

March 2019

Volume 19 Issue 1

Inside this issue:

Andrea's Message	1
Message From The Chair	2
Treasurer's Report Stewardship	3
Worship	4
Congregational Life	5
Men's Breakfast Club	
Affirming Ministry	6
Rainbow Club	7
Outreach	8
Coldest Night of The Year	9
The Listening Post	10
Truth & Reconciliation	11
Confirmation Class Letter from Rev. Jane	12
Upcoming Events	13

Church Office Hours

Monday to Friday—9:30-12:30

705-726-0401

Newsletter Editor

Edd Taylor

sjtjet1@gmail.com

KEEPING IN TOUCH

"To know God through Jesus Christ, and to reflect God's love as the Church in a changing community and world."



Newsletter

Another Lenten journey.... another season of reflecting on who we are as followers of the one whose mission and ministry took him on a journey to the cross and took the whole world to resurrection. And every year the journey is different. For there are always new people who are a part of this household of faith that I belong to, just as there are others who are no longer with me. Every year the journey is different as I might be taking a new route, bringing me to places I have never been and situations I have never known. Yes, indeed, every year the 40 days of Lent is an invitation for me to stop and look at who my companions are on the Christian journey now. It is also a time to wonder who I can reach out to as a companion in the different places I might go during this year's journey.

As I look at our congregation every Sunday and as I look at the wider community, I see people who are finding themselves in a time of wandering in the wilderness.... that life as it once was has become unfamiliar and filled with the fear of the unknown. I wonder how we can be companions. I see people who are longing for wilderness, for the freedom to be away from all of the busy-ness that fills the day and keeps us from pausing to be alone with God. I wonder how we can be companions. I see people on the journey who are in a time of new possibilities as they are freed from relationships and circumstances that limited who they were. I wonder how we can be companions. I see people taking on a mission & ministry task or role. I wonder how we can be companions.

As we journey through the Season of Lent, we are called to reflect deeply on who we are but to also look around to see who our companions are on our faith journey. Who can help us to listen carefully to what God might be wanting us to learn from one another? Who is able to engage with us in taking risks to be and do more in our community than we could imagine? Who is needing our welcome, our kindness, our resources, our ally ship? Who will help us to let go of things and thinking that keeps us from being who are meant to be? Whomever is with us and whatever the journey through Lent may hold for us individually and as a congregation, we are blessed that we journey together with each other and with God.

Let us be open to one another on our Lenten journey as we seek to follow Jesus more fully..... as we take time to renew ourselves.... as we prepare to embrace the Good News of Easter with enthusiasm and commitment to be an Easter people. As we move through the Easter Season, we will celebrate that we are the people of God, the One who "gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist." *Romans 4:17b*. We will celebrate that we are a faith-filled and justice seeking community that continues to live boldly as we live out our call "to know God through Jesus Christ, and to reflect God's love as the church in a changing community and world."

Blessings on your Lenten & Easter journey, Andrea Wheaton, DLM Minister of Word, Sacrament & Pastoral Care



BURTON AVENUE
UNITED CHURCH
"We are not alone. We live in God's world."

Message from the Chair

"We already have everything we need. There is no need for self-improvement. All these trips that we lay on ourselves – the heavy-duty fearing that we're bad and hoping that we're good, the identities that we so dearly cling to, the rage, the jealousy and the addictions of all kinds. - Never touch our basic wealth. They are like clouds that temporarily block the sun. But all the time our warmth and brilliance are right there. This is who we really are."

I encountered this quote on the Sunday I returned from church with my Star-word of "abundance" in hand. It was written by Pema Chödrön – the first American woman to be fully ordained as a Buddhist nun in the Vajrayana tradition. But the concept reminded me of St. Teresa of Avila and her Interior Castle. Beauty, perfection, the divine exist in all of us. It is the center - the core of who we are. We do not need to strive for it. Everything we need to be exactly who we have always wanted to be exists inside us – always has and what prevents us from attaining this goal is like "clouds that temporarily block the sun".

It strikes me as a message for the church as well. There is profound "warmth and brilliance" in this congregation. We do not need to strive for it – it is already there – unlimited potential – already there - because God is at the center of everything we do. We live in a culture of scarcity as Brené Brown calls it. Never enough time, enough money, enough love to fill our endless gaping need. But that is not the truth. The truth is abundance.

