



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

CLOVERDALE
UNITED CHURCH



"Jacob and Rachel"

painting by Frank Wesley (1923-2002), Uttar Pradesh, India

The 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(9th after Pentecost)
A Service of the Word

26 July 2026 • 10:30 AM

The 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Leah and Rachel had to struggle daily to maintain the equilibrium of their household, to remain full of strength and self-respect, able to love each other, their husband and their children, and they succeeded. This is a much more useful example to us of creative struggle with God and human beings than Jacob’s dramatic night by the riverside. More of the struggles to maintain self-respect and love for others in our lives come as part of our continual everyday interactions with family and work partners through the years than as one-night stands with angels.”

— Rabbi Rachel Montagu (*British rabbi in the Reform Judaism tradition*), in *Hear Our Voice: Women Rabbis Tell Their Stories*, 1994

GATHERING 모임

The Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day, the day of Christ’s resurrection

Prelude 전주 Umuziki mbere yo gutangira kuramya

Christine Connal

Gathering Song 찬송 Indirimbo yo guterana

“Kindle in Us Your Love”

KINDLE IN US

Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, kin-dle in us
the fire of your love. Come, Ho - ly
Spir - it, kin-dle in us your love.
Last time
Kin-dle in us your love, kin-dle in us your love.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a repeat sign. The lyrics are written below the notes. The word 'repeats' is written above the end of the third staff. The fourth staff is marked 'Last time' and ends with a double bar line.

Centring Quiet 집중을 위한 조용한 순간 Igihe cy'ituze cyo kwitegura gusenga

We together hold an intentional period of quiet, during which worshippers are invited to centre themselves and prepare for the worship of God.

Greeting 인사 Indamukanyo

The Rev. Matthew Emery, lead minister

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

Call to Worship 예배로 부름 Guhamagarirwa Gusenga

Ross Shearer

One: Give thanks,
acclaim God's name, *adapt. from Ps. 105*
tell all that the Lord has done.

**Many: Make music and sing
the Lord's mighty wonders!**

One: Revel in God's holy name,
delight in seeking the Lord.

**Many: Look always for the power,
for the presence of God.**

One: Recount the signs and wonders,
the just decrees of God,
you heirs of Abraham and Jacob,
the chosen of the Lord.

**Many: Yes, God remembers the sacred word to God's own people
and brings us all forth, singing for joy. Hallelujah!**

*** Hymn** 찬송 Indirimbo — "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Voices United #220

*** Prayer of the Day** 오늘의 기도 Isengesho ryo gufungura

Ross Shearer

One: Let us pray.

**Many: Holy God, we try to fix and fasten you,
but you will not be stayed.**

You are love in motion:

**always breathing us into being, calling us to serve,
sustaining us in the wilderness.**

Come to us as the morning breaks.

**Soften what has grown dry and brittle in our hearts
until we worship you with abandon;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

*** The Peace** 평화의 인사 Amahoro ya Kristo

Pastor Matt

One: 그리스도의 평화가 당신과 함께 하시기를.
The peace of Christ be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

All are invited to share signs of Christ's peace with those around them.

Words of Welcome & News 교회소식 Ikaze n'amatangazo

Pastor Matt

WORD 말씀

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Psalter 시편 Zaburi — Psalm 128: “Blest Are They Who Trust” RUSSIAN TUNE OLD

Refrain last time, end



Blest are they who trust, who trust in the Lord.

1 Joy a - bounds for all the faith - ful; those who
 2 Joy a - bounds for all the faith - ful; those who
 3 Like a fruit - ful vine they flour - ish, branch - es

trust the Lord are filled; all the good wrought
 trust the Lord are filled; right - eous minds, in -
 of a faith - ful tree, so shall chil - dren's

to refrain

by their la - bour is their gain, so God has willed.
 -fused with jus - tice; stead - fast hearts, with love in - stilled.
 chil - dren gath - er at your ta - ble, you to see.

The Early Word 어린이 설교 Ubutumwa bugenewe abana Pastor Matt

with **The Lord's Prayer** 회중기도와 주기도 Isengesho ry'Umwami wacu

Worshippers are invited to pray The Lord's Prayer in the language of their hearts. English, French, German, Korean, Chinese, Punjabi, and Kinyarwanda versions of the Prayer are on cards in the pews. The worship leader will pray in English.

예배 참석자 여러분께서는 마음속에 있는 언어로 주기도문을 바치실 수 있습니다. 영어, 프랑스어, 독일어, 한국어, 중국어, 펀자브어, 키냐르완다어 버전의 주기도문이 좌석에 비치된 카드에 있습니다. 예배 인도자는 영어로 기도할 것입니다.

