
ROXBORO REVELATIONS

Volume 79

Editors Lynda Scardocchio and Cynthia Snow

Spring 2024

MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER



Dear Friends,
Our theme for Lent and Easter this year is self-care. This is not the usual type of theme for a time of introspection and confession. Lent is the time of wandering

through the wilderness, facing temptation. It is also a time of giving up things that we deem important to us, a time of fasting. This is usually for the care of the soul, lest we find ourselves in disfavor with God, and open to God's wrath. However, this is not the character I have come to associate with God. For me God is neither jealous nor vengeful, but full of mercy and compassion. God wants us to take care of ourselves, for God made us and wants the best for us. We could never be found in disfavor with God. This is not to say that God is not at times disappointed in our actions or inactions. Self-care is about recognizing the sacredness at the heart of our lives and allowing that to flow out through us.

Throughout this season of self-care, I continue to offer the Monday to Thursday 9am Celtic Meditation time on Facebook live, with a focus through the month of March on women in celebration of Women's History Month. We are bringing back the Maundy Thursday worship and Potluck on Thursday, March 28 at 6:30pm. This year Ste. Genevieve is hosting the Good Friday service at 10:30am. A light reception will follow in the gym.

On Easter Sunday we will hold a "Sunrise Service" at 8:30 in the Sanctuary and then move into the gym for our annual Easter breakfast. At 10:30 we will have our regular

Easter worship with communion in the Sanctuary. Tickets for breakfast are now on sale. are available until Tuesday, March 26th and are \$10.

I wish you all a happy Easter,
Peace and love in Christ.

Rev. Darryl Macdonald

Worship Schedule

Sunday, March 24 10:30am Palm Sunday worship in person and on Facebook Live. Fellowship time in the gym following worship.

Celtic Meditation Monday to Thursday 9am on Facebook Live.

Thursday, March 28, Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm and potluck in the Parlour.

Friday, March 29 10:30am Good Friday Service at Ste. Genevieve United, 4697 Boul. St-Jean, DDO.

Sunday, March 31 8:30am Easter Sunrise Service in the sanctuary. 9am Breakfast in the gym.

Easter Worship with Communion in person 10:30 am and on Facebook Live.

All links will be sent out via email and available on our church website: www.roxborounitedchurch.org.



MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNCIL

If you are like me, you are anxiously awaiting the longer days, I am very thankful that for the most part the winter has been relatively mild.

Over the last number of months, we took part in a couple of community outreach projects. We participated in a sock collection to provide much needed socks to be given to Montreal's homeless. Our congregation collected approximately 110 pairs of socks. Thank you for your generosity.

We also collected books for a book drive. This is to provide books for local children aged 2-12 and distributed through On Rock. Over 8 boxes of books, approx. 200, were collected. And according to On Rock "the books we got were so amazing! The clients are loving them."

We joined with Cedar Park United for a Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday. In addition to the RUC members who came for the pancakes and fellowship, we had several RUC members there to help with the set-up, cooking and clean up.

We are planning on doing an event at RUC with the West Island and Riverside United Cluster (WIRUC) in the spring, so stay tuned for more info on that.

By the time you are reading this it will almost be Easter. You can keep up to date on all the activities, Easter and otherwise, on our website. If you do not have access to the website, please leave a message on the church office telephone line 514-685-4956 and we will make sure that you get a call back with the info.

Take care,
Janet St-Pierre
Roxboro United Church Council Chair

MESSAGE FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Greetings Fellow RUCers,

Hope this note finds you all well. Winter is almost over – Hallelujah!

Our finances are doing well so far this year. What helps is the lack of cold weather (heating bills) and the absence of an Office Administrator and Organist (salaries).

But let us not get too cocky – without our renters, we would be deeply in debt and looking at a very dismal future. You can verify this yourself if you check the Annual Report, reduce the Income by the rental amount and compare that to our expenses.

All this to say, please look at your annual donation and determine if you can increase your giving's by at least \$5.00 per month. I know that times are tough, and our money is not going as far as it used to – I just ask that you give this idea some consideration. Like a lot of you, I consider RUC my 'home away from home' and don't want it to fail.

How's that for a gloom and doom picture? However, I must tell you that my job description tells me to shake up the congregation when I get a chance, so, in my defense, I'm just doing my job.

Have a great day all.

Bev Baker
Treasurer - RUC



MESSAGE FROM SPECIAL EVENTS

Upcoming events:

Easter Breakfast. We will have our traditional Easter Breakfast following the early Easter Morning service. Scrambled eggs, sausages, assorted breads, coffee/tea, and juice \$10.00/person service starting at 8:30am. Tickets must be purchased in advance by Tuesday March 26th. Proceeds from the breakfast will be shared with Le Fonds d'Aide de l'Ouest-de-l'île.

Celtic Night We are also planning on having a Celtic Night in the spring. It will be an evening of rousing music and fun. More details to follow.

Hope to see you at both of these events,
Janet St-Pierre, Special Events Chair



- Did you know that Terry Wong wrote a research paper on narcissistic behavior. The reader learns how to identify a narcissist, explains their motives, and then teaches us how to handle these situations. It is a very interesting read. Please reach out to Terry for a copy via email at helmalee5@gmail.com or for a printed copy.



UCW NEWS



Hello Everyone,

I would like to begin by thanking all the ladies who came out Sunday, February 4th, 2024, to celebrate self-love and self-care. Twenty-eight ladies came for lunch, fellowship, and sweets.

