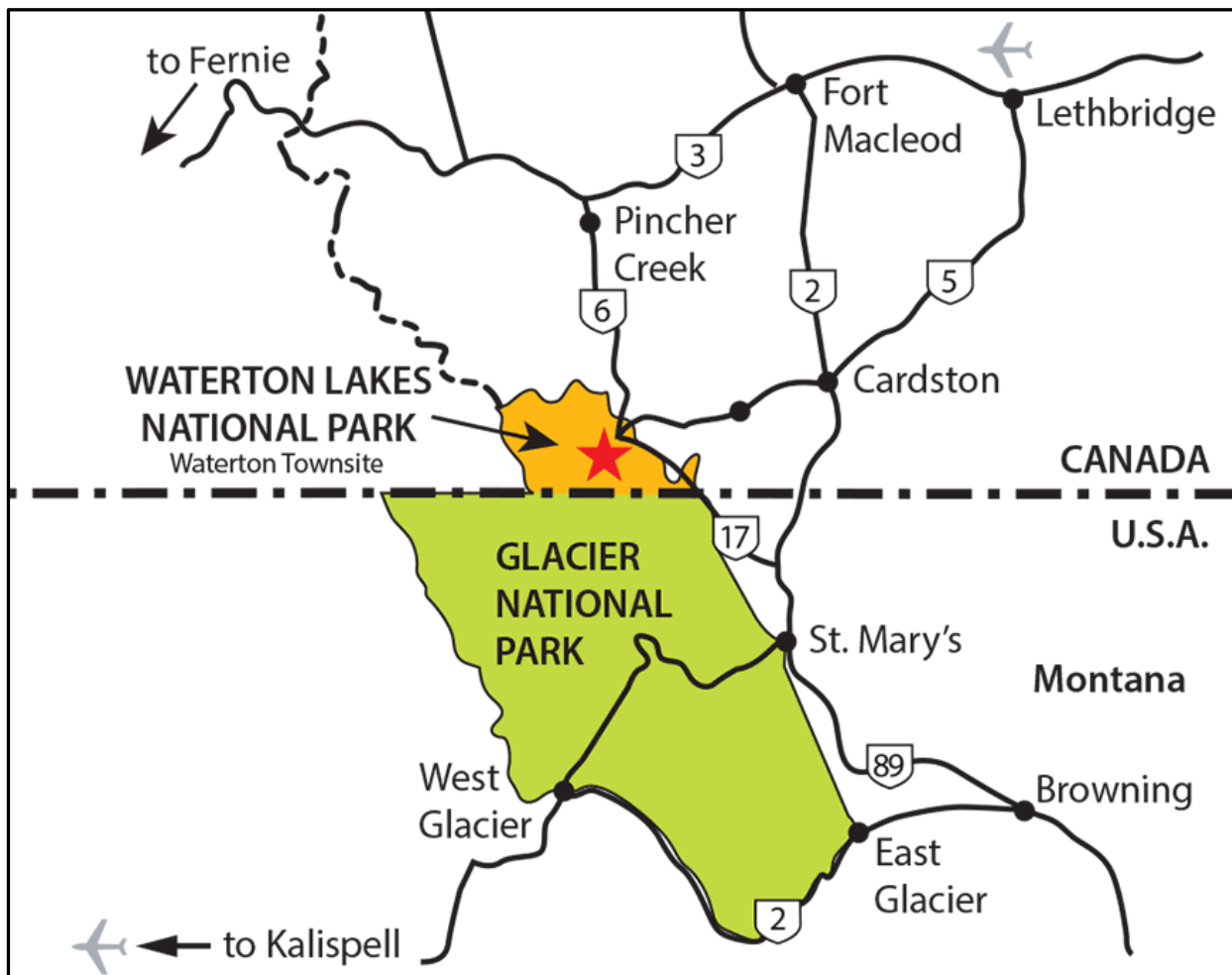
² Stenson, page 8.



He became a famous conservationist and defender of the southern Alberta wilderness. In the 1980s the Bert Riggall Environmental Foundation was established in his memory. (see <https://bertriggall.ca/bertriggall-environmental-foundation.html>)

Bert and Dora's homestead is located about 25 miles south of Pincher Creek, on the border of what in 1911 became Waterton Lakes Dominion Park. It was the 5th national park to be established in Canada. Waterton Lakes is located on the border of Alberta and Montana. On the US side of the border is the much larger Glacier National Park (see map below).

In 1919 Bert and Dora befriended four American families from Minnesota. The Americans decided to build a summer camp in this beautiful setting, and they bought a ¼ Section from Bert. On the top of a butte (hill) looking south to the US Rocky Mountains, they built a large summer home called Hawk's Nest. The American families and their children continued to spend their summers at Hawk's Nest until sometime in the 1930's, when war began to threaten in Europe and they stopped coming to Alberta.



Map showing Waterton Lakes National Park



Andy Russell:

In 1915 Dick Russell's dad Andy Russell (1915-2005) was born in Lethbridge, AB.

Andy came to the Pincher Creek area in 1938 working as an outfitter and horse rancher. He met and married Dick's mother Kay Riggall in 1938 (Dick was born 9 months and one day later). The American families gave Andy and Kay Hawk's Nest and the ¼ section it is on as a wedding present. Andy and Kay took over the guiding and outfitting business from Bert Riggall and for a number of years also owned and ran the riding stable in Waterton Lakes National Park.