Abasenga batumiwe gusenga Isengesho ry'Umwami mu rurimi rw'imitima yabo. Iri sengesho mu gifaransa, ikidage, igikoreya, igishinwa, igipunjabi n'ikinyarwanda riri ku makarita mu ntebe. Umuyobozi w'itorero azasenga mu Cyongereza.

Many: Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
 for Thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever & ever. Amen.

RESPONSE 찬송 Indirimbo — “Lord, Prepare Me”

More Voices #18

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y,
 pure and ho - ly, tried and true; with thanks-giv-ing,
 I'll be a liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.

*Children in grade 5 and younger are welcome to go with the leader(s)
 to Children's Church, in the Lounge on the lower level.*

First Reading 성경봉독 Ibyanditswe Byera — Romans 8:26-39

NT p. 158

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions *for us*. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

after the reading:

One: Word of God, Word of Life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Laban deceives Jacob by giving his older daughter, Leah, to Jacob in marriage instead of the promised younger daughter, Rachel. Because of his love for Rachel, Jacob agrees to work for Laban for an additional seven years so that he may also be married to her.

IN ENGLISH

after the reading:

One: Word of God, Word of Life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE

after the reading:

One: Amen.

Many: Amen.

Sermon 설교 Ubutumwa — “Love and Marriage?”Pastor Matt

a brief moment of quiet follows the sermon

* Hymn 찬송 Indirimbo — “In the Quiet Curve of Evening”Voices United #278

* Affirmation of Faith: A New CreedYoungsun Cheon, associate minister

신앙의 고백 Guhamya Ukwizera

We are not alone,
we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God’s presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death,
in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

우리는 홀로가 아닙니다.
하나님의 세계에서 삽니다.

우리는 하나님을 믿습니다.
만물을 창조하셨고,
지금도 창조하시며,
화해시키고 새롭게 하기 위하여,
말씀이 몸을이룬 예수님 안에 오셨으며,
우리과 남들 안에서 성령으로
역사 하십니다.

우리는 하나님을 신뢰합니다.

우리는 교회를 이루라고 부름받았습니다.
하나님의 임재를 찬양하고,
우주 만물을 존중하며 살고,
남들을 사랑하며 섬기고,
정의를 추구하며 악에 항거하고,
십자가형을 당하시고 살아나셔서,
우리의 심판자와 희망이 되신
예수님을 선포하라고 부름받았습니다.

삶에서, 죽음에서,
죽음을 넘는 삶에서 하나님이 우리와
함께 하십니다.

우리는 홀로가 아닙니다.
하나님께 감사드립니다.

RESPONSE 응답

We begin our lives of responding to the gospel, in prayer and offering

Responding with our Gifts 봉헌 Ituro

Pastor Youngsun

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Christine Connal

PRAYER REQUESTS — As the morning offering is collected:

- in-person worshippers can share prayer petitions (thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns) on the **purple-topped prayer request cards** found in the pew racks and place them the offering plates as they are passed.
- live-via-Zoom online worshippers are welcome to submit prayer petitions (thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns) in the Zoom “chat” feature.

* **PRESENTING OUR GIFTS** 경배 찬양 Gutanga Amaturo Yacu

“The Doxology”

OLD HUNDREDTH

choose any version { Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here be low; praise God above, ye heav'n-ly host: high and low; give thanks to God in love made known: 드리고 저 천사여 찬송 하 세 Ré-demp-teur; gloire à l'Esprit Con-so-la-teur! praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost! A-men. Cre-a-tor, Word, and Spir-it, One. A-men. 찬송 성부 성자 성령. 아멘. Lou-ange et gloire à Dieu, Sau-veur. A-men.

* *PRAYER OF DEDICATION* 감사기도 *Isengesho ryo kwiyegeura*

Many: Holy One,

receive these offerings as you receive our lives.

Gather our false starts and uncertain efforts,
our generosity and our reluctance.

Enliven us with your breath and make your purposes known,
that our lives might show forth your glory,

just as you showed it to us in Jesus,

in whose name we pray and seek to live. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Pastor Youngsun

중보기도와 감사기도 *Isengesho ryo gusaba abandi*

SENDING 파송

God blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world

* **Hymn** 찬송 *Indirimbo* — “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Voices United #288

* **A Blessing and Sending for Sabbatical** *Daniel Ariss, CUC Church Council chair*

파송과 축도 *Umugisha*

INTRODUCTION

Daniel: Dear friends, today we give thanks to God for Reverend Matt and ask for God’s blessings as we send him for Sabbatical rest. We ask God to bless this intentional time of growth—both for him and for our congregation—and we ask that God bring him back refreshed and nourished with God’s Spirit as we all seek to thrive in faith through relationship with God, one another, and the community... to serve others as Jesus would.

