

BURTON AVENUE
UNITED CHURCH

"We are not alone. We live in God's world."

October
2019

Volume 19
Issue 3



KEEPING IN TOUCH

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

Fall Newsletter

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Church Office Hours

Monday to Friday—9:30-12:30

705-726-0401

Newsletter Editor

Edd Taylor

sjtjet1@gmail.com

Since our June newsletter hopefully all of us were able to enjoy the blessings of summer and the early fall seasons... fresh produce from our own gardens or from farms, picking berries, swimming in lakes and rivers, going to summer camp or simply camping, travelling to visit family or new vacation places, dinner on the deck, picnics in the park, cottaging or playing at the waterfront, summer jobs for students or new jobs for others. Over the last few months there has also been the joys of weddings celebrated and babies born. There have been birthday and anniversary gatherings and family reunions. There have been times of saying goodbye to those leaving home for post-secondary school or moving away. Some have had to move family into care facilities. For some of us, there have also been difficult times of worry in hospital rooms attending to our own or the health concerns of family or friends. Some of us have faced the sorrow of funerals for close friends or family members. All of those and many other joys and sorrows are a part of life and God was present in all of them. Did you notice God's presence? Were there times when you were sure of God with you? Were there times when you doubted that God was near? Would we have noticed God's presence if we deepened our spiritual awareness and practice by adding mindfulness and intentionality?

On Oct. 20 we are beginning **The Presence Project**. Created by The Rev. Larry Doyle of Faith United Church in Courtice, ON, it is a non-program program. The idea is to infuse every aspect of our church's life and our own lives with awareness and mindfulness of God's Presence and accept an invitation to commune with that Presence. We will begin with the first three of a four part sermon series wondering about God's presence in our lives. Oct. 20 - Sensing Presence, Oct. 27 - Savouring Presence, and Nov. 3 - Sharing Presence. In whatever is happening in our home, school, work lives do we notice that God is present? In whatever tasks, events, committee meetings, outreach work, fundraiser or group we are part of in our church life, is there an awareness that God is present? As we seek together "to know God through Jesus Christ, and to reflect God's love as the church in a changing community and world" are we sharing God's presence? Those are some of the questions that we will consider together and commit to asking ourselves and one another over the next few months. Imagine the transformation that is possible when sensing, savouring and sharing God's presence in the midst of all that life brings is part of our daily practice!

GENESIS 28:16 ~ "SURELY GOD IS IN THIS PLACE, AND I DID NOT KNOW IT!"

Blessings, Andrea Wheaton

Minister of Word, Sacrament & Pastoral Care.

Message From The Chair

One Christmas Season very early in my years at Burton Avenue, I was invited by Doug Garraway, who was the director at the time, to sing a song on Christmas Eve. I had chosen a piece by Amy Grant that was a little complicated to follow - flipping back and forth from verse to chorus - so I remember taping the pages together to make it easier for Doug. He might have had trouble following the music but he did not have trouble playing it. There was a point in the song when I felt the emotion in what he was playing so strongly that for the first time I forgot all my worry about singing the wrong note or the wrong lyric and just entered into the music. He was communicating something that was beyond the melody and the lyrics but something that touched my heart. It was unforgettable. He was an incredibly talented man and he will be missed.

I am grateful to have been a part of the music program at Burton when Doug was the Director and I am grateful to have the opportunity to be a part of the music going forward. Katie Pergau has some amazing things planned for this Advent Season including a Christmas Cantata and some beautiful pieces. I hope that you will come open to hearing that subtle communication beyond the notes and the words.

The Board is approaching a period of change over the next year as Alan McGee steps down from the Treasurer role and I finish my term as Chair. These periods of change are healthy for the church. They lead to growth and innovation and I look forward to what this will bring for us. I challenge those of you who care about this church to step up and join the leadership at this time. Know that you are welcome, that your voice is valued and that there are roles big or small to fit whatever commitment your time will allow. There is so much going on in the church and so many opportunities to find something that speaks to your heart.

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

Blessings,

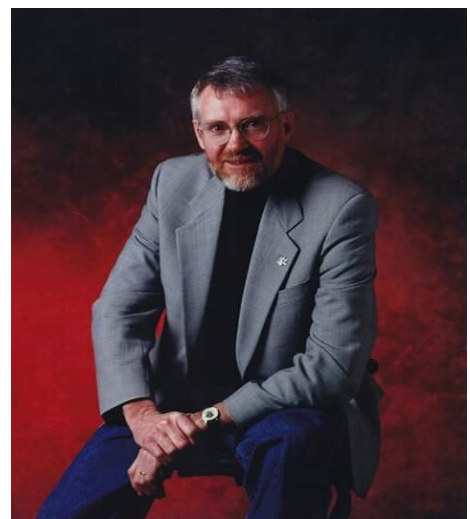
Cathy Manzato—Chair of the Board

IN MEMORIAM

Douglas Melville Arthur Garraway

April 10, 1942 – October 4, 2019

*We offer gratitude for Doug’s loving presence, his faithful and faith filled leadership, his kindness and friendship and his joyful music leading us toward God. The title of the window behind the organ, **Joyful Music Leads us Sunward**, was taken from the hymn **Joyful, Joyful We Adore You**. It was dedicated in honour of Doug’s 40 years of music ministry here and re-dedicated after 50 years of music leadership when he retired in 2011. The symbols in the window express the importance of praising God through music as we make our Christian journey ever progressing sunward towards God who is our center. The music of Doug’s life will live on in those who knew and loved him, in those who were inspired and taught by him, those he told his stories to and befriended, those whose hearts were touched by his music, all those he gladly welcomed into the music of his own song and toward the heart of God.*