I saw the abundance in the lounge, full to capacity, at the first meeting of the 2019 board. From 80 years-old to 14 - from members who just joined the church to members who have been a part of this congregation for 60 years - At work on projects as varied as our members are. It will require some getting used to – the size and pace of this board - but it is undoubtedly abundance. We ended our meeting with a suggestion from our treasurer, Alan McGee, that it is time for us to "Dream Big". And he is so right.

With Gratitude,

Cathy Manzato, Chair of Church Board

Save the date: Rev. Patricia Gale-MacDonald has retired after 36 years of ordained ministry. We are so grateful for the 18+ years of her ministry with and among us. A retirement celebration will take place on *Sun., May 5!*



Similar to previous years, the following report for this newsletter covers only the first month of 2019 as the deadline for submission was before the February operating results were finalized. Our total receipts for the first month of this year were \$15,522 compared to \$24,991 over the same period in 2018, which was a decrease of \$9,469. Virtually all of the decrease was attributable to the ending of funding for Rev. Pat's position on her retirement at the end of the year and less fundraising event revenue due to not having the ham and scalloped potato dinner this year compared to last.

Our total expenses for the month were \$20,948 versus \$30,049 last year, which represented a decrease of \$9,101. Most of this decrease was due to Rev. Pat's retirement, as previously mentioned. This left us with an operating deficit of \$5,426 for the first month of 2019, which was \$368 more than last year's deficit at this time.

While starting the year off with an operating deficit is not an unusual situation, it is certainly something that we will want to keep an eye on as we move forward. To address this situation, a number of fundraising initiatives are planned over the next several months, so please consider supporting these initiatives in whatever way you can. Thank you for your ongoing support of the ministries here at Burton Avenue United Church.

Alan J. McGee, DBA

Treasurer

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship committee is planning for another busy year at Burton Ave. We would like to thank everyone that helped in making our events in the last year such a success – from those who organized, to those who gave donations, to those who pitched in assisting with the task of cleaning up after, those who attended the events and everyone in between! Thank you, thank you for your generous offerings of your multiple talents and your valuable time!

We are currently getting ready for the Spring Fling, which is planned for April 13th. Brenda Young has been very busy as convener, ensuring that all is in place for another wonderful evening.

There are many other events coming up this year as well, including Roast Beef dinners, a MacGregor Meat campaign, and Strawberry Supper just to name a few. Keep an eye on your bulletins for information on how you can participate.

We look forward to seeing how we can share our God given talents with the church and our community within the coming year.

Devon Williams, Sandra Davidson, Alan McGee

Worship Committee

As I write this, the liturgical season of Lent is upon us. The season begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for forty days preceding Easter. Lent is a special time of repentance, reflection, sacrifice and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. Through our Lenten journey we recall the events leading up to and including Jesus' crucifixion. At Burton Avenue we mark the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday service was held on Wednesday, March 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

You will notice that we use the colour purple in worship. We use purple because it is associated with mourning and so anticipates the pain and suffering of the crucifixion, and secondly because purple is the colour associated with royalty and celebrates Christ's resurrection and sovereignty. In our Lenten services we use a Lenten Confession during which a candle is extinguished each week to mark the letting go of those things that holds from right relationship with each other and God.

Holy Communion is celebrated on Sunday, March 10 at 10 a.m. which is the first Sunday in Lent. This would usually be a "backwards" Sunday - that means that children and youth go directly to Rainbow Club upon church arrival and join their family later in the Sanctuary for communion. But the Rainbow Club leaders are away this week so this will be more of an intergenerational worship for all ages.

Sunday, April 14, Palm Sunday, marks the beginning of Holy Week, the week leading up to Easter. We celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion at our 10 a.m. service. On Palm Sunday the Rainbow Club have their Walk Through Holy Week and so leave the Sanctuary following the palm parade and do not rejoin us for communion.

During Holy Week a Maundy Thursday service is held on Thursday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m. Communion is celebrated at this service and during the service we shroud the symbols of worship. Our Good Friday service this year is held on Friday, April 19 at 10 a.m. This year it is our turn to join our neighbours at St. George's Anglican across the street for worship. This is a tradition of many years and a warm relationship that continues in our community.

The great joy that is Easter is celebrated on Sunday, April 21. First at a 7 a.m. Sunrise Service at Heritage Park followed by our regular 10 a.m. worship in our Easter Lily filled Sanctuary. The purple of Lent is replaced with the white and gold of Easter.

We invite you to join us for the many times and experiences of worship during Lent and Easter.