Pastor Youngsun: Hear these words from the book of Exodus: “Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.”

And again, from Exodus “I am going to send an angel in front of you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared.”

And hear also these words from the Gospel according to Luke: “Now, more than ever, the word about Jesus spread abroad; many crowds would gather to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. But he would withdraw to out-of-the-way places and pray.”

LITANY OF MUTUAL BLESSING

Daniel: We wish Godspeed to Reverend Matt as he begins his sabbatical.

Many: As you journey, Matt, we ask God to guard you from harm.

Matt: God’s peace be with you as I leave to walk in new places.

Many: God dwell with you while we are away from one another.

Matt: God’s blessing on you while I am gone from you.

Many: God fill you with a light spirit as you spend time with old friends

and make new ones; as you study, visit new surroundings, and travel to familiar ones.

Matt: I thank God for my ministry with you and the gift of this time you've given me.

Many: **May you experience the gift of spiritual growth in your journey.**

Matt: I pray that God will gift you, also, with the taste of transformation in the time ahead. You, too, shall grow and renew in your own ways.

Many: **God grant you a trusting heart as you plant your feet and heart in new places. We will pray for you, and we send you with our blessing.**

Matt: I will pray for you while we are separated, and I release you into the hands of one another and the hands of God.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER

Daniel: Let us pray. Spirit of God, let the dancing that's meant to be in Matt start its movement anew. Renew him for ministry through this time set aside for reflection and study, the refreshment of rest and of a break from daily tasks and routine, and the excitement of new learnings, directions, and experiences. Grace him with your presence and keep him steadfast in the faith while we are gone from one another.

All: **Amen!**

*** Charge and Benediction** 파송과 축도 *Umugisha*

Pastor Matt

*** Dismissal** 예배로 부름 *Kohereza*

Pastor Youngsun

One: Heaven comes near. Go, share the good news!

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

*** Postlude** 후주 *Umuziki nyuma y'iteraniro ryo kuramya*

Christine Connal

Be Our Guest! Come on down to the Lower Hall for coffee or tea or another beverage, a bite to eat, and a chat! Access to the Lower Hall is down the stairs outside the door at the front right of the sanctuary or via the elevator at the front left of the sanctuary. Follow the crowds on down, or ask an usher to guide you... We look forward to seeing you!

Life at Cloverdale United Church

Worship

Many thanks to today's ...

readers: names unavailable at the time of printing

ushers/greeters: names unavailable at the time of printing

digital ushers: Jamie Brown, Doug Sowerby

fellowship time hosts: names unavailable at the time of printing

Many ways to give! We welcome your offering in the way that works for you: by cash or cheque in the offering plates, through automatic monthly gifts via Pre-Authorized Remittance (contact the office to enrol), by free eTransfer from your bank (to eTransfer@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca), or by credit card via CanadaHelps (service fees apply). Want to give now but don't have cash or cheque? Scan the QR → to be taken to CanadaHelps.



Children are welcome at all services! It is important for families to worship together. Don't feel your child must be absolutely quiet or still, for we are glad to have children—and all their wiggles, giggles, and squiggles—as part of our community and worship life! After all... as an old saying goes, “faith is caught, not taught!” Children are encouraged to stand and sing with the songs, partake in communion, read and pray along when they can, and join in for the “Early Word”—a time at the front with conversation just for them near the beginning of the service. Most Sundays September through June, we have “**Children's Church**” activities during the latter two-thirds of the service in the Lounge on the lower level, to which any pre-school through grade 5 aged child is welcome! For those accompanying infants or toddlers who need a spot to ‘escape’ to during the worship service, feel free to make use of the “**Quiet Room**” off the side of the sanctuary, near the piano, where there you will find comfortable seating, toys, and a changing table all while being able to hear and see the worship service.



Recording and streaming in use: Please note that video cameras and microphones are capturing our worship services, and that the resulting content may be transmitted over Zoom, YouTube, or other platforms.

Likewise, from time to time still photography of our worship services may be taken and used for church communications, websites, and other uses. By your presence within the sanctuary, you are indicating your consent to the possibility that your likeness may be captured and used in any of these ways. While video capture of congregants in the pews is relatively minimal, if you wish to guarantee you will not ever be depicted on video, the area at the rear centre of the pew seating area is unable to be picked up on camera.



