



# MCCLURE UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## OCTOBER 2022

### What's inside?

1. Faith Story- Carol Claypool
2. With Sympathy. Baptisms
3. Celebrations
3. Fall Youth Retreat
- 4-6. Staying Connected
8. McClure Place Residents
9. Back Page

### Finding Joy in your life – *My Faith Story* by Carol Claypool

I am writing this in response to Debra's request in the June newsletter which was to challenge us to share our faith story. I will attempt to give you an insight into my story.

During the most difficult time of Covid a lot of us were alone with our thoughts and it came to be a time of introspection for me and perhaps you as well. As I age, I also have taken time to reflect on what is important to me. This self-analysis has caused me to realize that for my remaining years on this earth I want to have joy in my life as much as possible and therefore I have made a conscious decision to do, as much as possible, only those things that bring me joy.

For me Joy has always been something that comes from spending time with my family and friends and in doing service to others. I realize that we cannot rely on others to bring us joy. We must find it within ourselves. We must find something in our lives that makes us joyful.

Wayne and I had always been volunteers in the church, community, and Rotary. We truly believed that service to others was the rent that we paid to live in this world. I can honestly say that most volunteering we have done has brought us joy and we hoped that in giving our time to others that we could bring them some joy as well.

Although I do many different volunteer jobs, the three main positions I participate in right now are Meals on Wheels delivery, volunteering in the church office and Amy's Breakfast.

Meals on Wheels delivery has always been a labor of love for me. It requires so little of my time but gives me back so much pleasure. In delivering a meal to a shut-in I feel that I not only bring them the nourishment that they require, but also that for some I am the only person that they may see or talk to that day. It is always sad for me when a client is no longer receiving meals as I miss them and wonder what is happening in their lives. I do become attached to them.

Working in the church office also brings me joy. Not only can I use the talents that I have been trained for, but I also have an opportunity to interact with the office staff, ministerial staff and those visitors who come into the office. It brings me joy to be able to do these things and make a small difference.

Recently I have taken on the responsibility of organizing the volunteers that serve breakfast at Amy McClure. This is a service that I and the other volunteers can do for the Residents. They give back to us with their smiling faces, continuing gratitude and sharing of the things in their lives that are important to them. As Debra says once you start hanging out with the wise and good residents of Amy's you will be hooked. I am hooked.

I hope that I have taken the right path in my faith journey and I hope that I have inspired you to share your time and talents with others as well. (continued on next page)

## Finding Joy in your life – My Faith Story by Carol Claypool (continued)

I can honestly say that I reap more than I sow from my service. What Joy I have in my soul. My wish for you is that you may also find Joy in your life!

I leave you with the following reflection from:

The Soul Journey with Sarah Moussa written by Donna Ashworth.

*Joy does not arrive with fanfare,  
On a red carpet strewn with the flowers of a perfect life.  
Joy sneaks in, as you pour a cup of coffee,  
watching the sun hit your favorite tree, just right.*

*And you usher joy away  
Because you are, not ready for it.  
Your house is not as it must be.  
For such a distinguished guest.*

*But joy cares nothing for your messy home,  
Or your bank-balance,  
Or your waistline, you see.*

*Joy is supposed to slither through the cracks of your imperfect life,  
That is how joy works.*

*You cannot invite her in, you can only be ready when she appears.  
And hug her with meaning,  
Because in this very moment,  
Joy chose you.*

{Thank you, Carol, for sharing your story and I welcome others to do the same.  
The deadline for the November newsletter is October 23}

## OUR SINCERE SYMPATHIES

Holding you gently in prayer...

All who have experienced grief & loss in its many forms.



## CELEBRATIONS

### BAPTISM:

September 18, 2022 Callum Finn McCulloch son of Jesse Dane McCulloch and Cailey Jo-Lyn Muirhead Nicole



# ORDINATION

CONGRATULATIONS Rev. Aurora and Rev. Kent



Lynn Bayne photographer

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Aurora Espenant and Kent Mohn were ordained at St. Andrew's United Church in Outlook, Sk. McClure congratulates you both and know that your ministry will be a blessing to the Community of Faith you serve.

### Youth and Young Adult

It is hard to know what shape our McClure youth and young adult groups will take this year. There is conversation amongst Saskatoon United Churches about the wisdom of hiring a Youth Minister for the whole of the city. We are part of the conversation that is just beginning. As things are sorted out, our intention at McClure is to have some special events just for our youth and for our young adults. Stay tuned for more information and please if you have any thoughts or ideas, please send them along to the Faith Development committee via the office email.

## FALL YOUTH RETREAT

Gather with other amazing youth and explore your faith in a fun and new way!