Brenda Young

Congregational Life

Well a new year has started at BAUC and our Committee was there at the Annual General Meeting on February 3 with a light lunch of hot soup, rolls and cookies for all. A week later, February 10, we provided birthday cake at coffee time in celebration of everyone who had a birthday in January or February. If you were not at Church that Sunday to celebrate then a belated HAPPY BIRTHDAY from your friends at BAUC. Watch your Sunday bulletin in the weeks to come for details of an outing to Cookstown Theatre in April or May.

When we started our new year at BAUC the Congregational Life Committee was pleased to welcome Cheryl Grant to our Committee. UNFORTUNATELY we sadly said farewell to our number one member and chair, Lois Delaforce! As near as I can figure Lois has been an important part of the Congregational Life Committee for over 10 years and at least half of that time was as Chair of the Committee. She is our organizational backbone who has kept track of every function including luncheons, gatherings, socials, and games nights that this committee has hosted. Her and hubby Barry are our number one coffee servers and kitchen clean up crew on Sundays. Lois is also often the secret baker providing gluten free treats at coffee time. Lois has decided that the time has come to step down from the Board. Her position is being shared by Alita Morgan and Valerie Crisp. I have to say that this decision has not kept Lois or Barry out of the kitchen at coffee time! Speaking of coffee we would gladly welcome new volunteers to help out with Sunday coffee time. Free training and support provided!

Committee members: Alta Morgan, Valerie Crisp, Linda Hudson, Lynn Garraway, Janet Munroe, Cheryl Grant and Nancy Sawyers

Men's Monthly Breakfast Update

The start of the new year began the start of a new group at Burton Avenue United Church. Several men that are unable to attend the regular Tuesday Men's lunch group decided to get together once a month for a Monthly Men's Breakfast. We met for the first time in January and again in February. It has been a great opportunity for us to get together for food and fellowship on Saturday mornings. Those that have attended the first two breakfasts look forward to it and have already added it to their monthly calendars. It is nice to be able to get together in a relaxed, non-rushed environment and get to know each other on a deeper level. We meet on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 8am at The Golden Griddle at Koslov Centre. There is an open invitation to all the men of BAUC to join us. You can order off the menu or partake in the All-you-can-eat breakfast buffet.

We look forward to seeing you next month!

Camp Awesome!

Save the dates for another fabulous Vacation Bible Camp here at Burton Ave from **July 22-26**. We will be looking for teen and adult helpers as we once again welcome Camp Awesome staff from Shining Waters Regional Council!

Affirm Team

A celebration service was held on Sunday, January 27, 2019 that officially recognized BAUC as an Affirming Ministry by Affirm United. It was a wonderful celebration and thank you to all who made it so special!

In continuing to live into our commitment as an Affirming Ministry we are forming a new team and invite you to participate along with some returning members.

Our proposed Affirm Action Plan for 2018 focuses on becoming more accessible and inclusive for the LGBTQ community and also for persons with physical and mental disabilities. The plan includes activities such as:

- Ensuring relevant resources are available at BAUC;
- Keeping the Affirm page on the BAUC website updated;
- Participating in activities such as the annual Barrie Pride Parade;
- Building relationships with local LGBTQ advocacy and support groups and with local organizations supporting individuals with physical and mental disabilities;
- Reviewing church policies and practices with an affirming and accessibility lens and make suggestions for improvements;
- Promoting the use of inclusive and expansive language in the written, spoken and sung word.
- And more!

Speak to Angela Kerr for more information or to join our team.

Faithfully,

Alita Morgan, Cathy Manzato, Angela Kerr





Jeffrey Dale representing Affirm United and Cathy Manzato



Jeffrey Dale, Affirm United Gerry Croteau , Gilbert Center Susie Henderson, Shining Waters Regional Council





Rainbow Club

2019 is off to a fun start in the Rainbow Club. We have steady attendance every week in 'the Ark', as well as downstairs in the youth room (Thanks, Peter and Cathy!) Every week we talk, create, listen, act and build connections with God and each other.

We are looking forward to continuing our participation in regular worship services through candle lighting and lay readings. If your child is interested in being a reader or candle lighter, please let Catherine or Marni know.

We are currently moving through Lent and getting ready for Easter by reflecting on our "Jelly Bean Prayer" and adding to our jellybean jar each week. Ask a child what that is all about. We are planning our annual Palm Sunday walk and Seder meal for Sunday, April 14. It is a memorable day where the children relive Jesus' last days through drama, stories, music and food. All children and youth are invited to join us for this special day. (There are no speaking parts that require lines to memorize). We are asking our children and youth to consider contributing some of their own money to their Lenten offering. Little labelled bags have been going home. Please ask for one or use your own. The children will be deciding which cause to donate to. Please bring your offering on Palm Sunday.

