



The Lowville-Nelson United Ministries CommuniPac



Nelson—11:15 am Sunday Services Lowville—9:30 am

December 11, 2011

3rd Edition, Issue 20

Dec/Jan/Feb/Mar/

From the desk of Rev. Barbara

In This Issue

“Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee!”

(VU #1)

Our Advent season is here and we are looking forward to Christmas and the birthing of Christ if any of you have ever given birth, you know it's not always comfortable nor clean. It's a messy affair, full of challenge and often struggle but it is always worth it. It brings new life among us and opens to new ways of being community.

As Christ's church, we gather to hear God's Word of hope, peace, joy and love throughout Advent, just as we will be gathering to welcome Christ at Christmas. He comes to be born again in every heart which opens to receive him.

This is always a full and rich time of worship and prayer throughout this sacred season. Our hope is that you will find the time to come and be refreshed by God's Word in worship as we all remember why we gather as God's people.

A listing of our services is in the pages which follow along with information about our work as Christ's church. That said, everyone is always invited to come, whether it's for a time of rest or a time of work. We gather to care and help each other along Christ's Way.

Christmas blessings to all,

Rev. Barbara

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Lowville Winter Carnival . . . a new date!

This year Burlington's Winter Carnival in Lowville Park will be held on January 29th. This is a change from other years when it's always been the first Sunday in February. So mark your calendars for January 29th. It's always a wonderful way to come together as a community.

If you or anyone in your family would like to take part in helping out at the Carnival, we would appreciate hearing from you. Just call the church and leave your name for helping at the barbeque or snack bar. We can always use your help with lots of appreciation!

Special points of interest:

- ♦ *Lowville worships at Mt. Nemo Nursing Home 1st Sunday of each month at 2pm. Come join us.*
- ♦ *Take part in the worship services at your church for ushering, communion or scripture reading. Contact your Worship Committee.*

**Lowville's Outreach
To Mount Nemo Nursing Home**

The Lowville United Church Choir will be Carol Singing at Mt. Nemo on Wednesday, Dec. 21st at 6:30 pm. It is a joyous time for the residents as well as the members of the choir. We will also be continuing our ministry on the 1st Sunday of every month and volunteers are always welcome to join us as we help the residents gather and help them back to their rooms afterward. We gather at the nursing home (# 2 Side Road, west of Guelph Line) on the first Sunday of each month at 1:45pm and the service begins at 2:00. If you would like to join us, you will be warmly welcomed.

Lowville-Nelson Card Nights

Euchre card night was at Lowville on Friday, December 9th at 6 pm and was a Pot Luck Supper. Everyone brought their favorite food dish to share, along with their plates, cutlery, etc. There was a good time for all with fun and conversation. Nelson card night was cancelled for December.

The \$3.00 donation that is collected at the Lowville and Nelson card nights is used to purchase all of the coffee provided at the monthly card nights, for the refreshments at the fellowship time following the church services, and also the coffee for all of the events that take place in the church throughout the year. Your attendance at these card nights is very much appreciated and we thank you for your donation.

**Don't forget to sign up for the Sunday
Refreshments!**

You need only to bring the goodies & clean up afterwards.

Used Stamps

Used stamps have raised \$14,000.00 in 2010. Stamp wholesalers pay \$7.60 per pound of trimmed stamps. The goal of the Leprosy Mission is to raise \$13,000. in 2011 which will provide cure and care for 37 leprosy patients.

Through medical treatments, education and rehabilitation, the recent gift of stamps helps restore dignity & courage to those who suffer from this dreadful disease.

I have sent a large shoe box of stamps to the Leprosy Mission from Lowville & Nelson churches. Keep up the good work everyone.
Nancy Ramshaw



DAYDREAMING OR VISIONING?

Calling the "Young-At-Heart of all Ages"

The Vision & Mission team are seeking additional members who wish to formulate a unique set of statements that express the will & direction of our combined ministries at Lowville-Nelson in the years ahead. If you enjoy looking into the future and wanting to share your perspective then we want to hear from you as soon as possible.