Washrooms can be found just outside the sanctuary through the door at the front right of the space (the northeast corner of the room).



Thank you for **silencing cell phones** and other devices, and for refraining from flash photography.

Acknowledgements:

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Serve

You Serve with your Stewardship: Have you ever wondered if your offering really makes a difference? It could be easy to feel like it’s nothing more than a drop of water in a bucket, but Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like a tiny mustard seed that grows into a huge shrub. From the smallest of seeds, a home and resting place is created for the birds of the air. Your offering does make a difference.

Christmas in July Campaign: This summer, we are excited to partner with Storehouse for their Christmas in July campaign! By collecting donations early, Storehouse can better prepare for the growing number of families who rely on their Christmas Hamper Program each year. Their goal is to provide hope and practical support to approximately 1,200 families this Christmas. Throughout the month of July, we invite our congregation to help by donating new, unwrapped toys for children and gift cards for teens. These donations will become part of the Christmas hampers distributed to local families during the holiday season. A collection box will be available at the narthex throughout July. Thank you for your generosity and for helping us share the spirit of Christmas with families in our community.

Helpful Photo Taking Tips: We love seeing photos from worship, events, gatherings, and other happenings around the life of CUC! Thank you to everyone who takes time to capture and share those moments; it really helps bring our community to life in eNews, website, social media, annual report, and other places.

If you’ve ever wondered what makes a photo really pop, the communications team at one of the congregations Rev. Matt served previously



recently put together a quick and helpful guide with some easy tips. It might just turn your next snapshot into a eNews or social media star. You can check it out here: Taking Photos That Share Our Story <https://www.secondfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/GuidelinesPhotographySFC.pdf> (This comes directly from Second First Church in Rockford, Illinois... which was Second Congregational Church UCC when Matt was there as associate pastor from 2006 to 2010, prior to it amalgamating a few years later with the neighbouring First Presbyterian Church to become Second First Church.)

Thanks again for all the great submissions—we truly enjoy seeing our Community of Faith through your photos (especially the ones where we can see your faces!). If you do grab any photos that seem worth sharing with others, send them onward to our office administrator, Lily Lee:

office@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca. We keep an archive library of photos on our computer system, and so even if your shot doesn't get used for a social media post or eNews feature right away, it could be helpful in putting together a future publication!

Pray

New this week...

- *Remembering the sacred stories of Leah and Rachel from this week's scripture witness:* For every **woman** who has faced roles and relationships thrust upon her not by her own choosing or calling, but at least in part due to the ongoing inequities and inequalities and even gender-based violence faced by women throughout the world.
- For **Walter**, friend of Christine, and his family as they mourn the recent passing of **Jamie**.
- In thanksgiving for the life of **Bill Aho**, a member of Rev. Matt's previous congregation, who died this past week at the age of 108.
- For our government leaders here in Canada, as they continue to discern how best to respond to new threats of economically damaging **tariffs**. And for wisdom and reason among government leaders in the United States, as well.

Ongoing...

- For all of the people and communities facing **wildfires** and the impacts of wildfire smoke. And for the firefighters, municipal employees, and other people faced with responding to the challenge.
- For the communities in **western Manitoba affected by this summer's floods**, including for the people connected with the Wellman Lake United Church Camp that had to cancel its entire summer season of church camps due to all access roads being washed out.
- Renewed prayers for the people of **Iran**, in the face of new military attacks in the US-Iran conflict.
- For **workers** of all kinds in the struggles for fair wages and good working conditions, and for public sector **employers** who wrestle with trying to fulfil competing priorities and mandates.

- For **Jordan**, the neighbourhood secondary school student with Lupus who has been back in hospital and on dialysis following the rejection of the partial kidney transplant she received last fall, and for Jordan's family facing a variety of needs arising from this journey.
- For **all those facing the scourge of addiction**, in all its forms, for God to pour out power and help them break the bonds that keep them captive.
- For all those **facing food insecurity or financial hardship**.
- For all those **journeying with dementia, Alzheimer's, and other forms of cognitive decline**, and for strength within those who find themselves as caregivers.
- For those of our congregation who are homebound, incarcerated, in long-term nursing care, or otherwise unable to be with us regularly, including: **Roger, Jean, Lorraine, Pauline, Eileen, Joyce, Gerrit, Brenda, and Roy**.
- *Pacific Mountain Regional Council of The United Church of Canada's prayer cycle:*
<https://www.prayercycles.ca/pacificmountain>.
- *World Council of Churches' prayer cycle:*
<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle>.