Please note that there is no Rainbow Club on March 10 (our teachers are taking a well-deserved March Break) but there is on March 17.

Thank you to everyone who makes Rainbow Club happen—our teachers Marni, Sheena, Angela, Carol, Peter and Cathy; Wayne who keeps the Ark looking great; Stacey, Andrea and Rev. Pat for guiding us and keeping us organized, and to the parents for supporting what we do. We are looking for a new treasurer. If you can count change and fill in a simple deposit slip every couple of months, it's the job for you. It might be a good way for youth to get community hours???

Remember, children and youth ages 3 and up are always welcome in 'the Ark' for drama, stories, crafts, discussion, music and fun.

Catherine Fletcher Rainbow Club Coordinator

We are looking for volunteers to help in a variety of ways in Rainbow Club, as Catherine Fletcher takes time off to care for her mother. We need volunteers to "teach" on Sundays so that our 3 remaining teachers aren't always on. We also need helpers for Palm Sunday to run our Seder meal and Easter Walk. In particular, we need a story teller and people to set up and clean up. A detailed script and setup instructions are all ready to go, as are materials, costumes and props. We would need someone to shop for the little bit of food that is needed and most importantly, someone to delegate these jobs. Please speak to Andrea or a Rainbow Club leader if you can help out.

Local and World Outreach

The Local and World Outreach Committee has gotten off to a busy start this year. On February 23rd members of BAUC participated in the Coldest Night of the Year. We have participated every year since 2015. This event took place in 133 communities across the country to raise awareness surrounding issues related to homelessness in Canada. The money raised in each community stays in the community to help organizations that support people experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness. Our team walked 5km in support of Youth Haven. We had 20 registered walkers (the most we have had yet) with18 in attendance that evening. Our final fundraising total has yet to be confirmed but to date our team has raised \$3,076.75. Well done Team Burton! Thanks to everyone at BAUC for supporting this worthwhile cause. In addition to raising funds and awareness, great fun was had and new friendships were formed for those that participated. It was a great opportunity for us to come together outside of church to support our community, and get to know each other a little better. We are looking forward to adding to our team next year and raising even more funds!

A call was put out and BAUC answered! Several members of our church have been busy volunteering at Lucy's Place helping with renovations to get it move-in ready for it's new residents. Lucy's Place is a joint partnership between Redwood Park Communities and the David Busby Centre This conversion project will offer furnished bachelor apartments for individuals currently experiencing chronic homelessness in our city. There will be support workers on site 24/7 to help residents and connect them with community supports and resources . It was named "Lucy's Place" in honour and memory of a woman who died on Barrie's streets in the fall of 2014 after experiencing homelessness. It is part of Simcoe County's new Housing First Initiative. More information about Lucy's Place and the Housing First Initiative can be found at the link below.

https://www.redwoodparkcommunities.com/blog/why-housing-first

We asked our BAUC congregation to "Spring into Action" through a 2 week Clothing and Toiletry Drive in support of the David Busby Centre and the response was overwhelming. Never underestimate the impact simple things like basic personal care items (toothpaste and toothbrush, shampoo, hairbrush..) that we take for granted can have on restoring a person's hope and dignity. And passing on our gently used clothing to David Busby Centre is a triple win! Good for us, good for our homeless neighbors, and good for our planet.

On Saturday, March 30th BAUC will be holding a SAFE TALK Suicide Alertness Training. This training prepares participants to better recognize when people are having suicidal thoughts and teaches them how to get emergency help and connect the person with supports in the community. Every day 10 Canadians die by suicide. In a two-week period, 1 in 20 (5%) of the population has suicidal thoughts. If you aren't having suicidal thoughts, you likely know someone who is or has. By learning how to recognize the signs, and learning how to be open and comfortable talking about suicide we can make BAUC and our wider community a suicide-safer community.