Please give Keith Rutherford a call at 905-335-0535 if you are interested.

PAR . . . It's not about golf!

If you've ever wondered about PAR or the little cards some people put in the plates at offering time, read on. PAR stands for pre-authorized remittance and it's how many of our faithful people support our ministries. It's so easy and painless, I'm surprised everyone isn't doing it. Just tell us how much a month . . . and we'll set it up with your bank . . . and if you are like me, you will hardly notice it's gone. It's the easiest way to give. It's the most environmentally friendly and most important of all, it helps us remain as Christ's church in this place.



Thank you to all the folks who supported our silent auction this year and a special "tip of the hat" to those Lowville United members who contributed items. This includes: Mary Campbell, Ron & Ruth Coverdale, Don Dixon, John Gnocato, Carol Haley, Geoff Ireland, Val Irwin, George McNaught, Donna Millar, Nancy Ramshaw, Deanna Rimmer, Dennis Sinclair and Shirley Williams

Sincerely,
Keith & Helen Rutherford

LOWVILLE-NELSON JOINT WORSHIP MINISTRY

Calendar of Events

2011 CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SERVICES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Wed., Dec. 14, 2011 - **Carols & Communion** - A service for seniors and shut-ins at 2:00 pm at Lowville with a tea to follow Rides are available. Contact the church at 905-335-0911.

Thurs., Dec. 15, 2011 - **Service of Memory & Hope** - For those who have experienced a loss which dampens spirits in this season of joy. Come and find comfort and peace. 7:00 pm at Lowville.

Sun., Dec. 18, 2011 - **4th Sunday of Advent** - regular Sunday time (9:30 - Lowville; 11:15 - Nelson) when we celebrate God's love of us.

Sat., Dec. 24, 2011 - **CHRISTMAS EVE** - Services at both churches! (at 7:00 pm) Come and celebrate the gift which comes this night.

Sun., Dec. 25, 2012 - **CHRISTMAS DAY** - a joint service at Nelson with fellowship at 10:30 with hot coffee, juice and raisin bread and the service at 11:15.

Sun., Jan. 1, 2012 - **NEW YEAR'S DAY** - a joint service at Lowville at 9:30 as we continue to celebrate the season of Christmas!

Sun., Jan. 8, 2012 - **EPIPHANY SUNDAY** - regular services at Lowville & Nelson, celebrating the coming of the Magi who saw the light!

Communion Services

January 8, 2012

February 5, 2012

March 4, 2012

April 8, 2012

2012 LENTEN AND EASTER SERVICES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Tues., Feb. 21, 2012 – **Shrove Tuesday** – Pancake supper at Lowville at 5 p.m.
(to be confirmed in January 2012)

Wed., Feb. 22, 2012 – **Ash Wednesday** – **JOINT** service at Nelson at 7 p.m.

Sun. Feb. 26, 2012 – **Lent 1** – Service at Lowville at 9:30 a.m.
Service at Nelson at 11:15 a.m.

Sun. Mar. 4, 2012 -- **Lent 2-** Service at Lowville at 9:30 a.m.
(Communion) Service at Nelson at 11:15 a.m.

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Worship Ministry - Calendar of Events (cont.)

Sun. Mar. 11, 2012 - **Lent 3** - Service at Lowville at 9:30 a.m.
Service at Nelson at 11:15 a.m.

Sun. Mar. 18, 2012 - **Lent 4** - Service at Lowville at 9:30 a.m.
Service at Nelson at 11:15 a.m.

Sun. Mar. 25, 2012 - **Lent 5** - Service at Lowville at 9:30 a.m.
Service at Nelson at 11:15 a.m.

Sun. Apr. 1, 2012 - **PALM/PASSION SUNDAY @ 11:15 a.m.**
JOINT SERVICE at Nelson United Church
(Lowville Closed)

Thurs. Apr. 5, 2012 - **MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE @7 p.m.**
JOINT SERVICE to be held at Lowville
(Nelson Closed)

Fri. Apr. 6, 2012 - **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE @ 11.15 a.m.**
JOINT SERVICE @ Nelson
(Lowville Closed)

Sun. Apr. 8, 2012 -- **Easter Services:**

Easter Sunrise Service at Lowville Park @ 7 a.m.
Coffee & Hot Cross buns to follow at Lowville Church

Easter Morning Service @ Lowville at 9:30 a.m.
Easter Morning Service @ Nelson at 11:15 a.m.