Grades 7-12  
October 28-30  
St. Martin's United Church,  
Saskatoon

### QUILT GROUP

The quilt group meets Thursday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30 in the craft room. Our quilts are donated to **Amy McClure House** and hung in the dining room for sound control. New members are welcome. Bring your sewing machine. For more information call Phyllis Barber 306-220-8609

## Staying Connected...

### GOING DEEPER™

The Faith Development Committee is offering a nine-week program this fall for those who wish to spend time in a comfortable discussion group called "Going Deeper." The goal is for the participants to be encouraged to think a bit more deeply about their personal faith and (hopefully) to be willing to share their thoughts with each other in a safe and respectful environment.

This is neither a book study nor a Bible study. We will use a variety of stand-alone resources ... something new each week ... to encourage participants to think a bit more deeply about being a person of faith in the Christian tradition within a UCC context and ethos. Nobody will have to prepare ahead (and no "homework"), so being present for all sessions is not an imperative. All are welcome; however, the number will be limited to 15 persons in order to have space and to help build community during our time together.

Details: each Wednesday afternoon during October (starting 5 Oct) and November in the Craft Room from 1:30 to 3 pm. Feel free to bring a beverage and a pen and notebook if you want to keep any notes

Leadership: Sheila Lavender (MTS)

NOTE: Please register by emailing Sheila directly at [lavenders@sasktel.net](mailto:lavenders@sasktel.net) or phone her at 306-373-1418.



### Women and Men's Gathering

One of the things that has sustained many of us through the past 2½ years is community.

A small group of men and a small group of women have been meeting throughout the pandemic for connection and conversation via zoom.

We are now **gathering back in the building**. Men meet in the Craft Room and Women meet in the Sanctuary, both spaces allow for good spacing and comfort.

The two groups will gather on the **third Saturday of the month at 8am**. Everyone is welcome.

#### NEXT GATHERING: OCTOBER 15

Other dates: Nov. 19, Jan. 21, Feb 18, March 18, April 22 (fourth Sat), May 20

**Committees and Fundraisers** are a great way to get to know other McClurites

**Extremely exciting news** is the potential return of theatre to McClure!

### McClure United Church is proud to announce the return of Dinner Theatre in March of 2023.

We are hoping to mount a production of the musical **ANNE OF GREEN GABLES**, directed by Kristie Elliott, and we need your help! Your chance to volunteer to help behind the scenes, or to audition for a role on the stage is coming soon.

Right now, we have two key roles we need to fill in order to move ahead.

- **Front of House Manager:** This person will organize ticket takers and ushers for the days of the show.
- **Dinner Coordinator:** This person will organize the caterers, the servers, and oversee the meal portion of the experience.

**Kristie Elliott** found her love of theatre while participating in dinner theatres, both at Grace Westminster and McClure in the 1990s. Kristie is a teacher and an active member of Saskatoon Summer Players where she most recently directed the summer show, *9 to 5 The Musical*. She is excited to bring theatre opportunities to the current congregation by providing a chance to be on stage, volunteer for the production, or by being an appreciative audience member!



# Staying Connected...

## 10 am Worship continues throughout October

### Rural Connect

It is exciting to be back together in worship  
with **Carlyle and Radville United Churches.**

Thanks to our amazing tech teams for facilitating this important ministry.

Our partners, who no longer have paid ministry staff and who would have to travel long distances to continue to worship, are able to continue to worship together, because of Rural Connect. Our partners keep us connected to our roots in rural Saskatchewan and allow us to share our resources. Debra

### Nursery

If you are a parent with an infant or toddler, please know you are welcome in the worship space. A little noise is understood and just fine. If you need to use the nursery, please make yourself at home and turn on the speaker so you can continue to hear the service. Once we get a sense of what the needs of those using the nursery are we will do our best to accommodate those needs. Please communicate your needs to Debra.

### Pet Blessing Sunday October 16, 10:00 am

Bring your pet to church for worship and a time of blessing.

"All creatures great and small"  
are welcome.

**Rainbow Village:** Eden Polischuk, a recent grad of the College of Education, and a longtime member of McClure is our Rainbow Village leader this year.

Our goal is to provide a safe and fun environment for our children as they explore and live their spirituality. Children are welcome to join their families in the worship space for the first bit and then move to Rainbow Village. If you have any questions, please call Debra.

### Music Moments at McClure



"New Beginnings" would be how I describe the restart of the music program; we hope to be able to Sing for Joy this fall as the Senior Choir gathers on Wednesdays and new members are always welcome.

Please consider joining one of the following groups;

- **Senior Choir** will meet Wednesdays with Elin and Shirley in either the Sanctuary or the music room at 7:30pm and discussions will be held as to whether we mask at all practices.
- **Sacred Sounds** are also inviting new members to their group; at present a new meeting time needs to be discussed as some conflicts have arisen. Celeste and Tamara will keep in touch with their members to issue a practice time better suited to everyone.
- **McClure Place Choristers** will meet at 10:30 am Thursdays and are anticipating a good year with lots of vibrant singers in this group.