Thank you from our Committee: *Christine Nayler, Rev. Pat MacDonald, Joan Belecque, Joan Carruthers, Greg Taylor, Grace Taylor, David Pipher*

"In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is the power to do it. " Marianne Williamson

Coldest Night of the Year







With gratitude for Janis Constable

As many of you already know, we are not continuing with our Parish Nurse Ministry that we began in June of 2018. The project was a 30 month pilot that contained 3 phases. The first was to engage Janis Constable from June to December to help us learn about and "try out" a Parish Nurse Ministry. The second and third phases would proceed if we were ready and able to expand the ministry in partnership with the wider church. While we learned much about Parish Nurse Ministry, the Board decided that it was not the right time to proceed any further with this project. **BUT** over the course of the time that Janis was our Parish Nurse, she provided excellent care to many of our members. She helped us to learn more about health and healing ministry. She got us to wonder about the variety of pastoral care needs in a congregational setting. Those are gifts that will continue to bear fruit as we continue to assess the pastoral ministry of our congregation. We are ever grateful! On a personal note, Janis, I am grateful for your loving witness and your faithful commitment.

Blessings, Andrea Wheaton

The Listening Post

In January a new community initiative called the *Listening Post* began through Burton Avenue United Church. The *Listening Post* seeks to create spaces for those who are marginalized and vulnerable in Barrie to be heard without being judged, corrected, advised or fixed- spaces where they can tell their stories or sit in silence and know they are safe and held with compassion. When people are dealing with homelessness, poverty, addictions or mental illness, finding someone to just listen without any other agenda is rare. For those who are often ignored, shunned, hurried along, turned away and feared, the Listening Post offers a place where they are heard and accepted just as they are, and most of all a space where what what they say is valued.

Funded by a grant from the former Living Waters Presbytery, the Listening Post is one of just a few in Canada and the US. As the Listening Post in Barrie forms and grows, Ruth McDonald, the Listening Post Director, is being supported by other Listening Posts in Anchorage, Alaska and Vancouver, B.C. as well as a steering committee of members of Burton Avenue United and the Barrie community. The members of the steering committee are Selene Taylor, Colin MacDonald, Pat MacDonald, and Carolyn Boyer.

The goal for this year is for the steering committee of 5 to focus on grounding ourselves as compassionate and reflective listeners, beginning with listening sessions at the David Busby Centre. As we become more experienced we will grow our pool of trained listeners and expand our range of listening locations; all the while listening to the needs of our local context and the call upon our hearts. Please feel free to speak with Ruth McDonald (705-229-6513) if you are interested in receiving the listening training and she will be sure to contact you when that opportunity is available.

In our first training session, we were reminded of the powerful impact of deep listening in our own lives when our facilitator asked two questions.

"When were you were listened to in your life?"

"How did being listened to affect you?"

In the sharing that followed we became aware of how powerful just being heard is for each of us. It's that simple. And yet listening well is an art that needs practice. For now, the steering committee of the Listening Post will begin the practice of listening and step into where we have been led with joy and trust.

As the Listening Post in Anchorage, Alaska says, "What we all need is a good listening to."

The Life Long Learning Committee

On Friday February 15, approximately 35 kids & adults gathered to enjoy their favourite game & treat. It was a fun night of fellowship, and a great way to start the Family Day weekend.

Sunday April 7, 2019, we will have an Easter craft downstairs after the service for the children. This give parents/grandparents a chance to enjoy some refreshments while their children are creating an Easter masterpiece.

Save the date! Camp weekend will be from Friday, September 13 to Sunday, September 15, 2019. More details to follow in the Spring!

Nicole Masuda, Marni O'Brien, Sally Telford, Sheena Fletcher-Hoving, Shelley Cliche & Briana O'Brien

The Truth and Reconciliation Committee

"All my relations" is an Ojibwe phrase meaning we are all related. All living things are connected—to the Creator and to each other. I cannot exist without you and you cannot exist without me.

The Truth and Reconciliation Committee takes seriously this sacred teaching, and that's why we're building connections to the Barrie Native Friendship Centre (BNFC). As a first step, we've been gathering there for our committee meetings on the third Tuesday morning of each month, learning from staff about how we can support the work of the centre. This may mean simply attending events like Winterfest where there is a strong BNFC presence; it may mean non-Indigenous youth participation on the BNFC Youth Council; or it may mean members of our congregation attending the Barrie powwow and even participating in the planning. We are on a journey of learning and listening as we prayerfully discern how to live into the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

At our last meeting, we decided to focus in the year ahead on the treaties that govern our area (there are three!), recognizing that we are all treaty people. We hope to offer some educational activities and events later this year, and to make this theme the focus of an upcoming worship service.

In the spirit of "all my relations," we are also strongly encouraging youth at BAUC to consider applying for a unique opportunity to participate in reconciliation and relationship building between Indigenous and non-Indigenous young people. Gibimishkaadimin is an anishnaabemowin word meaning "travelling together by boat," and this summer, from August 20–28, the United Church of Canada will be taking Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth ages 14 to 19 on a wilderness canoe trip in northern Ontario as part of a five-year pilot project of reconciliation. The application deadline is March 31, 2019. For more information, talk to one of our committee members.