Please Note: Sunday, April 22, 2012 is Earth Day and a very special and uplifting service is being planned. This day is also the last Sunday for Rev. Barbara to be in the pulpit before she starts her Sabbatical.

As of Sunday, April 29th, Rev. Jessie Jansen will be leading us in services until Rev. Barbara returns on September 16, 2012.

I know you join with the worship ministry in wishing Rev. Barbara God's speed on her Sabbatical. We will hope and pray that she will find knowledge, inspiration, peace and rejuvenation during this time. Bless you and good wishes from Lowville and Nelson congregations.

Respectfully submitted by: Barbara McKeown and Katherine Ireland
Co-Chairs of Lowville-Nelson Worship Ministry

From the Chair of Nelson Council

Christmas is upon us, coming much too fast for some. We have much to be thankful for and the wonderful season of Advent to enjoy leading up to the Christmas celebration and the birth of Christ. What a wonderful season for family and friends coming together at our place of worship. Our church is beautifully decorated for the season and a thank you goes out to all who helped in the decorating.

A very special thank you to all who participated in our Christmas Bazaar this year. We were so fortunate to receive lots of baking donations again and our new crafts and white elephant tables were overflowing with treasures to be purchased. Thank you to all who participated in the bazaar. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the men and women who worked tirelessly to pick apples this fall, and participated in making the yummy apple pies and apple crisps.

I would also like to thank the Pastoral Care Ministry for providing the goodie bags for the Nelson and Lowville children. I am sure that the Christmas Pageant this year will be very well received by all who attend. Thank you to all the Sunday School children, the teachers, and especially to Rev. Barbara, Dale McKeown and Vicki Jansen for their hard work and time involved in bringing the Christmas Pageant to us again.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very happy and healthy New Year for 2012.

Respectfully submitted: Barb McKeown

Chair-Nelson Council

Teen Events at Lowville U.C.

With the goal of having teens involved in the life of the church while having fun, we hosted our first 'Teen Event' on Sun., Nov. 20th with six teens attending. Kevin Jolly and Jennifer Kaster led them in group building and fun. A second 'Youth Eventz' took place on Saturday, December 10th at a service of Calvary United Church in St. Jacob's with hundreds of other teens from churches all over Ontario.

Watch for the next Lowville Event being planned for February, 2012!

Nelson United Board of Trustees

Our annual meeting was held on November 30, 2011. Our financial advisor presented our portfolio and his recommendations for the coming year.

Business relating to the church such as insurance, water safety, maintenance, and major repairs were presented and discussed.

The Lamb estate trust was introduced and future plans for it were discussed. The next meeting will be held in the fall of 2012 notwithstanding any emergencies for an earlier meeting.

Bill Vivian, Chair

Fall & Christmas Craft & Bake Sale

The 2011 Craft & Bake Sale was the most successful of all our sales so far. We had a full Quorum of really exceptional crafters with some great products; Keith & Helen did a wonderful job of getting high-end products for the Silent Auction and setting up the auction so well.

We are so pleased and thankful to the women of the UCW for taking on the baking, the bake table, and the Tea Room. This has taken such a load off our shoulders that we just cannot thank them enough and they have brought success back to this part of our sale.

Our total figure for this year's sale was in excess of \$5,000.00 and we owe our gratitude to all who helped.

Marilyn & Owen, Ways & Means Ministry

From the Chair of Lowville Council

I have been in the position of chair for just a few months now, leading two council meetings and soon a joint meeting. I am pleased to say that we now have a small group of volunteers that will be helping us to plan our New Mission and Visioning Statement in the New Year, and that it will soon be in place at each of our upcoming Council meetings for both Lowville and Nelson.

