

ERAMOSIA PASTORAL CHARGE
SPEEDSIDE and BARRIE HILL UNITED CHURCHES

Friday, January 1, 2021

Community Announcements

**Our aim for this weekly email will be to bring about a sense of community, positivity and light during a very challenging time in our world.*

As most of you are aware, both of our church buildings, Barrie Hill and Speedside, have been temporarily closed and all in-person worships, events and public gatherings have been suspended. Please enjoy this small piece of the congregation we are bringing to you during this period of social distancing.

Minister:

Rev. Lynn Hamilton B.A., M. Div.
519-829-9024
revlynnhamilton@gmail.com

Children and Youth Ministry

Co-ordinator:

Bethany Parkinson
519-821-6954
bethanyparkinson@gmail.com

Music Direction:

Speedside: Alyson Arsenault
Barrie Hill: Mary Meads
barriehillmusic@gmail.com

Eramosa Pastoral Charge Office:

5702 Rd. 29, RR #5 Rockwood, ON
N0B 2K0
519-763-0299
eramosapc@gmail.com

www.eramosapc.com

www.facebook.com/barriehillunited

Remote Office Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Please **submit bulletin announcements** to the EPC Office **by Thursday evening.**

If you know of anyone who would benefit from receiving the community announcements by email please contact the church office.

MISSION STATEMENT

Arising from a deeply rooted faith in God, known to us through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, we, the people of Eramosa Pastoral Charge, celebrate that we are a Christian community striving to share our faith, friendship, fun, music and other talents. We do this through our unique rural approach to worship, Christian education, stewardship and pastoral care.

**Welcome to Eramosa Pastoral Charge's Weekly Community
Announcements**

ERAMOSAPASTORAL CHARGE

Online Worship Services

Rev. Lynn is recording online church services every week with a lay reader from Barrie Hill or Speedside. They are posted on Sundays and can be watched anytime. They can be found at:

- ❖ Our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/barriehillunited
- ❖ Our website: www.erasosapc.com

A bulletin for the Sunday service will be available on our website and will also be included as an attachment in the weekly announcement email sent out Friday afternoon/evening.

If anyone has trouble viewing these services, please contact the EPC office

Barrie Hill members:

Please consider one of the following options to continue your regular offerings.

- mail cheque (no cash) to Barrie Hill Church , 5702 Wellington Road #29, Rockwood, On. N0B2K0 **or** Mail cheque to Brenda Auger, Treasurer , 7847 Mill Road, Guelph, On, N1H6J1
- Etransfer to barriehillfinance@gmail.com. No need for password as directly deposited to account
- -PAR (preauthorized remittance)If interested in considering PAR as another method please contact Brenda Auger 519 830 0496 or mbauger1950@gmail.com

Speedside members: The expenses of the church continue, even though the building is closed. If you've been wondering how to continue your regular offerings, please consider doing one of the following:

1. PAR (pre-authorized remittance) - If you're already on PAR, your monthly givings will continue. If you're not on PAR, please consider using this method of giving. If you're interested, email Glenda Rose at glenda.rose010@sympatico.ca or phone at 519-843-3425.
2. Mail your cheque (no cash) to Rhonda Hattle, 7912 Mill Rd, Guelph N1H 6J1
3. Drop off your cheque at Speedside, and leave it in Rhonda's mail box.
4. Mail your cheque to Speedside: 5903 Wellington Rd 29, Rockwood NOB 2K0.

Note: the mailbox is checked regularly.

*According to our Regional Prayer Cycle for Western Ontario Waterways:
West Montrose*

COMMUNITY NEWS

Anyone wishing to borrow a **hymn book** for participation in the online worship services, should contact Tim Card using tim3card@gmail.com. Tim will arrange pick up or drop off of sanitized books. He will keep track of them so that when Covid is over, we still have books for the pews.



**The 2020 Annual Reports are due by January 22. Please email them to the EPC office
Thank you!**

Residential School Survivor Answers the Call to Ministry

In fall 2020, Deb Anderson-Pratt was one of six Indigenous ministers ordained or commissioned in the United Church. She studied at Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre, a theological school supported by your Mission & Service gifts.

“It took eight years to get where God had been calling me.”



Deb Anderson-Pratt is presented with the eagle feather at her ordination ceremony.

Credit: Kent Stewart

Growing up, Deb Anderson-Pratt would never have imagined that she would become a minister. A Cree/Saulteaux residential school survivor, Deb disliked the church for many years.

“I grew up living on the George Gordon First Nation reserve. Religious leaders visited us all the time to try to convert us. One of them told my great-grandmother, MaryJane Anderson, that we were all going to hell because of the Native teachings she was giving us.”

Deb has vivid memories of the day a group of ministers were at her great-grandmother's home for a meal. An argument broke out about whose theology she should pass along to Deb and the other children: *“We used to have a tent down the hill from our house. My grandmother told them to go to the tent and discuss whose teaching*

was right, and if they could agree, she would teach her children that. Needless to say, no one came back.”

Deb’s great-grandmother struggled to maintain her belief in both the traditional Indigenous teachings and the biblical ones, turmoil that was instilled in her at residential school. “She was taken to residential school when she was just four and was forbidden to mention, much less live out, traditional teachings. She shared them with me kind of in secret. She had to be subtle about it because if she got caught, she could go to jail,” says Deb.

How did Deb become a minister? In the late 1980s she took a job as a secretary in a Lutheran church, and the minister encouraged her to answer God’s call. She began studying but at that point wasn’t ready to become a minister. Still, she continued to be involved in the United Church’s All Native Circle Conference and eventually, in 2012, began to feel the Spirit pull her toward ministry again.

The exact time she responded to God’s call is etched in Deb’s heart. It was September 14, 2012. Deb had quit her job to look after her ill sister, whose bed she was changing. “I sat down and I said, ‘Sister, I have this strong call. God is calling me to train [for ministry] again.’ My sister had tears in her eyes and said, ‘I think you need to answer the call.’” Deb contacted the Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre to re-enroll.

The following October, Deb’s sister died. “I found I wasn’t angry at God for taking her. I knew God had used her for a channel to get me where I needed to be,” she says.

In fall 2020, Deb was one of six Indigenous ministers ordained or commissioned in the United Church. “I cried when I was ordained. It took eight years to get where God had been calling me.”

Since 2016, Deb has worked for the Regina Native Outreach Ministry. Today, she is working hard to help purchase a building. “Our people will not go to a mainstream church. We have very many lost people in the community, especially in the core area, and we want a place where they can come and feel safe. That’s our dream.”

Your Mission & Service gifts help train ministry leaders whose work transforms their community.