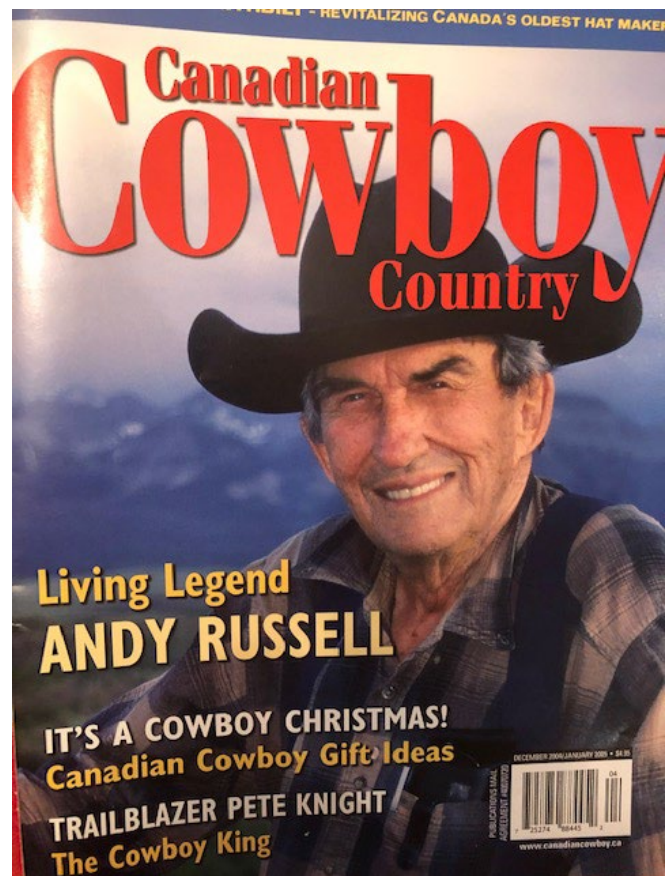
Hawk's Nest was the family's summer home and the winter home was a one-bedroom cottage (insulated) at the bottom of the hill. Andy and Kay raised 5 children at Hawk's Nest: Dick (1939), Charlie, John, Gordon and Anne.

In winter, they all lived in the one-bedroom cabin at the bottom of the hill, and in summer lived in Hawk's Nest. The children went to a one-room school located about 1 ½ miles from the cabin. In spring and fall, they walked or rode horseback to school, and in the winter hiked or snowshoed.

When they completed elementary school, Dick and his siblings moved into Pincher Creek to attend high school. They lived in a school boarding home during the week. Later on, former Chief Justice Beverley McLaughlin attended the same high school and lived at the boarding house.



Hawk's Nest



A Magazine Cover featuring Andy Russell

Photo by Duane Radford, Canadian Cowboy Country, December 2004/January 2005, Edmonton AB.



Andy Russell had “the gift of the gab” and was known as a famous storyteller and prolific author. Andy became interested in observing and understanding wildlife. He began writing and publishing articles in magazines. One famous article was called *Can animals think?* Over his life he published 13 books on the outdoors and the wilderness ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andy_Russell_\(Canadian author\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andy_Russell_(Canadian_author))). Andy was a legend in Alberta and western Canada, renowned as a conservationist and defender of Canadian western outdoor culture and history. In 1977 he was very proud to be made a Member of the Order of Canada. He had three honorary Doctorate of Laws degrees from the Universities of Alberta, Calgary and Lethbridge. Other awards include the J.B. Harkin Conservation Award from the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, the Alberta Wilderness Association Wilderness Defenders Award, and the Golden Jubilee Medal from HM Queen Elizabeth II.



View near Hawk's Nest



View near Hawk's Nest

Andy also began making movies about wildlife. He became a self-taught expert in bears, mostly grizzlies. When Dick and Charlie were in their late teens they travelled with their father on horseback in Alberta, BC, Alaska and the Yukon making films. When Dick was a student at UBC, he spent the summers travelling with Andy helping make the movies. Andy's movies toured all over North America. A famous movie was *Grizzly Country*. (see <https://youtu.be/o-JxYEL-M7M>) for a short clip from the movie - the voice is Andy's).

In the 1960's, the second son Charlie bought the ranch from his parents and changed from raising horses to cattle. But the family always had horses on the ranch. Gordon (the youngest son) continues to live on the ranch and manage it. The home quarter is now owned jointly by Dick, his siblings and their children.

Dick Russell:

Dick grew up on the ranch with his siblings and parents. He did his joint undergraduate degree in wildlife biology and botany at the University of British Columbia.



He then worked for two years constructing a power dam in northern BC. After that, he did a Master's degree in wildlife biology at the University of Alberta (Edmonton). He travelled and researched in northern Manitoba and wrote his Master's thesis on polar bears.

From 1971, until he retired in 2006, Dick worked for the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS). He travelled in the Arctic islands in NWT and (what is now) Nunavut and researched caribou and muskox. He also studied grizzly bears in Jasper National Park and worked to reintroduce swift fox to the Canadian prairies. He worked first in Ottawa, then out of Edmonton and ended his career in Ottawa.



Wolf seen at Hawk's Nest

While working for the CWS on the Nunavut Land Claim, he met Norman Williams who was working for (then) Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, also on the Land Claim. Dick enjoyed travelling as a young man. In the 1970s he travelled to East Africa and Tanzania and did a lot of photography. He also visited the Galapagos. He is an excellent photographer.

Colleen Calvert

Colleen was born in Edmonton in 1953 and lived her early years in Vermillion, Alberta. Her dad was a finishing carpenter. In 1959, her father and mother established a Macleods store in Edson. Macleods Ltd. was a retail chain of supply/hardware stores, across Western Canada, headquartered in Winnipeg. Her parents were busy at the store(s) and worked long hours. Colleen is the youngest of four siblings, the eldest a boy followed by three girls. Her older sister looked after the younger ones and would make dinner for the family most days.



Bear walking by the window on the porch of Hawk's Nest



The days around New Year's saw everyone "taking stock", counting everything from washing machines to nails to candy. Colleen's favorite store job was pricing the Christmas toys as they came in. Many Saturdays were spent in the basement of the store; opening boxes and looking forward to seeing what was in the next one, as she listened to CBC radio. She really looked forward to listening to the weekly broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.

Colleen attended high school in Edson, AB. After graduation she started out training in medicine at the University of Alberta. She transferred to nursing and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the University of Alberta. After graduation Colleen returned to Edson and worked as a Community Health Nurse for 4 years.