Is there a Handbell player in the house? If so, please let the office know as we have a set of sad bells plus music waiting to be utilized. A lovely set of handbell ribbons to wear has also been donated in memory of Betty Alexander.

May God bless the gift of music to everyone!  
Shirley Blackburn

### Worship Tech Team

Our team is fantastic! Our team is still learning and growing. If you would like to learn how to help with the Live Stream stuff that connect about 120 folks to our church family, there is room for you to lend a hand.

**Stop by the Tech Booth and say "Hi!"**

We are looking for folks who would like to learn the sound system part of the technology. Jim Bugg, our current sound coordinator is willing to train you. We need two or three more volunteers so sound management will come around only once a month.

# Staying Connected...

## SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS

Once again, we are collecting filled socks for the homeless in Saskatoon.

If you are looking for an act of kindness, and/or another alternative to gift giving this Christmas, you might want to consider doing up a sock for either a homeless man or a woman in Saskatoon.

Please mark the socks for either a woman or man or gender neutral. I know that this is early, but I wanted to give you time to think about this important ministry and to purchase the items to fill the socks.

Please check the bulletin board for a list of possible items that you may purchase.

Bins will be placed in the entry way on **Sundays, November 13<sup>th</sup> and November 20<sup>th</sup>** and during the week. This will give us plenty of time to get them to the appropriate people for distribution in time for Christmas. The items will be handed out to men and women living on the street by Community Support Officers during the weeks before Christmas.

If you would like further information, please contact Carol Claypool at 306-664-2285 or by email at [cclpool@sasktel.net](mailto:cclpool@sasktel.net).

**OUTREACH PROJECTS**  
Watch for upcoming opportunities to help our community and world through participating in  
**MCCLURE'S OUTREACH**

**BREAKFAST at AMY'S HOUSE VOLUNTEERS**  
More volunteers are welcome. If you are a bit unsure if this job is for you, Carol Claypool will arrange for you to give it a try before you commit. Please contact Carol if you are interested in participating in this ministry. 306-664-2285

## McClure's Transportation Ministry Update

Did you know that McClure provides transportation to anyone needing a ride to and from church on Sunday mornings? Did you also know the church-owned van is NOT self-driving?? We rely on our amazing volunteers. They dedicate their time on Sunday mornings to pick up church-goers who really appreciate getting to in-person services.

At this time, we recognize **Tom Powell, Bill Roach, George Wilson and Norm Woodcock** for their many years of service. These gentlemen have been providing trips enjoyed by many. Their commitment to helping others has been much appreciated and we want to thank them on behalf of all at McClure. They have definitely earned their "van driving retirement!"

We also thank our equally wonderful drivers **Doug Coley, Alf Bisschop and Alice Hiller** who are providing transportation at the present time. They are doing an amazing job but as the old saying goes, "many hands make light work"!

**We would love to add a few new volunteers** to continue this wonderful transportation ministry, as we are short of drivers. An orientation on operating the bus (eg. chair lift), schedules and routes will be provided. All you need is 5A driver's license and approximately two hours on Sunday mornings. You will make a meaningful impact to those who use this service.

Please consider this opportunity and call the church office at (306)373-1753 or stop in for more information or to volunteer.

# MCCLURE PLACE RESIDENTS

## McClure Place Happenings

**"To enrich the lives of McClure Place Residents by providing support and service"**

The Newcomers Tea is a special time when we welcome those residents who have made McClure Place their home in the past year. We heard a short history of each new resident's life, enjoyed strawberry shortcake and songs by our Choristers. Thank you to the Member Relation and Support Committee for all their work and planning. Each new resident brings some special gift to our community, and we look forward to knowing our new friends.

McClure Place will be partnering with Saskatoon Seniors Continued Learning (SSCL) as part of a pilot project to bring live University classes to us via zoom for nine sessions. We will listen to the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Presidents Lecture Series, "Imaging a Post- Pandemic World", on the large screen TV. What will the world and society be like in the coming years? Representatives from the Community Health Center, located at Market Mall gave a presentation to discuss how the center works in the specialty care for seniors.

Writer's Circle, Yoga with Frances, Forever...in motion Fit after 50, and Bingo have started again for people to enjoy. Several residents are taking part in the Stayin on Your Feet program, which is designed to have strategies that help prevent the risk of falls. Celebration Day is a time we recognize birthdays, anniversaries and can contribute to a charity chosen for the month. We are encouraged to donate to The Saskatoon Food Bank which is hosting "Milk Month" in September.

Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra returns September 24<sup>th</sup>. We will again be subscribing to their online concert platform and can watch the live stream concerts online. The Activities Committee covered the yearly subscription cost for the Symphony through fundraising efforts.

The Annual General Meeting of the McClure Place Residents Association Inc. was held on September 26, 2022. Memorial Tribute was paid to eleven residents who have passed away in the past year. Reports were given from the Boards of McClure Place United Church- Terry Clark, McClure Place Association/Foundation-Jim Kells, and McClure Place Management Inc. (The Trustee) -Alton Anderson. Our Executive Director-Lisa White, President-Karl Lenz, and Treasurer-Bob Payton also presented their reports of the past year. New Council members were elected and Vice President, Joan Brown recognized the staff and volunteers for their constant service. Our thoughts are with those who could not be with us.

Elaine Tall

### To support of the Life and Work of the Church financially:

- Donations can be made through the website using Canada Help -go to the webpage and click on the donate button.
- Pre-Authorized Remittance PAR can be set up by calling the office 306-373-1753.
- E- transfers are welcome by contacting [Irene@mcclureunitedchurch.org](mailto:Irene@mcclureunitedchurch.org). Irene is our finance staff person.

Envelopes are available through the Church office 306-373-1753

**Is it your turn to volunteer?**

## ***Got important info for the McClure UC Newsletter? Feedback? Ideas?***

Please e-mail any newsletter submissions, suggestions & feedback to

Sheila Krueger – Editor

[newsletter@mcclureunitedchurch.org](mailto:newsletter@mcclureunitedchurch.org)

**November Newsletter**

**Deadline:**

**Sunday, October 23, 2022**

## **Newsletter Format Options:**

Our monthly newsletter is available at the church website & it's also e-mailed directly to everyone on the e-mail list.

But, if you prefer to receive a paper copy **or** you need to update your e-mail/contact info, please contact the office at:

306-373-1753 or [mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca](mailto:mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca)

Passionate about the work, ministry & mission of the wider  
**United Church of Canada?**

Please check out these links for news & updates:  
**UCC National Newsletters:**

<https://united-church.ca/e-newsletters>

**UCC Mission & Service:** <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/generosity-through-mission-and-service>



## **Did you know?**

All Worship services are available at McClure's YouTube Channel:

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCTKNODhUdibWig5etzkMv8w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTKNODhUdibWig5etzkMv8w)

Printed copies of sermons are available at:

<http://mcclureunitedchurch.org/sermons>



## **MCCLURE UNITED CHURCH**

**306-373-1753**

[www.mcclureunitedchurch.org](http://www.mcclureunitedchurch.org)

[www.facebook.com/McClureUnitedChurchSktn/](https://www.facebook.com/McClureUnitedChurchSktn/)



4025 Taylor Street East

Saskatoon, SK S7H 5N7

## **Ministry Personnel**

Rev. Debra Berg

## **Office Administrator**

Irene Lacoursiere

## **Administrative Assistant**

Claudia Manning

**Data Entry Clerk**

Pam Turner

## **Music Coordinator**

Shirley Blackburn

**Pianist**

Elin Sletmoen



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<b>2</b> 10 am Worship & Rainbow Village <b>Communion</b>	<b>3</b> 4pm Forever in Motion	<b>4</b> 7pm Outreach	<b>5</b> 10am Congregational Care 1:30pm Going Deeper 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>6</b> 10:30am Choristers 1:30pm Quilting Grp 4pm Forever in Motion 7pm M & P Committee	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 10 am Worship & Rainbow Village  <b>Thanksgiving Sunday</b>	<b>10 - Thanksgiving Church Office Closed</b>  	<b>11</b> 7pm Property Committee	<b>12</b> 1:30pm Going Deeper 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>13</b> 10:30am Choristers 1:30pm Quilting Grp 4:00pm Forever in Motion	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 8am Men's Gathering 8am Women's Gathering
<b>16</b> 10 am Worship & Rainbow Village <b>Pet Blessing Sunday</b>  	<b>17</b> 4pm Forever in Motion	<b>18</b> 7pm Worship Cmte 7pm	<b>19</b> 1:30pm Going Deeper 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>20</b> 10:30am Choristers 1:30pm Quilting Grp 4:00pm Forever in Motion 7pm Faith Dev Mtg	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 10am Worship & Rainbow Village <b>Newsletter Submission Deadline</b>	<b>24</b> 4pm Forever in Motion	<b>25</b> 7:00pm Board mtg	<b>26</b> 1:30pm Going Deeper 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>27</b> 1:30pm Quilting Grp 4:00pm Forever in Motion	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 10am Worship & Rainbow Village <b>Anniversary Sunday!</b>	<b>31</b> 4pm Forever in Motion  					