The UCW will be hosting a fundraiser for On Rock Community on Sunday, March 24th, 2024. Please bring nonperishable food items and personal hygiene items to the church service. Please consider a cash donation, as \$1 yields \$15 of groceries they can purchase from their wholesalers. This does not replace the 3rd Food Sunday of the month on March 16th for Fonds d'Aide. This is a one-time event.

The UCW is holding a **Spring Fundraiser Card Game Event on Monday, May 6th, 2024, at 1 p.m.** Tickets are \$15 each which will include dessert. Please see Paula Walsh for more information.

Reserve the date, as our next fellowship get together will be held on **Sunday, April 21st, 2024**, at 11:45 a.m. Please bring a bagged lunch. The program is on, "Is your Glass half-full or half-empty?"

Blessings,
Cindy Snow, President, UCW





Your Roving Reporter Stays Still to Think

Greetings fellow Christian earthlings! Your Roving Reporter here, just flying in with another amazing story!

Once upon a time there was a place called On Rock that was created to help the community. One day they decided that one way to help, and would be doable, would be to have a bag lunch available for street people once a week. Sandwiches and juice and snacks would be good. They just had to find a way to come up with the lunch; they knew saying abracadabra was not going to work.

One day a lady from a nearby church heard about the problem and didn't just ignore it and didn't just keep walking. Instead, she said, "I will make two loaves of sandwiches for you every week." "Thank you and thank God!" they said happily.

God was glad the lady hadn't ignored the problem, and from then on made sure that she heard about problems like that when they came up. It turned out there were a lot more needs like that. In fact, it wasn't long before the lady turned into a sandwich making tornado! There were three schools where some children needed lunches; the lady quickly got busy making five more loaves of sandwiches every week, and some of her friends did too. They made a couple of loaves and baked goods or went shopping for juice. The kids all got a good lunch.

As if the lady wasn't making enough sandwiches already, one day just when she was finishing buttering a piece of bread, a friend told her about how the homeless center not far away really needed sandwiches too. You might have thought she would think, well

I already make a lot of sandwiches. Instead, she thought, thank God I'm strong and well enough to make a bunch more sandwiches! So, she busily began making five more loaves every week, and her friend was able to make two.

So, who was this Unstoppable Sandwich Supplying Star??!! –

The lady's name is **Claudia Rourke-Frew!** -someone you may see sitting in your midst at Roxboro United just about every week.



MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDITORS

Hello everyone, we are almost at the end of winter while Spring is just around the corner. There are going to be some events to participate in within the next couple of months. We are planning for Easter, a Maundy Thursday potluck, a Good Friday Service at St. Genevieve United Church, an Easter breakfast along with our Easter morning service. There will be card games in May. Details to follow in the newsletter. Happy Easter to all.

Your Editors, Lynda Scardocchio and Cindy Snow

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Kindness in words creates confidence,
Kindness in thinking creates profoundness,
Kindness in giving creates **LOVE**.

Written by Lao Tzu
Submitted by Claudia Rourke-Frew

Nobody hides the pain better than a mother
who's trying to remain strong for her children.

Religions do not divide people.
It is people who divide people.

My computer beat me at checkers,
but I sure beat it at kickboxing.

Your future needs you. Your past doesn't.

If outside validation is your only source of
nourishment, you will be hungry for the rest
of your life.

Be a good person,
but don't waste your time proving it.

Your greatest barriers to success are your
bed, your television, and the pub down the
street.

You will never really see how toxic someone
is until you breathe fresher air.

When writing the story of your life,
don't let anyone else hold the pen.

Allow yourself to be a beginner.
No one starts off being excellent.

Fake friends believe in rumors.
Real friends believe in you.

Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow.
Don't walk behind me: I may not lead.
Walk beside me, just be my friend.

Submitted by Terry Wong



Remember, there is a deeper strength and an
amazing abundance of peace available to
you. Draw from the well; call on your faith to
uphold you. You will make it through the
tough times and find joy in life again. Be
strong and don't give up.

Written by Pamela Owens Renfro
Submitted by Bev Baker



Live EVERY MOMENT,
Laugh EVERY DAY,
Love BEYOND WORDS.

My Coffee

I visited Matthew, the owner of Lucy's Flour Shop, a little while back. As I nibbled on an enormous chocolate chip cookie, I began to tell him a story.

A few weeks back on a bitterly cold December evening, there was a visitation at the funeral home across the street from his bakery. The people, bundled up in coats, scarves, and blankets, were lined up around the building waiting to hug the family of the deceased. Seemingly out of nowhere, a man showed up and began giving away hot coffee to the people outside. People who entered the funeral home with coffee in their hands whispered of a mysterious man handing out free coffee, and how much they appreciated it.

I looked at Matthew and said, "I have a suspicion that you were the man. Is that right?"

Matthew very humbly replied, "Yes. I felt so bad for them and wanted to do something, but all I could do was make coffee, so I made coffee."

I responded that he blessed so many people that might by helping them warm up and by showing there is good in the world. He added a positive note to a devastating situation.

I paused, then added, "That visitation was for my sixteen-year-old son. Thank you for being so kind."

That conversation had stuck in my head since then. "All I could do was make coffee, so I made coffee."

Somedays, I'm burdened with the reality that I can't do everything to help everybody. I truly do want to make a difference in peoples' lives and change the world. I dream big, but I can't do it all. Matthew's words came back to me recently, "All I could do was make coffee, so I made coffee." I repeatedly asked myself, "What is my 'coffee' in this situation?" I can't do everything, but I can do something, so I figured out how to do it and I did it.

None of us can do it all, but we can all do something, and if we do, we can make a difference in the world. I challenge you to ask yourself often, "What is my coffee?", and then go make your coffee.

Written by Pam Kearney, Dawson County.
Submitted by Janet St-Pierre