While his children were at university, Colleen's parents purchased a house for them all to live in. In 1983/84 Dick rented the basement apartment in the house from Colleen's sister Wendy, who had purchased the house from her parents.

Dick and Colleen became friends and often went to the theatre together.



Colleen's sister worked with Dick at the CWS. In 1985 CWS downsized and Dick's job in Edmonton was eliminated. As a result, he moved to Ottawa where he continued to work for CWS. Later that year Colleen moved to Ottawa to make a home with Dick. They bought their house on Pullen Ave, in Riverview Park, and have lived there ever since. In 1986, they went back to Alberta and were married in a wonderful wedding with all their friends and family at "The south five" a five-acre property that Dick owned with two friends.



At Hawk's Nest



Dick and Colleen at Emmanuel

Both Dick and Colleen had grown up in the United Church in their Alberta communities. Dick has fond memories of a busy congregation in Pincher Creek which had a lively youth group that he attended. Colleen's youth was centered around the church, Explorers, CGIT, Junior Choir, & teaching Sunday school.

Once settled in Ottawa, Dick was not too attracted to formal church attendance. After a while Colleen was introduced to Emmanuel by her neighbours and began to attend in 1986. She left Emmanuel for a while and attended at Southminster for three years. Later she began to attend Emmanuel again when she became friends with Sandra Lawson and Eric Apedaile and spent a few years doing childcare for their daughter Dorothy.



Dick with Taco at the Nature Pilgrimage



In later years Dick has been happy to attend Emmanuel at Christmas and Easter, share meals and to play bridge. He has now become more involved through all the Zoom activities. Dick began to show signs of Alzheimer's 6-7 years ago and it is progressing slowly. Now, Dick and Colleen are regular participants in Roxanne's weekly Zoom coffee meetings. They both enjoy the Sunday streamed services and the Zoom coffee hour afterwards. Now that the church is open again, Dick is back playing bridge. Colleen is very active in Teleos, Heretics and Book Club, is a member of the EUC Social Action Committee (helping with the food drives) and she has recently taken on the role of one of Emmanuel's Regional Council (EOORC) representatives.



She has started attending Sunday services about twice a month in person. Dick enjoys talking with people. He has a weekly visit in-person with a volunteer from the Dementia Society of Ottawa and has a weekly phone call with another volunteer. These are a great help to Dick. He also attends the Carefor, a day-away program for dementia patients, at the Perley, twice a week.

Before Covid, Dick and Colleen visited the Russell family home in Alberta every second summer. They used to drive all the way (3 ½ - 5 days), but lately have flown. They have not traveled to Alberta since Covid began, but have made plans to go there this summer for a month.



Colleen busy with her garden

Colleen's Garden

Colleen and Dick have built a very busy garden in the front and back yard on Pullen Ave. Colleen raises tomatoes and other plants from seed. She has a large cold frame on wheels on the back deck. She sold a number of tomato plants at the Emmanuel Yard Sale in May. In the front yard they have a natural gazebo of rose bushes and other shrubs and can sit in the shade in their lawn chairs and watch the life on the street and enjoy the small fishpond and waterfall.

We are grateful that Dick and Colleen are active members of our Emmanuel family. If you are interested in learning more about their interesting families and lives in Alberta, contact Colleen and Dick for a chat.

Phyllis MacRae



Dick, Colleen and Taco at Christmas



EMMANUEL'S NATURE PILGRIMAGE – MAY 11, 2022

Emmanuel's spring 2022 nature pilgrimage was held at Pinhey's Point Historic Site on May 11. The theme was: Exploring Roots, and was organized by Roxanne Delmage, Jill MacLean, Nyla Garrett, Patricia Fairbairn and Irene Bakker.

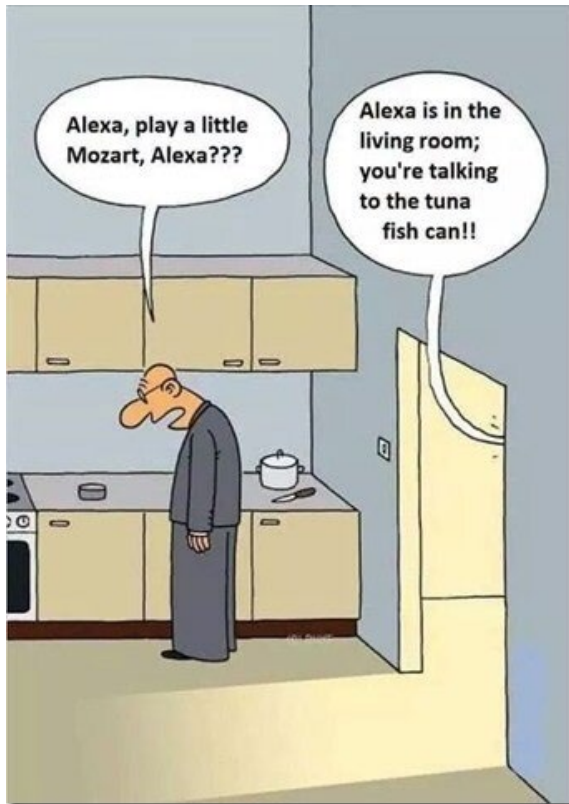
22 people made their way to this beautiful historic site on the Ottawa River northwest of Kanata. The objectives of the pilgrimage are: to enjoy a nature experience, to build community, and to have an individual spiritual experience, using prayer, scripture, music, reflection, communion and an open heart. The welcome was followed by a prayer, land acknowledgement and a time of worship based on the parable of the sower (Matthew 13: 3-9).

The day also included several exercises, one exploring the connection between people and trees, the other considering what roots in faith and/or relationships sustain us. While considering the exercises, participants were invited (as they were able) to explore the paths on the property, many leading to the riverbank with a scenic view of the Gatineau Hills. The day continued with lunch and free time to continue to chat or wander the grounds, and ended with communion.