I leave you with the late Richard Wagamese's reflections on "all my relations": "The most important word is all. Not just those who look like me, sing like me, dance like me, speak like me, pray like me or behave like me. ALL my relations. It means every person just as it means every blade of grass, rock, mineral and creature. We live because everything else does. If we were to collectively choose to live that teaching the energy of that change of consciousness would heal all of us—and heal the planet."

Warmly,

Julie

Submitted on behalf of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee: Pat MacDonald, Julie McGonegal, Jane Rees, Islay Scott, Jane Sullivan, Selene Taylor.

Confirmation Class for Teens

We began with a weekend retreat here at Burton hosted by Shining Waters Regional Council. We were joined by youth from Grace United here in Barrie as well as from Royal York Road United in Toronto. The theme for our weekend was "When Hands Reach Out". We had a visitor from Samaritan House come and speak to us on the Friday night about their work and the long partnership that we at BAUC have with Samaritan House Ministries. On Saturday we walked to the Salvation Army Thrift shop and in small groups purchased an entire outfit for \$20 or less for each group's "model". Back at the church we did research on each of the purchases in preparation for our ethical fashion show. We found out lots about how our fashion purchases and lifestyle choices impact the world and others around the world—from environmental impact to child labour to unsafe policies for employees. Then on Saturday afternoon we had a visitor from Simcoe Pride who spoke about their journey as an activist which began when they were in grade 7 or 8. It is amazing the difference a person of any age can make to positively impact issues of justice.

We also worshipped, we ate (thanks Bev Butler for our meals), and we played games!

We have 5 members in our Confirmation Class but would gladly welcome others (grades 7-11) when we start our gatherings for just our BAUC group. We will have about 8 meetings on Sundays after church and/or Tuesdays right after supper. Speak to Andrea Wheaton as soon as possible if you would like to be a part of this class that explores what it means to be a full member of the United Church of Canada!

Congratulations to Rev. Jane Sullivan as she begins a new ministry!

We received the letter below from her on Sun., Mar. 3. We will miss her participation in the life and work of this congregation but hope to see her on occasion as her family continues to be a part of our church family!

My Dear Friends,

This weekend, I have begun a new pastoral relationship with the two congregations of the Creemore Pastoral Charge, a fact that I could not share before last Sunday because they only had their joint congregational meeting last Tuesday.

But I wanted to thank you for being my church family for the last 5 years. My family and I have had so many rich experiences serving God in the neighbourhood with you. Your love and support, and the honour that you show your ministers is truly inspirational. I have learned, and been empowered by your glowing example. In the five years I have been here, I have watched this community become more compassionate, more justice oriented – and filled with the energy of the Holy Spirit. I have watched our children grow – in some cases from babyhood! And I have joined with you in sharing losses when some of our beloved have died, or become ill. In all things, you have truly been the body of Christ to me.

As I venture forth into congregational ministry again, (after being denominational staff), I feel focussed, and strong, and grateful for all that I have received through Burton Avenue United Church. I will miss you all so much!

In Christ,

Jane



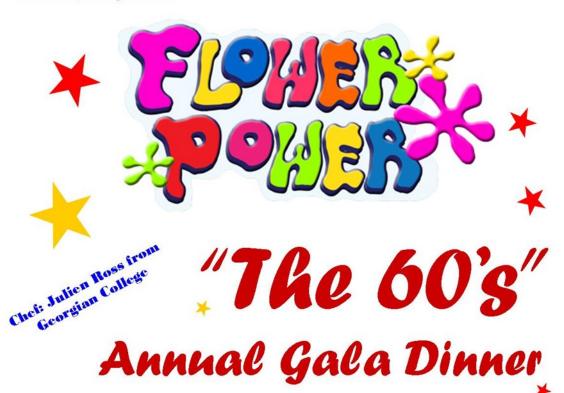
Burton Avenue United Church Invites You To

Saturday, April 13 2019

5:30 to 6:30 pm Appetizers/Refreshments Ticket/Silent Auction Bidding

6:30 pm Dinner Service Live Auction Dessert, Tea/Coffee





Tickets: \$80 per person
With \$50 Tax Receipt
Event to be held at BAUC
37 Burton Avenue, Barrie

For Tickets:
Phone The Church Office
Mon-Fri Mornings 9:30—12:30
At 705-726-0401