Our budget meeting has been held, and while we know we are facing challenges, we ask you to keep your council in your prayers. The joint Christmas Pageant has been presented and everyone will be busy with their shopping for gifts, preparing their baked goodies for the special visits and making plans for their special dinner together.

In this time of gladness, I would ask that everyone, young or old, take a moment to reflect on the less fortunate, the sick and homeless and say a prayer for them, that they too will find Peace and Happiness and that God will keep them safely in his care.

As the year 2011 is gradually coming to a close, I would like to take this time to express my sincerest best wishes to everyone for a very beautiful holiday time with family and friends. May your every wish come true and I pray that you will be blessed with good health and happiness in the coming New Year 2012.

My sincerest Blessings.....Marilyn Fox
Chair of Lowville Church Council

**Hope is not just one single quality or promise.
Hope has to do with believing beyond today-
Knowing there's a Garden of Beauty that awaits us.** Joyce Rupp, Author

Why I am a Christian by Marcus Borg Submitted by Barbara Wiley

The Christian tradition is familiar, it is "home" for me.
I was born into it and grew up in it,
It's stories, language, music, and ethos are familiar.
It nurtured me.

I have grown to appreciate it's extraordinary richness;
It's antiquity and wisdom;
The beauty of it's language and music and forms of worship;
It's passion for compassion and justice;
The sheer goodness of it's most remarkable lives.

It's worship nourishes me;
It's hymns move me;
It's scripture and theology engage my imagination and thought;
It's practices shape me.

For me, it meditates the good, the true, and the beautiful;
And through all these, it meditates the sacred.
It is, for me, a sacrament of the sacred.
And it is home.

It is familiar to me in a way no other religion could ever become.
Had I been born a Buddhist, Muslim or Jew, I am quite sure I would still be one.
But for me, Christianity is "home" like no other tradition could be.
For me, the ethos of Christianity— it's vision and way of life,
It's scripture, worship, language, music, thought, vision, and so forth— is home. Home is about more than familiarity and comfort.
Home is also about growing up, about maturation, about learning and living a way of life that one takes into the larger world.
Christianity is a way of life; that is it's heart.
To be Christian means living "the path" within this tradition.
At the heart of Christianity is the way of the heart— a path that transforms us at the deepest level of our being.
At the heart of Christianity is the heart of God— a passion for our transformation and the transformation of the world. At the heart of Christianity is participating in the passion of God.

Lowville - Nelson Notes

Food Banks are in urgent need of your help. Gifts of non-perishable food items or cheque donations will help get them through this lean period.

Pop Can Tabs are being collected at both Lowville & Nelson Churches for a worthwhile charity. Look for the large jar with the 'Tabs' label. For further information, contact Norma Copeland at Lowville or Joan Hunt at Nelson.

Save your Campbell Soup Labels. The front of the label & the bar code must remain intact. Deposit them in the CE room of Nelson or the Zimmerman Room of Lowville.

Save used stamps for Leprosy. There is a container in the CE room of Nelson or the Zimmerman Room of Lowville. These stamps are sold to stamp collectors and the funds turned over to the Leprosy organization as an outreach mission.

Mission & Outreach is calling those with a heart for outreach to contact Bev at bbalch@cogeco.ca at Lowville or Bev at bevrygreer@yahoo.ca at Nelson.

Scripture Readers are required each week at Lowville and Nelson. There is a sign-up sheet at Nelson. Those at Lowville, please speak with Ruth Coverdale.

Refreshments are required each week for fellowship after service on Sunday. Sign-up sheets are available in both churches if you would like to provide your favorite tidbits or creations for the congregation. Bring milk & cream for the coffee and juice for the children or others not wanting hot beverage. Don't forget to prepare and turn on the coffee urn. Training is always available.

Ushers are required each week at the Sunday Service. Contact the Worship Ministry to find out how you can help in this way. Get to greet your friends and neighbors on their way in to service and assist in taking up the collection during the service.

Work Bee - Lowville United has a work bee on the third Tuesday of each month at 9 am. If you are interested in taking part in keeping the church in proper repair, come and join others for fun and conversation. If you know of something in the church needing repair, fill out a card at the thermostat.

