

Jan's Journal



This week, we celebrate the fifth Sunday of the Season of Easter as we continue to follow the story of the Risen Christ.

Thank you o everyone who has contributed to the Easter Food Drive.

“A Week of Guided Prayer” begins this Sunday, **May 3rd** and continues throughout the week until Saturday, May 9th. The “Week” is described as a “retreat in the midst of daily life,” and is a joint venture with Appleby United Church. It all begins with an Opening Service at Appleby United Church on Sunday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. During the week, participants will follow a prescribed format of prayer and journalling, on their own at home, and then meet with a trained Companion for approximately half an hour. The “Week” ends with a Closing Service here at East Plains on Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m.

If you have been considering participating in this program of spiritual nurture and growth, there is still time to register. Please contact Judy Jefferson or the church office, or speak to me on Sunday morning.

If you are not able to register as a participant, you are invited to support those who are participating by praying for the participants and Companions. There will also be one or two opportunities during the week to come to Peart Hall to walk the Labyrinth. Walking the Labyrinth is an ancient form of contemplative prayer.(listening for God)

7th Aldershot Scouting will be celebrating 65 years of Scouting in Aldershot with a **“Family Pasta Dinner,”** this Saturday, **May 2nd** in Peart Hall. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. and includes a Dessert Auction and a Silent Auction. Tickets are available from Dave Howard (j david.howard@gmail.com). The cost is \$15 per adult and \$5 per child (4-11). Children under 4 are free.

May is Asian Heritage Month. In recognition of this, I will share a reflection each Sunday. These reflectios have been written by a friend whose mother is from the Phillipines.

Mark your Calendar

Affordable housing is a primary concern in Halton Region. An information session about the work of the Halton Faith Network and opportunities to build affordable housing, will be held at Port Nelson United Church on **Monday May 11th** from 7 to 9 p.m. Please see the announcement in the Bulletin for more details.

Also in regard to affordable housing, the proposed Indwell project which will create 74 housing units on Waterdown Road requires a change in the Zoning of the property in order for the proposal to move forward. If you are supportive of this project, you may be interested in attending a meeting to discuss the Zoning change, which will take place at Burlington City Hall on **Tuesday, May 12th** between 9:30 am and 4:30 p.m. You might also send a letter of support via email. I have the pertinent email addresses if you would like to do so.

The AffirmTeam will be hosting an educational event on **Tuesday, May 12, 2026 beginning at 7 p.m.** The guest speaker will be Leanne Rancourt, a representative of PFLAG. Leanne's topic will be "Learning About 2SLGBTQIA+community, Inclusivity, and Allyship." Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. Please invite family, friends, neighbours to come as well.

The Moosehide Campaign began in British Columbia more than 10 years ago. I learned about it in 2022 when a member of my congregation at Eden United Church presented me with a Moosehide Pin. He had heard a bout the Moosehide Campaign through a conversation on his car radio as he was driving to work. He told me that he had been moved to tears by the story. He said that it made him think of his own wife, daughters, and granddaughters and it moved him to learn more. He purchased Moosehide pins for the significant women in his life. I was honoured to receive one. **May 14, 2026** is a day of Moosehead Campaign in Ceremony. More about that next week!

For the first time, the Wider Work Team and the Support Group will be replacing the spring Rummage Sale with a Trunk Sale, which they hope will be less labour intensive! Vendors and Artisans will rent a parking spot in the east parking lot and sell their items from the trunk of their vehicle, or a table set up behind it. There is also the option for members of East Plains to fill the trunk of your vehicle with items stored in room 14, which did not sell at last year's spring sale. If you are willing to do this, you will not be asked to rent a parking spot, but to donate the proceeds from your trunk to the church. You could also sell items from home, which you would have donated to the rummage sale! Please support this new experiment! The Trunk Sale is planned for **Saturday, May 23, 2026 from 9 am to 1 pm**. If that happens to be a day of heavy rain or thunderstorms, the Trunk Sale will be postponed to May 30th.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything you have read here, you can reach me at: revjanmcc@gmail.com or on my cell phone: 905-630-8202.

Blessings,

Reverend Jan