Following tradition, a nearby ice cream emporium was identified for those who wished to enjoy a cold treat on the way home.

Irene Bakker





A Sardonic Senior might say. . .

Me, sobbing: "I can't see you anymore. . . . I'm not going to let you hurt me again."

My Trainer: "It was one sit-up."

As I've gotten older, people think I've become lazy. The truth is I'm just being more energy efficient.

I haven't gotten anything done today. I've been in the Produce Department trying to open this stupid plastic bag.

Turns out that being a "senior" is mostly just googling how to do stuff.

I want to be 18 again and ruin my life differently. I have new ideas.

My mind is like an internet browser. At least 19 open tabs, 3 of them are frozen, and I have no clue where the music is coming from.

Hard to believe I once had a phone attached to a wall, and when it rang, I picked it up without knowing who was calling.

Apparently RSVPing to a wedding invitation "Maybe next time" isn't the correct response.

So you've been eating hot dogs and McChickens all your life, but you won't take the vaccine because you don't know what's in it. Are you kidding me?

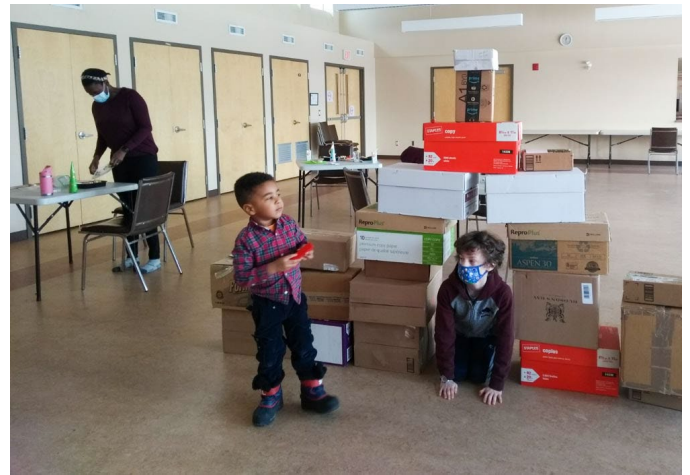
There is no such thing as a grouchy old person. The truth is that once you get old, you stop being polite and start being honest.



IN-PERSON MESSY CHURCH

We've held three in-person Messy Church sessions this spring. On Feb 27, we explored the story of Joshua and the big wall of Jericho by building our own wall with cardboard boxes. On March 27, we explored the story of the prodigal son. We decorated our 'houses' and made paper hugs. On April 10, we celebrated the good news of Easter and made mini gardens. Each session included a scripture video, music, reading a storybook related to the theme together and, of course, food! We're looking forward to more in-person sessions – the next one is May 15.

Val Lines



THE RAINBOW HUB AT EMMANUEL

Thanks to a generous grant from UCC, Emmanuel has been able to partner with the EOORC youth and young adult leader, Dana Doucette, to create a monthly meeting space for LGBTQ+ youth ages 11- 18. The meetings take place at Emmanuel, one Friday night a month. Due to Covid-related delays, our first meeting was in March with a few fun and enthusiastic young people. We have more than doubled our numbers in the past couple of months, through word of mouth alone.

Our meetings include adult volunteers and a paid mental health worker, a young adult from Parkdale United who identifies as part of the rainbow community. The meetings include a meal, games, conversation and activities planned by the participants. We have made crafts, decorated cakes, and plan an improv night for our next meeting. The young people have made it clear that they appreciate the chance to be private and to be in a place without judgement. They also want a program that is fun and lets them be silly and creative.



We have advertised quite widely but so far the participants come from EOORC or come with friends from the EOORC. I am also hoping to address the next EOORC meeting to speak about the hub and encourage all churches to spread the word.

Thank you to Emmanuel for your enthusiastic support of this initiative.

Ellen Brohman



Natural Order

*Creation is subject to frustration,
not of its own choosing. Romans 8:20*

So many try to enter and cannot.
They knock, and plead, and weep
when others take their places
at the feast. The last are first;
the first to come will be the last.

Auspicious clouds blow to the hills
between ourselves and drought,
rise and drop a flood of rain
that gutters to the sea again.
The flinty desert stays intact.

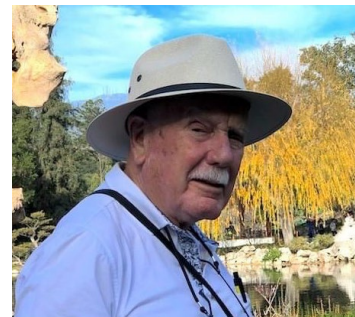
An aging paper birch creates
a shade too dark and ominous
for its seedlings to replace itself.
White spruce will volunteer
and fill that imminent domain.

The beaver's sturdy dam creates
a pool that floods the river banks.
It drowns the trees that feed him,
but provides a fitting habitat
for muskrat or a passing mink.

The partridge hen has many chicks
but cannot count, and neither reckons
nor conceives a fault with foxes
hunting in the unhewn meadow
where her flock of offspring gambol.

And, when Pharisees tell Jesus
to avoid Jerusalem and Herod's
wish to sentence him, he sends
that devious fox a warning that
his lavish household is forsaken.

© E. Russell Smith



Setting Sun

I stand here, immobile,
watching the sun go down
from its temporary position
on the horizon.

Suddenly it drops
behind the rim of distant trees,
illuminates the deepening cobalt sky
with bands of copper, gold and amethyst.

There's something about the sun's journey,
(or maybe the quality of light)
that makes me catch my breath
and think of you.

I whisper a prayer
for your well-being
(wherever you are tonight)
and hope all is well in your world.

Sometimes

Sometimes I feel so deeply
that my skin
can't hold it all in
and I retreat ...
go to my quiet place

where my thoughts
leak out as whispered prayers
conversation really
with the All-that-Is
for those who dwell in my heart.