Treasurer's Report October 2019 YTD

This financial report covers the first nine months of 2019. The total receipts for the year so far were \$250,555 compared to \$249,406 over the same period in 2018, which represented a small increase of \$1,149. The good news is that our local givings for the year continue to grow, now \$12,687 more than last year over the same period. This is sign of real growth in our congregation which is a positive trend indeed!

Our total expenses for the first nine months were \$261,407 versus \$270,899 last year, which represented a decrease of \$9,492. As a result, our operating deficit for the first nine months was \$10,851 compared to \$21,493 last year, an improvement of \$10,641. This is a good situation to be in as we head into the busy fall season. As always, thank you for your ongoing support of the ministries here at Burton Avenue United Church.

Sincerely,

Alan J. McGee

Treasurer

Administration Committee

Our biggest project – the new auditorium floor has been completed and it really looks great.

New stair treads have been ordered and will be installed in 5 to 8 weeks.

The new dishwasher has been installed as well as the new freezer and cooler. These purchases were possible because of the grant obtained for the Kitchen Club. Thanks to Peggy Gemmell for her work on this.

Our committee and Stacey in the church office have been working with the various rental groups to bring their rental rates up to today's standards.

A few maintenance items were also attended to.

The Committee – Lyle Edwards, Eric Boone & Jim Macfarlane

Worship Committee

What a great and faith filled summer we have had. Many of you volunteered to run the elevator so that our scheduled ushers could concentrate on readying the sanctuary for worship and doing the necessary financials following the service. Others were so welcoming and helpful as lay leaders in assisting visiting or lay ministers, And then, of course, a big thank you to Chelsea Skanes, Cathy Manzato, Chris Haynes and Rick Williams who offered their gifts by way of preaching. Music supply was provided by Maggie Haynes. We are indeed fortunate to have so many of our members who live out their faith in worship leadership.

Since returning from the summer months we have had a camp weekend when Rev. Ruth McDonald provided pulpit supply for Andrea and Valerie Wauchope provided music supply for Katie. The outreach committee took the service on Sunday, September 29 and Holy Communion was celebrated on Sunday, October 6.

Autumn is well upon us and between "feast days" and special celebrations we are in the days of the church year that are designated as Ordinary Time, lasting until Advent." Ordinary Time is the common place, the regular, the every day time. In between feasts and grand celebrations is the regular time of our lives, the time when faith lives and grows and sustains."

"The Liturgical colour for Ordinary Time is green. Green is a cool colour, evoking nature, growth, vitality, freshness, harmony, endurance and fertility. It is associated with healing and rest. It is the depth and stability of blue combined with the warmth and joy of yellow." (quote Taken from Gathering)

The Worship calendar at present is as follows:

<p>Sunday, October 13 - Thanksgiving</p> <p>Sundays, October 20 to November 3 inclusive – sermon series following the Presence Project</p> <p>Sunday, October 20 - Reception of new members</p> <p>Sunday, November 10 - Remembrance Service</p> <p>Sunday, November 17- 146th Anniversary Service</p> <p>Sunday, November 24 -Reign of Christ - Communion</p> <p>Sunday, December 1- First of Advent- Candle of Hope</p> <p>Sunday, December 8- Second of Advent- Candle of Peace</p> <p>Sunday, December 15– Third of Advent- Candle of Joy</p> <p>Thursday, December 19 - Longest Night Service- 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Sunday, December 22 - Fourth of Advent-Candle of Love</p> <p>Tuesday, December 24- Christmas Eve Services - Early Pageant Service</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- Late Candlelight Communion Service</p>

We are so thankful for the various ways that our congregation offers their gifts in worship and hope that you continue to do so.

Brenda Young, Chair

Local and World Outreach Committee

Outreach Sunday

On September 29th the Outreach Committee in partnership with TRC led the service. The topic that we focused on was Food Insecurity and ways we could help those experiencing food insecurity in our community. We also looked at how we can address the root cause, which is poverty. We collected non-perishable for the Barrie Native Friendship Centre's Hunger to Hope Program.

Good Food Box

One of the ways we at BAUC are helping those facing food insecurity is through the Good Food Box's Pay it Forward Program. We purchase a food box full of fresh local produce which is then distributed to a family in need by a local social service agency. Through this program we provide 2 boxes a month.