Multi-Faith - What About Different Religions?

When You Were growing up, a different religion might have meant the Catholic family down the street. Now, some parts of Canada are so richly diverse that believers from half a dozen of the world's major religions go off to work each morning on the same city bus. We're more aware than ever that the friends and colleagues we rub shoulders with each day may celebrate various holidays and worship in a mosque, temple, or synagogue.

Ways to God: The United Church of Canada views the religious practice of all people of goodwill with respect and gratitude. We believe the Spirit of God is at work in many different faith communities.

Centrality of Jesus: For Christians, Jesus is the way we know God. Our understanding is nonetheless limited by human imagination. God is greater still and works in our world by a mysterious Spirit that knows no distinction at the doorway of a Christian chapel, Buddhist, Hindu, or Sikh temple, Aboriginal sweat lodge, Muslim mosque, or Jewish synagogue. It's the same spirit working uniquely and creatively in the life of all peoples to draw us closer to God.

Changing Times: For a good part of the last century, we thought we needed to convert people of different religions

throughout the world. The United Church is now participating in respectful conversation with diverse people. We work together with other Christian churches whenever possible, and among people of other religions in Canada and throughout the world on matters of justice, peace, and human dignity.

Today, Diversity is everywhere around us and, we believe, a great cause for celebration.

A part of the series

The United Church of Canada

Welcomes You

The above was taken from one of the brochures in the box at the entrance to the Zimmerman Room at the Lowville United Church and also at the front entrance of the Nelson United Church.

This brochure is called 'Multi-Faith'. There are many more brochures in the church to choose from. Please help yourself to any that you would like to have for your own information, needs or enjoyment.

United Church of Canada

Governance of the United Church of Canada

The United Church is divided into four levels of governance or “courts”.

Pastoral Charge—Lowville Nelson United Ministries

The United Church of Canada consists of 3362 Pastoral Charges within Canada.

The pastoral charge is responsible for

- Day-today operations
- All church staff
- Fund raising
- Building maintenance
- Christian development and education

Presbytery—Halton Presbytery

Each pastoral charge belongs to one of 85 Presbyteries within the United Church. Each Presbytery is a collection of 35-60 pastoral charges.

Presbytery is responsible for

- Care and oversight of the Pastoral Charges within it.
- To assist a pastoral charge in assessing ministerial needs and in the search for a new minister.
- Mission Support (i.e Mississauga Chinese Community) and paying our Mission Development Officer's salary.

Conference—Hamilton Conference

Presbyteries are gathered into one of 13 Conferences.

Conference is responsible for the

- Training and education of candidates for ministry.
- overall church mission strategy.
- electing commissioners to attend General Councils,

General Council

This is the church's highest legislative court. Every three years, ministers and lay commissioners who have been elected by the conference meet to set church policy and choose a new Moderator.

An executive and sub executive govern between meetings of the council.

(Cont,)

United Church of Canada (Cont.)

Church Support

To support the church, yearly dues are assessed each pastoral charge. These dues are based on 50 % of {a) Supporting households, plus b) Average Sunday attendance, minus c) children under 12}.

These dues are used to support the church at the Presbytery, Conference and General Council levels.

Proposed dues for 2012 are \$62.50 per count per year (see above formula), totalling \$3334 yearly for Lowville and \$2318 yearly for Nelson.

Submitted by: Shirley Bottaro, Presbytery Rep-Nelson
Keith Rutherford, Presbytery Rep-Lowville

A Minister's Sabbatical

Many of you may have heard that 2012 is the year Rev. Barbara will be taking her sabbatical. This is both a requirement and benefit for all clergy within the United Church and we are grateful to support her in this journey.

This sabbatical time is intended to be a time of rest, renewal and refreshment. It is hoped that all clergy will take this time to reconnect with God, their families and their faith.