© Carol Grace Scott 2022



PASADENA AND ALTA VISTA: TWO HOMES

My two homes are so much alike, and yet so different. Heretics Zoom time is a constant. Two church services (Pasadena Presbyterian Church and Emmanuel United Church) also thanks to Zoom. Those will change when Zoom is used less – and I will feel a huge loss.

I have tried to pay attention to spring in Pasadena - unlike here in Ottawa, where spring flings itself at me daily, to my delight! In California it is hard to notice the tree which is leafing while it is surrounded by those which are always leafy! So I looked closely and found I was rewarded by the more subtle joy of watching the sweetgum in our yard become fully leafed out over two weeks in March. Yes, there IS spring in LA!

It has been joyous indeed to watch the day-by-day explosion of spring here in Ottawa. No leaves on the trees when we arrived in April and just a few scilla and daffodils in bloom. Now trees are all leafed out, lilacs are blooming, and tulips are going fast as I write. We have been sprung into summer already.

But I have not left Pasadena. I have spent the last two days totally immersed in preparing for and watching online meetings and writing testimony for budget deliberations by the City Council of Pasadena. It is a small city – just over 140,000 population – with a self-important history. The Rose Parade was started in 1890, the Rose Bowl football game added in 1902 and a large stadium constructed in 1922.

Pasadena was settled by wealthy mid-westerners seeking winter respite and making fortunes promoting the health benefits of the area. Names like Gamble (soap) and Huntington (railroads) left a legacy.

The Presbyterian Church we attend had a large endowment from the Gambles of Proctor and Gamble. Unfortunately, the endowment is not enough to meet current needs. And the Gambles did not endow Pasadena except with their old mansions.

This rich heritage does not help Pasadena escape modern pressures. The Rose Bowl stadium belongs to the City. In the judgement of past governing bodies it needed to be upgraded to compete with other large football stadia. Now, the City has a large debt which drains money from human services. In Ottawa, as in Pasadena, budgets are moral documents and it can seem that not enough attention to human values went into past decisions in both cities. It is hard to balance all the needs and wants in a city as in our family budgets!



Pasadena - The Castle Green



Our Pasadena budget advocacy today focuses on persons experiencing homelessness, the nature of crisis responses, and the availability of interim shelter while awaiting permanent supportive housing. Crisis responses should be provided by mental health professionals rather than police, and there is no excuse for leaving folks unsheltered in a wealthy country! Does this sound familiar? Ottawa has the same needs!

My advocacy takes place in a faith-based community non-profit, appropriately called **MAKING HOUSING AND COMMUNITY HAPPEN**. The founders of MHCH have been working for over 20 years to increase affordable housing in Pasadena and its vicinity through policy analysis and advocacy. After being part of the group for several years, including marching and demonstrating, I was named liaison to MHCH by my congregation - with a dedication during a worship service. It is serious business!

I am missing the Adult Education class on Sunday at PPC, where the other current issue will be discussed: changing City zoning bylaws to encourage churches to build affordable housing on their underused property.



Pasadena - Gamble House



I am glad the UCC has already put in place support for such programs and was delighted to see the recent Citizen article about Queenswood United Church in Orleans using the resources set up by EOORC and the national church. Yeah UCC!

What is common to my two homes? My enthusiasm for justice in whatever ways we can live into it. I could write about the despair I feel about the national USA political morass, where it seems that half the country does not care for what I see as justice. But frankly, it is hard to maintain a Christian attitude of hope in that part of my life. In Pasadena, with MHCH, I have hope which sustains me. Similarly, I am sustained here in Ottawa by hope as I participate in the Right Relations group at Emmanuel. The RED Dress Day observance is a blessing and a joy. So is learning about the Isaruit Women's Sewing Circle, OMRA, MHI, the refugee resettlement work, which are all so well supported by the EUC congregation. There is so much hope in my EUC life!

I am very fortunate to have these two lives, nurtured and sustained by good friends sharing my passion for justice. I am doubly blessed!

Areta Crowell



REDress Day May 5th

Have you ever lost a child—even for a few minutes? How would it feel to lose a child, mother, aunt, sister, cousin, friend—for ever? Never learning what happened to them – or finding that they had been murdered and sometimes sexually assaulted as well. This is what has happened to the families of well over 1200 missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and two spirit people. It is felt by their entire communities. It is still happening!

Even today Indigenous women and girls are 12 times more likely to be murdered and go missing than other women in Canada. We cannot let their memories silently slip away. Much work needs to be done to change attitudes, change environments and change the outcome for Indigenous women and girls. All people standing together using their voices is paramount in the work needed to make change.

In May, red dresses were once again hung in the trees outside Emmanuel, to commemorate the murdered and missing Indigenous women, girls and two-spirited people. A single red dress was also hung in the Sanctuary. These installations are a solemn memorial to those whose lives were lost, and in tribute to the thousands of Indigenous people still being victimized, murdered or missing in our society. The intent of the red dresses, hanging empty, is to highlight the absence of the loved ones who were once close. The colour red, according to traditional knowledge, is the only colour spirits can see and it is used as a means of calling the spirits of these loved ones home. Each person is loved and missed.



Articles were written for *Vistas*, the Alta Vista Community Newspaper (where it received front page coverage – May 2022 issue) and for the *EOORC News*, May 4, 2022 issue and the Riverside Press June issue. Red dress pins, cut from felt, were made available to the congregation and the general community throughout May. A brochure drawing attention to the Calls for Justice from the *Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls* was made available.

The Government of Canada launched the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, in 2016, to investigate and report on the systemic causes of all forms of violence against Indigenous women and girls. The Final Report was released in June 2019, and to date very little action has been taken to address this national crisis.

At the start of the May 1st Sunday worship service at Emmanuel this issue was addressed. Following the prelude, featuring the theme song from *The Hurting Song*, a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls documentary film, the 8 Calls to Action to all Canadians from the *Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls* were read.



