



## St. Paul's Weekly Update – August 4, 2023

### Worship – Music Sunday

**WELCOME** to Pat File, our guest preacher this Sunday and to Amanda Clarke, our guest pianist who is filling in for Victoria.

**Worship with us in person** at 10:00 a.m. or on-line. Click on the link below to go directly to the service, or visit our website at [www.stpaulsmidland.org](http://www.stpaulsmidland.org)



Sunday  
Aug. 6/23  
St. Paul's  
Worship  
Service  
Midland, On

<https://youtube.com/live/UvvLQgDlr0o?feature=share>

Please note that **in Karen's absence** until August 14th, the **Rev. Lois Brown** from Unity United Church in Vasey has agreed to cover for pastoral emergencies and funerals. She can be contacted at (705) 816-2570 or by e-mail at [loisebrown@hotmail.com](mailto:loisebrown@hotmail.com)

### Summer Office hours



For the week of August 6<sup>th</sup>, Jane will be working in the office on Wednesday and Thursday morning from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The following week, we will revert to regular hours with Jane working in the office on Tuesdays and Thursday mornings and Louise in the office on Wednesday mornings. The balance of the time Louise will be working from home. You can reach her on her home number at 705-526-1640 or by e-mail at [stpaulsunited@rogers.com](mailto:stpaulsunited@rogers.com).

**Please note that Louise works Wednesdays and Thursdays only until after Labour Day.**

### In-Person Coffee Hour

Our next in-person coffee hour is **this Sunday, August 6th.**

**Please note** that Joan Lavin is Captain of the Greeters for the month of August, and Sheila's team will be hosting Social Hour this Sunday.



**UCW's** annual Garage Sale will be on **September 16th.** Please set aside any items in your home that you no longer need or want and we will pass them on for someone else to enjoy, while raising needed funds for our work. Please note that we cannot accept large items of furniture, baby furnishings, sports equipment or pet accessories. If you have any questions, Zena can be reached by phone at (705) 527-6789 or by email at [zenapendlebury@gmail.com](mailto:zenapendlebury@gmail.com)



## **This Week's Minute for Mission**

United Churches are so well placed to support refugee families.

**GOD'S MISSION**  
**OUR GIFTS**

Helping a newcomer transition into Canada is a life-changing experience for everyone involved. From helping someone access health services, to sourcing Halloween costumes, to registering children for school and camp, every little bit helps.

Donna Nelson is no stranger to the hard and rewarding work that comes with welcoming someone to Canada. In the late 1980s, she had recently become a member of The United Church of Canada when her friend Barb

asked her to help host two young Vietnamese men through the Regina Open Door Society. "That was all it took to get me hooked," Donna shares.

At the time, she was a single parent to her four-year-old daughter Vicki. Together, they celebrated birthdays with their new friends, shared meals, visited tourist attractions, and enjoyed good friendship until the men moved to another province.

Since then, Donna has helped host refugees from countries like Ethiopia, Eritrea, Iraq, Iran, and Vietnam. Vicki and some newcomers learned Canadian geography together so the newcomers could pass the citizenship test. Donna even taught some newcomers to drive! At times life got busy, but Donna found herself called back to helping families.

Currently, Donna is actively involved with the refugee committee at Knox-Metropolitan United Church in Regina. She says, "The refugee ministry at Knox-Met is one of the most tangible and urgent ministries of welcome the congregation offers. We all benefit with the richness newcomers offer to our city and this community."

"United Churches are so well placed to support refugee families. We have both financial and community connections. It is a collaborative relationship. Local congregations welcome families and provide the financial backing and the national church helps with the bureaucracy. I am grateful to The United Church of Canada and [Mission and Service](#) for the support over the years."

Your gifts to [Mission and Service](#) create opportunities for refugee families and church communities to work as partners. Thank you for your generosity.

## **Blessings everyone,**

Louise Therrien, Church Administrator, (Wednesday and Thursday) **705-526-1640**

e-mail [stpaulsunited@rogers.com](mailto:stpaulsunited@rogers.com)

Louise works at the church office from 8:30 a.m. to noon on **Thursdays only**.