Rev. Barbara has already been busy with studies around Christian mystics in the 14th century in England. They are men and women who deepened their faith through intense prayer at a time when the world was in crisis. It was a century when 3 different plagues took almost ½ of the population of England. It was a time when death was more common than life and poverty was running rampant. There also became an ever-widening separation between the rich and the poor which led to peasant revolts and the execution of any who dared to cry out. This was a time which, in many ways, reflects the same issues we face today. Yet, it was also a time when some of the most inspired Christian writers emerged.

Julian of Norwich was one of these mystics who still inspires people today with her writings and her faith. There was the anonymous author of "The Cloud of Unknowing" to whom people still turn as a guide for their spiritual journeys of faith. And there are others who may be less known today but whose lives and writings during that very hard century brought a strength of faith which still resonates in hearts today.

Rev. Barbara's time away will be spent in prayer, praise and poetry. She will be actively seeking the Spirit's guidance for us all, seeking new ideas for worship and writing about her journey.

While she is away, Rev. Jessie will be filling in her place here and we are very grateful. This time will also be our time to re-energize ourselves through prayer and praise. We are being asked to support Rev. Barbara through this time with our prayers for discernment as we seek God's will for Christ's church here, together.

And even though we will be worshipping apart, we will continue to praise God who leads us all into the light of the new day coming.

May God's blessings shine among us.

Nelson Pastoral Care

With the coming of Christmas season, our ministry will be very active. The recent health problems of Eileen and Marion are in our foremost thoughts and our prayers go out to them. The children's Christmas party and the White Gift services will keep us very involved with our missions responsibilities. We would like to extend a very joyous Christmas and blessings to all in the New Year.
Doreen Vivian

Lowville United Library

Many may not realize it but the Lowville United Church has a Library situated in the corner of the Zimmerman Room. The books there, have been there for some time and are not being browsed any longer. The Library may only need refreshing with other or newer books. Let's look at our books at home and decide which ones would like a new home. Some sorting may be required.

Examining the Gifts of Each Day . . .

Starting Wednesday nights (7:00 pm) Jan. 25th at Nelson

As I prepare for my sabbatical this coming spring, I know I will not make this journey alone. Each one of you will be in my heart and in my prayers as I walk through those days, just as you are in my heart and my prayers in these days leading up to that time.

All of us have been called to live in an amazing relationship with God and author Kathleen Casey has written a book I'd like to share with you, titled "Sabbath Presence - Appreciating the Gifts of Each Day".

Beginning on January 25th at 7:00 pm at Nelson, I'm wanting to gather, for a 12-week study, all who are willing to explore this theme and the spiritual practice of emptying ourselves to discover ourselves at deeper levels.

Please RSVP! I need to make sure I have enough books for the first night! If you aren't sure, come for the first night, experience the introduction and then decide...It will be a journey in faith and of faith, deepening our personal relationships with God who is creator, Christ and Spirit!

*Blessings,
Rev. Barbara*

Nelson Finance Ministry

To the end of November, the revenues of Nelson United Church has \$54,243. with expenses of \$51,395, for a total gain of \$2,847.

As we head into the very busy Advent season, we hope that increased attendance and the generosity of everyone will help to further increase our revenues to cover the added costs that the winter season brings.

Also please remember that Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) is a perfect option to make sure that your monthly givings are always made to the church even if you are unable to attend services and the amount can be adjusted at any time if needed.

The finance committee will be meeting soon to go over the budget for 2012 and if there are any items that you feel need to be considered, please contact myself or any member of the committee.

Thank you all for your contributions throughout 2011!

Sandy McKeown,
Chair, Finance Committee

Lowville Delivery

Help! Help! Help!

Flyers are ready to be delivered in your area, telling people about our Christmas Eve Service.

This delivery is very important to our efforts to cut advertising costs.

If you can help deliver some in your area, please let Katherine Ireland know.

All volunteers will be appreciated.

Thanks from your Worship Ministry

**Even to your old age
I am he
I have made and I will bear
Even will I carry,
And will deliver you.**

Isaiah 46.4

Lowville Budget Meeting

On Dec. 4th, following our worship service, we held our annual budget meeting. The news was challenging. We are using our savings at an alarming rate and, if we continue down this path, we will run out by the end of next year. Needless to say, discussion ensued and it was decided that each ministry should revisit their budgets to look for cost-savings. With that decision, the budget was not accepted and will return to the congregation for approval at our Annual Meeting on February 19th following the service.