Every Canadian has a role to play and is encouraged to consider how they can give life to these Calls for Justice. Some of the ways include:

- Denounce and speak out against violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people.
- Decolonize by learning the true history of Canada and Indigenous history in your local area. Learn about and celebrate Indigenous peoples' history, cultures, pride, and diversity, acknowledging the land you live on and its importance to local Indigenous communities, both historically and today.
- Confront and speak out against racism, sexism, ignorance, homophobia, and transphobia, and teach or encourage others to do the same, wherever it occurs: in your home, in your workplace, or in social settings.
- Help hold all governments accountable to act on the Calls for Justice, and to implement them.

We cannot simply continue to hang red dresses in the trees, hoping the hearts of Canadians feel the pain experienced by Indigenous peoples and their needs are addressed. As a society, the time is now! No longer can talk be the way forward. Action is required by all.

Jill MacLean



EMMANUEL'S COMMUNITY YARD AND BAKE SALE

After two years of living with COVID 19, a few seniors who had spent time decluttering during the isolating days of the pandemic, posed a question: "Is Emmanuel going to have a sale this year?" The seed was planted for an in-person event reaching out to the neighbouring community. Finance Committee approved a Yard and Bake Sale as a fundraiser for the General Fund and it was brought to the March Council meeting. There were still questions: who would organize it? would it be safe? is the community ready for an in-person event? Encouraged by Keith Jeacle, Jill MacLean, Irene Bakker and Patricia Fairbairn, we met together to plan the event.



We decided to go with renting tables for personal sales and were fortunate that eleven participants signed a Vendor Agreement for a \$20.00 fee per table. This included both community and Emmanuel vendors. What they sold on their tables was up to them. Buyers were pleased with the variety of items and excellent prices. Emmanuel tables for the sale of homemade baking, donated items looking for a new home, puzzles and books, led by Emmanuel's Book Club, were also part of the event. So that those visiting the site could learn more about Emmanuel and what we do, we provided brochures with environmental tips and REDress information, an Emmanuel postcard and an invitation to sign up for Camp Awesome.



The day of the sale, May 14, 2022, was hot and sunny. "Better than rain" we said! An early morning set up crew prepared the parking lot for the sellers.



We were grateful to Sam Kazak for providing shade canopies for tables on the sunny side and grateful to have natural shade along the church side for part of the day. One of our Community Vendors had a young team selling Freezies. There was ice water, fudgsicles and watermelon to keep everyone refreshed. At the end of the long, hot day we appreciated help from the cleanup crew and the parking lot was in good shape in short order. There was an opportunity for a number of volunteer hours for a keen Hillcrest student.

Publicity is an important part of any event like this. Anahita and Christina Clark Kazak created eye catching posters and an ad for the Vistas newspaper. These were posted on community bulletin boards and social media. Stephen Taylor submitted Events information to the local papers, the Vistas and Riverview Park Review and to the Regional Council Newsletter.



Our Emmanuel Slide team promoted the sale on Sunday morning and Russ Pastuch made sure the Emmanuel webpage and Facebook site were updated. Bill Meek featured the sale on our indoor and outdoor signs. Pat Harris fielded calls in the office, sent the Sale information to neighbouring churches and parking participants and as a past yard sale organizer, shared her expertise with me.

Any event like this brings a lot of people together and it was great to welcome the community to our yard once again. We were told that everyone was excited that something like this was happening again after two long years. We hope that many more successful gatherings will follow.

Joyce White

Photos by Joyce White and Phyllis MacRae



Happy Yard and Bake Sale Customers



MHI TULIPATHON

The 2022 MHI Tulipathon was held May 29th at Dow's Lake . It was the first walk held in person in the last three years. It was well attended by a diverse group of dedicated communities of faith. Likely there were more than 200 meeting Mayor Jim Watson, municipal councillor Catherine McKenney and MP Yasir Naqvi. Sue Smarkala, the new president of MHI conducted the opening ceremony. We walked a very pleasant two kilometres enjoying the sun and breezes.

Phyllis MacRae, Richard Johnston, Robert Sims, Sandra Copeland, Pierre and Janice Péron represented Emmanuel. Sandra Copeland designed and created a new tulipathon banner that drew much attention.

Funds raised are used to subsidize rents for MHI clients. Donations using the following link: <https://www.classy.org/campaign/tulipathon-2022/c387067> can be made up to June 30th . Donations can be made in the name of the Emmanuel team.

Janice Péron



MP Yasir Naqvi, Councillor Catherine McKenney, Mayor Jim Watson, Suzanne Le and Sue Smarkala were among those present



The Emmanuel Team won joint first prize for their banner, made by Sandra Copeland



PASSAGES AND BLESSED EVENTS

We remember the following members of our Emmanuel family who passed away this winter and spring:

Vera Wilson – February 18, 2022

John Searle – April 6, 2022

Isobel Bryan – May 1, 2022

Baptism:

Bentley Gerard Roy, son of Ashley and Christopher Roy,

January 30, 2022

Marriages:

Michael Harris and Emily Sams,

May 28, 2022

Sean O'Meara and Greg Mountenay,

May 28, 2022



Photo: Patty Kavcic – flowering almond



TREES IN THE BIBLE – A QUIZ

Did you know there are 22 trees mentioned in the Bible? See if you know them all. For help, the first letter of each tree is provided. If you want to look it up, the scripture is given. An answer code can also be found later in the newsletter. Many believe that an apple tree is mentioned in the story of Adam and Eve. Read Genesis 3: 1-13 to find out if this is true.