Additions to the prayer list are always welcome! Submissions received in the office by 9:00 am Thursday morning will appear in the bulletin. Petitions regarding specific individuals or circumstances will only be retained on the prayer list for 3 weeks at a time (but can be renewed if changes in the situation warrant).

Other news and notes

Staff Doings: As Rev. Matt's sabbatical leave does not officially start until August 1, which is Saturday, he will be working a fairly typical schedule during the upcoming week (which is Tuesdays through Fridays, with one work-from-home day among them; this week, the work-from-home day will be Wednesday).



God's Mission, Our Gifts

Pursuing Peace: *The following was written by Ashley Keeping, one of two United Church young adults selected to attend the 2024 Minority Youth Forum in Miyakojima, Japan, hosted by the Center for Minority Issues and Mission. The Youth Forum is an ecumenical initiative of churches in Japan, supported by The United Church of Canada and Mission and Service. Our generosity through [Mission and Service](#) helps programs that inspire peace and learning.*



Just like Miyako residents, I live on an island and can relate to their everyday lives on their island, as it was small and humble just like here in Newfoundland. There was one prominent difference. The majority of the residents are seeking peace from their own government, something we don't have to worry about here in Canada. God called upon me to see how the people of Miyako Island are living, and to share with everyone their struggle for peace.

The Minority Youth Forum program brought together young adults from Canada, Japan, and Taiwan. The Youth Forum experience showed me how powerful it is to bring youth together to share our culture, to share our faith, and to share our stories. To be able to have discussions with youth from other cultures about how we can change the world gives me so much hope for our future.

This trip filled my heart with joy, hope, and love for the wonderful people that I can now forever call friends. It also taught me that you need to find, keep, and treasure peace, as well as pursue it for the rest of your time, and that I will do. Thank you, Miyako, for everything you taught me.

Read Ashley's full blog: Pursuing Peace from the Atlantic to the Pacific <https://united-church.ca/blogs/round-table/pursuing-peace-atlantic-pacific>
The views contained within these blogs are personal and do not necessarily reflect those of The United Church of Canada or The United Church of Canada Foundation.



Cloverdale
Christmas
Hampers



Christmas In July

HELP US BRING JOY AND
BLESSINGS TO OUR
COMMUNITY!

Please donate new,
unwrapped toys for children
and gift cards for teens.

You can
also scan
here to
Donate:



Storehouse



(778) 617-3000

info@storehousesociety.ca

www.storehousesociety.ca

Welcome to Cloverdale United Church!
As we say at nearly every worship service,
“No matter who you are, or where you are
on life’s journey God welcomes you... and so do we.”
We take these words seriously. We strive to be a
community as diverse and hospitable as God’s
kingdom. We don’t all look or act alike; God knows we
don’t all think alike. We don’t all read the Bible the same way. We come
from different religious backgrounds, we bring different questions, and
we carry different burdens. But every Sunday, we gather and worship
God together as one.



In this lovely old church, we do Sunday morning in some fairly traditional ways. We study the teachings and the actions of Jesus. We gather around the waters of grace and the feast table of Christ, just as Christians have done for nearly two thousand years. Some of the songs we sing (certainly not *all* of them, though) are ones our grandparents might also have sung in their day. And yet, amidst rituals and rites rooting us in a deep heritage, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world and we listen for God’s Spirit still speaking into our lives today. We hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant this morning—a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God.

After the service, please stick around. Have a cup of coffee or a bite to eat with us. Introduce yourself to other worshippers or our pastor. There are plenty of opportunities here to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know—you just might be home!

We are a welcoming, historic, and progressive Christian community, reaching out from the historic heart of Surrey at Cloverdale since 1875. We seek to thrive in faith through relationship with God, one another, and the community.... to serve others as Jesus would.

Cloverdale United Church recognizes that we worship, live, work, and play in traditional and unceded territories of Coast Salish peoples: primarily the Katzie, the Kwantlen, the Semiahmoo, the Snokomish, the Stolo, the Tsawwassen, and the Wsanec. We give our thanks to them and for them; we offer our respect to those ancestors who may be interred in this land. We seek to live with respect in this piece of Creation; we seek peace and justice among all who have called this land home.

CLOVERDALE UNITED CHURCH

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Ministers

All of the Congregation

Lead Minister

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Associate Minister

Youngsun Cheon – youngsun@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

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Office Administrator

Lily Lee – office@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

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Yumi Park – yumi@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Children & Youth Ministries Leader

Ross Shearer – ross@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Church Council Chair

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