Beyond cost savings within each ministry, there were other ideas that your Council has been pursuing. The manse has become a drain on our finances since our tenants left abruptly. Bills continue and there haven't been any people interested in renting it. The trustees are continuing to try and pursue the possibility of severing the property from our church property but it has been impossible with the Niagara Escarpment Commission blocking the request.

Of course the most obvious way to mitigate our circumstances would be to increase our congregation's size which is always one of our prayers.

Lastly, there is the possibility of a successful stewardship campaign. However that always takes time and effort with people needed to supply both. We are blessed with Keith Rutherford who has volunteered to take on the task of co-ordinating such a campaign.

The church survives only by donations... What we give, is what we have. If you are able to give more, it will always be gratefully received but, beyond extending our givings, we also ask that you keep your Council in your prayers throughout these challenging times.

Stewardship - tending to the gifts we have and the gifts we can offer.

Stewardship is a church term. It defines what we do with the resources we have. As a church, it's about caring for creation. It's about giving a voice for justice. It's about nurturing souls. It's about sharing God's stories so that they will be known from generation to generation. It's about caring for Christ's church so that it will always be here for others.

We've been blessed with the gifts of all people who have gone before us. They were the pioneers in this area who invested heavily in our buildings and in this ministry of being church for others in North Burlington.

In this season of Christmas, as we celebrate the greatest gift we've ever received through the birth of the Christ child, let us do our best to carry on this rich tradition and message, so those who have not yet heard, can come to know how much God loves them.

If we are open to the gifts of understanding, hope and faith in others and in God, the spirit of Christmas can help make real the way we want to live our lives.

Carolyn Kennedy, Author

When we are weak, we can still be strong. When we're under the greatest stress and facing the greatest challenges, it may be the best day of our lives, for God is working to make us into the people he wants us to be.

Casey Treat, Author

The question is not 'Can you make a difference?' You already do make a difference. It's just a matter of what kind of difference you want to make during your life on this planet.

Julia Butterfly Hill, Environmentalist

Lowville United Church
5800 Guelph Line
Burlington, Ontario L7P 0A7
(Guelph Line at Britannia Rd)

Phone: 905-335-0911
Fax: 905-335-4134
lowville-nelsonum@rogers.com
www.lowville-nelson.ca

Nelson United Church
2347 Dundas Street West
Burlington, Ontario L7R 3X4
Phone 905-335-9394
Lowville-nelsonum@rogers.com
www.lowville-nelson.ca

Giving to others is the
greatest gift that you can
give yourself!

Darren Hardy

Give your Communipac to a friend
or neighbor when you're finished
with it. It's good recycling!

The Lowville-Nelson United Ministries
COMMUNIPAC
Newsletter

TO:

**Even when you are striving, stumbling
and struggling, it's exhilarating if you
sense that you are growing!**

Brenda Poinsett, Author

Give Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)
because church is one of your priorities!

Lowville - Bonnie 905-878-6062
Nelson - Bill 905-332-8885

Business Card Advertising

If anyone is interested in having their business card
placed into the COMMUNIPAC as per the previous
issues, please contact Bonnie Fay at 905-335-0911.
The cost is \$10.00 per issue.

May God grant you a sunbeam, a moon-
beam, a sheltering angel, laughter,
faithful friends, and whenever you pray,
Heaven to hear you.

Jane Seymour, Author

Newsletter Publishing - 2012

Article Deadlines	Delivery Dates	Covering:	Topics
Mar. 1st	Sunday, Mar. 11th	April to June	(Holy Week to end of June)
June 1st	Sunday, June 17th	July to September	(Summer Events & Sept. Start-up)
Sept. 1st	Sunday, Sept. 9th	October to November	(Fall season to December)
Nov. 21st	Sunday, Dec. 2nd	December to March	(Christmas Pageant to Lent)