1. A Psalms 45:8
2. A Isaiah 44:14
3. A Joel 1:12
4. B Psalms 37:35
5. C 1 Kings 10:27
6. C Ezekiel 31:8
7. C Isaiah 44:14
8. E Hosea 4:13
9. F Deuteronomy 8:8
10. F 2 Samuel 6:5
11. H Genesis 30:37
12. J 1 Kings 19: 4,5
13. M 2 Samuel 5:23
14. M Isaiah 41:19
15. O Isaiah 1:30
16. O Judges 9:9
17. P Exodus 15:27
18. P Deuteronomy 8:8
19. P Hosea 4:13
20. S Exodus 36:20
21. S Amos 7:14
22. W Isaiah 44:4



HUMOUR



I did a push-up today.

Well, actually

I fell down.

But I had to use

my arms to get up

so...

you know, close enough.



CHURCH OFFICE BUILD PROJECT AT CHIPEMBI

The Church Office Build Project at the Chipembi congregation of the United Church of Zambia has progressed very well and has reached the roofing level. Funds from Emmanuel and Bells Corners United were advanced in late March to allow the work to continue. The window and door frames will soon be installed, and an electrician has been engaged to begin the electrical work. Procurement of materials for completion of the interior has begun. Like here, the pricing of building materials has increased significantly in Zambia and they are experiencing delays in delivery. These factors will obviously contribute to the progress made in completing the build.

Your contributions to the Zambia Mission Fund have greatly assisted in the construction to date and we look forward to your continued support to complete the remaining work.

Keith Jeacle



MORE HUMOUR

Words of wisdom: "There's a fine line between a long, drawn-out sermon and a hostage situation."

A devout old shepherd lost his favorite Bible while he was out looking for a wayward lamb. Three weeks later, a sheep walked up to him carrying the Bible in its mouth. The shepherd couldn't believe his eyes. He took the precious book out of the sheep's mouth, raised his eyes heavenward and exclaimed, "It's a miracle!"

"Not really," said the sheep. "Your name is written inside the cover."

Source: Stewardship of Life Institute. Gettysburg, PA, stewardshipoflife.org



CHRISTIE LAKE KIDS AT EMMANUEL

Note from Editor: Under the sponsorship of Emmanuel's Social Action Committee, Christie Lake Camp, a children's summer camp that operates on Christie Lake west of Ottawa, offers a weekly program for their children at Emmanuel.

Emmanuel United Church opened their doors to Christie Lake Kids, and quickly became "home" to our leadership programs, and STAR (Skills Through Arts and Recreation) programs. Phillip and Linda English connected us with the Church back in the fall of 2020 after losing program space at the Dempsey Community Centre.



We ran a girl empowerment program out of the church in the winter of 2021, but it was short lived because of the ongoing safety concerns of the pandemic.

As soon as it was safe to continue our in-person programs this fall, we began using the church Monday and Tuesday evenings. We run four levels of leaders in training (LIT) programs, for youth in grades 9 through 12. Activities focus on building skills that motivate and inspire.



With a strong emphasis on wellness, volunteerism and community building, LITs become engaged in community projects and other CLK programs that provide valuable volunteer experience for further employment and school success. We also began running our Art program for kids 6-12 years old in the preschool room on Wednesday evenings. The group has worked on many projects this year, including painting, sketching portraits, creating mosaic vases and they have even tie dyed their own t-shirts!

Pat Harris, who has been our main connect at the church, has been incredibly supportive and accommodating to us. This has been an amazing partnership, and we are looking forward to celebrating the end of our program year with a BBQ on May 30th outside of the church. There will be many activities for the kids, and each child will receive a gift and a certificate for completing the program year!

Amy MacDonald
STAR Program Manager
Christie Lake Kids



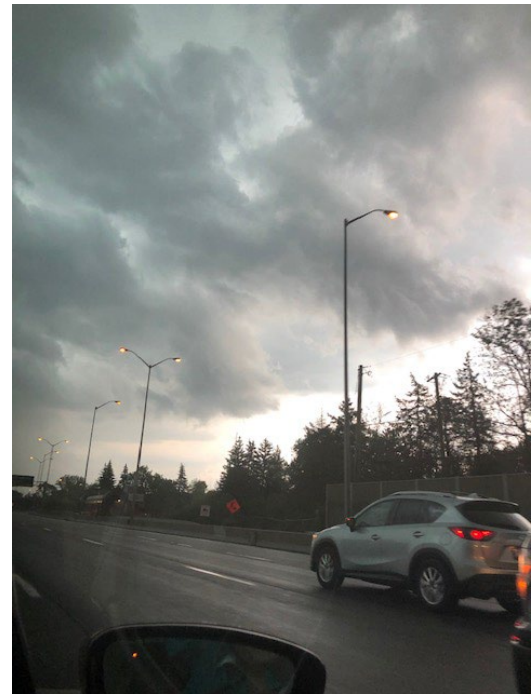
STORM STORIES: OTTAWA DERECHO STORM MAY 21

On the afternoon of Saturday May 21, and in the days that followed, we all learned a new weather term: DERECHO. Wikipedia explains this term:

A derecho is a widespread, long-lived, straight-line windstorm that is associated with a fast-moving group of severe thunderstorms known as a mesoscale convective system. Derechos can cause hurricanic or tornadic-force winds, actual tornadoes, heavy rains and flash floods.

Nationalgeographic.com says that these storms are, *primarily seen in the central and eastern United States. These unusual storms create walls of wind that streak for hundreds of miles at high speeds.*

A good number of the Emmanuel community were impacted by the Ottawa derecho which approached from western Ontario and continued on into Quebec as far east as Quebec City.



The Storm Arrives

Ed and Cathy Borza live at a seniors' residence on Metcalfe St. Their residence never lost power and it has a generator, but the wind blew off the window in their neighbour's apartment.

Russ Smith and Areta Crowell spent the storm at their cottage on Eagle Lake where they operate off the grid with solar power. So they didn't lose power and they had no damage from the wind. They decided to go back to Ottawa and there they found that the power was out in their high-rise apartment on Playfair Dr in Alta Vista. They had to climb up 14 floors by the stairs. On Sunday they climbed back downstairs and went to stay with Russell's daughter. Bob and Margaret Armstrong live in the same building as Russ and Areta. They had to climb down 11 floors by the stairs and went to stay with Margaret's sister.



Janet and Graham Campbell were at their cottage across Eagle Lake from Russ and Areta. They lost their power and had to cancel their holiday visit with their son and his family, who had to return to their home in Oakville. They returned home to Kanata where power remained on throughout the blackout.

Robert Sims lost power only briefly when it flickered in his building. Nyla Garrett never lost power in her neighbourhood which is around the corner from the church. She was receiving treatment at the Riverside Hospital when the storm hit, but the hospital generators kept things running.

Patty Henderson was out shopping when the storm hit and she had a difficult time driving back home. There were wires down on the roads, the rain was heavy and visibility was very poor. The wind had blown pylons all over the road and the traffic lights were off.

Patricia Watson who lives in Elmvale Acres lost power and a large tree came down and crashed through her roof. Her bedroom was soaked with rain. Fortunately she was able to move in with her son and his family. Jean and Frank Hodges, also in Elmvale, were storing Betsi's pies in their freezer. They managed to take them over and store them in the Emmanuel kitchen freezer, which never lost power.



Storm damage in Elmvale Acres

Dick Russell and Colleen Calvert in Riverview did not lose their power. Colleen is a volunteer for the Riverview Park Review community newspaper. The publisher had lost power, so she came over to Colleen and Dick's house to print the paper for distribution.

Sandra and Brian Copeland in Glen Cairn may have won the prize for the longest stretch without power. They only regained power on Saturday night, May 28, after 7 days. They got their internet restored on Sunday, May 29, after 8 days, but still had no television as of Tuesday May 31. There are large trees down everywhere in Bells Corners. Bell High School remained closed without power on May 31. Brian and Sandra remained at home with periodic outings to recharge their phones. They were very frustrated to be cut off from news and communication and unable to join Zoom meetings.



They didn't lose much food as they stocked the fridge with ice daily, packed the chest freezer with ice and kept it closed and covered with a heavy blanket. They used their camping pots on the BBQ to cook food and heat water for tea and coffee. Sandra has noticed that the neighbours' grass on the lawns has grown very long as most people have electric lawn mowers.

Phyllis MacRae and Richard Johnston got caught by the storm when they were driving back into Ottawa from Carleton Place on the 417. Angry black clouds came up behind them from the west, then overtook them, as the speed of the storm was faster than the speed of the traffic. Suddenly the rain lashed down, everything became dark and the road lights turned on. Traffic slowed down to a crawl and cars drove with flashers on. Visibility was immediately reduced to zero. They managed to get off the highway at Kirkwood Ave and sheltered in a nearby street until the storm passed. After 10 minutes or so they were able to drive home along Baseline and Heron to Elmvale. They passed a lot of trees down and damage to property.



Seen in Manor Park



Phyllis and Richard had no power until Tuesday night, May 24, when it came on in some streets in Elmvale. But Bill and Debbie Meek, only three streets away from Phyllis and Richard, did not have power back until Wednesday. Like many people, Phyllis and Richard managed to go through the days without power with the help of friends and neighbours. They shared meals with friends in Alta Vista who regained power on Sunday night. They stored frozen food in their friends' freezer and kept food in camping coolers with bags of ice. Having a house fueled by natural gas was a bonus and the gas stove operated for cooking and the water heater fueled by gas meant that hot showers were always available. Neighbours across the street came over to check on them, which resulted in a neighbourly visit. At night with darkness and silence all over the neighbourhood, it was very peaceful. Although by the third night in the dark, Richard was bored and missing the hockey playoffs.

As of May 31 Ottawa Hydro reported 3000 customers still without power 10 days after the storm. As it has in the past when challenges arise, the Emmanuel community stepped up to help our members and the community. Joyce White and Roxanne Delmage organized phone check-ups to more than 50 members of the Emmanuel family. Pat Harris put a notice in the Elmvale Acres Facebook group to invite members of the community to come into the church to charge their phones and devices and to have coffee in the kitchen. People without power greatly appreciated this welcome.

Phyllis MacRae



ANSWERS TO “TREES IN THE BIBLE”

1. Aloe; 2. Ash; 3. Apple; 4. Bay; 5. Cedar; 6. Chestnut; 7. Cypress; 8. Elm; 9. Fig; 10. Fir
11. Hazel; 12. Juniper; 13. Mulberry; 14. Myrtle; 15. Oak; 16. Olive; 17. Palm
18. Pomegranate; 19. Poplar; 20. Shittam; 21. Sycamore; 22. Willow

EVEN MORE HUMOUR

God is talking to one of his angels and says, “Do you know what I have just done? I have just created a 24-hour period of alternating light and darkness on Earth. Isn’t that good?”

The angel says, “Yes, but what will you do now?”

God replied “I think I’ll call it a day.”

A newly-ordained pastor, in the first days of his first call, was attempting to console the widow of an eccentric man who had just died. Standing before the open casket, the nervous young pastor said, “I realize this must be a very hard blow for you, Mrs. Svenson. Just try to remember that what we see before us is only the husk, the shell of your dear husband – the nut has gone to heaven.”

The frugal Lutheran walked into the house panting and almost completely exhausted. “What happened, honey?” inquired his wife.

“It’s a great new idea I have to be a better steward of our resources,” he gasped. “I ran all the way home from the stewardship committee meeting behind the bus and saved \$1.50.

“That wasn’t very bright,” replied his flustered wife. “Why didn’t you run behind a taxi and save \$10?”

Source: Stewardship of Life Institute. Gettysburg, PA, stewardshipoflife.org





Emmanuel United Church

691 Smyth Road
Ottawa, Ontario K1G 1N7
613.733.0437 ph
613.733.0125 fax
www.emmanuelunited.ca

Editor: Phyllis MacRae
Publisher: Jon Jones
Additional Design: Willie Selkirk
Proof reader: Richard Johnston