Socktober

Throughout the month of October we will once again be collecting socks as well as underwear that will be distributed to those in needs by The Busby Centre and Youth Haven. Socks are one of the most requested and needed items at homeless shelters, especially during the winter months and they are also one of the least donated. Underwear, especially long underwear are also in great demand for those that spend their days and often their nights outside.

Education Series

In the spring we let you know that we would be starting a new educational series in the fall of 2019. This series will offer opportunities for discussion on social justice issues through our Conversations that Count speakers series, as well as Movie that Matter screenings and workshops on relevant topics and issues. The first event of the series will be a screening of The Last River. Next up will be a workshop for caregivers.

After the Last River

On October 22nd we are hosting in partnership with TRC a screening of After the Last River. Background on After the Last River In the shadow of a De Beers diamond mine, the remote community of Attawapiskat lurches from crisis to crisis as their homeland transforms into a modern frontier. Filmed over five years, After the Last River follows Attawapiskat's journey from obscurity and into the international spotlight with the protests of Idle No More. Filmmaker Victoria Lean connects personal stories from the First Nation to entwined mining industry agendas and government policies, painting a complex portrait of a territory that is a imperiled homeland to some and a profitable new frontier for others.

Self-Care for Caregivers

Are you the one ALWAYS looking after others? Maybe you're the ONLY one looking after others. Has this left you feeling tired, exhausted, and like there is nothing left in the tank? Perhaps your original feelings of compassion have turned to apathy. Has this led you to losing balance in your own life? While it can be extremely gratifying to help others we care about, personally or professionally, it can also become an incredible burden if we don't know how to care for ourselves in the process. It can even make us sick. Greg Taylor will provide a workshop to help participants recognize the early warning signs of compassion fatigue and caregiver burnout and to develop resources and practical tools to maintain resiliency.

Movember

The Outreach Committee is issuing a challenge to all the men in our congregation to take part in Movember by growing a mo for men's health. Movember is the leading charity changing the face of men's health breaking the silence and getting men to talk about prostate cancer, mental health and suicide.

Coldest Night of the Year

Once again we will be participating in the Coldest Night of the Year. If you would like to join us mark February 22, 2020 in your calendar. This event takes place in communities across Canada to raise both funds and awareness of the issues facing those experiencing homeless. We will be walking in support of Youth Haven.

"We must not, in trying to think about how we can make a big difference, ignore the small daily differences we can make which, over time, add up to big differences that we often cannot foresee." Marian Wright Edelman

Thank you

The Local and World Outreach Committee

Christine, Joan B., Joan C., Greg, Grace, David

Stewardship Committee

Welcome to fall – the summer seemed to fly by and now the church is back in full swing! It seems like so long ago, but our McGregor Meat order went well, and we raised \$628! Thank you everyone for your orders and your support.

The Roast Beef dinner is coming up quickly on October 25th at 6 pm. Volunteers are needed for several aspects of this event, if you can assist in some capacity, please contact any member of the Stewardship committee or Islay Scott.

Speaking of dinners, there are several different dinner events that occur throughout the year, some are larger fundraisers, some are more about community and fellowship, but all come about thanks to many volunteers as well as a main convener. The convener is the person who organizes the multiple volunteers, tying everything together to culminate in a great event. We are looking for people that have an interest in convening meal events. You do not have to become a member of the Stewardship committee (or any committee for that matter – but we would welcome anyone who would want to join us) and you would not be responsible for all of the work or even all of the events. Ideally, if there were a few people that would like to step into this role, there could be co-conveners, you could take over one, two or a few events – the possibilities are endless! Previous and current conveners have kept very good notes on past events that would help anyone new, or perhaps you know of a different way to keep things moving. If this interests you, please contact any of our committee members.

The 2020 usher list and schedule will be created soon, so we are looking for people who would like to assist in this capacity. Generally, this works out to four to six Sundays a year, however if more people volunteer, this frequency could reduce. We are in the process of slightly changing the usher duties so that one usher's main responsibility is the elevator – before and after service. There will be 3 ushers scheduled in the summer, and still 4 during the fall to spring period. You may have been hesitant in the past to volunteer as counting is not your forte, but running the elevator is something you would love to do – now is your chance to volunteer! If you have never ushered before, do not fear! There is always someone who will assist and answer questions. If there is enough interest, a short usher training session could also be run.

Thank you everyone for your support and encouragement for the events that were held so far this year. Our church has no shortage of incredibly generous people – not just monetarily but with their time, experience and incredible talents. Stay tuned for upcoming opportunities to help.

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace;
1 Peter 4:10 ESV*

Devon Williams, Sandra Davidson & Alan McGee

Burton Ave United Church Senior Choir presents **“Born a Saviour, Born a King”**, a Christmas Cantata and will be joined by Rita Arendz and her Brass Ensemble.

Come and join us for some beautiful music – you can even join in as there will be a carol sing, accompanied by brass and organ!

Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 7:00 pm

Stay for treats after the concert.

Freewill donation with proceeds supporting the general fund of Burton Ave United Church

Listening Post Barrie

We nurture listeners and create spaces in Barrie where people can be heard one-on-one with compassion, respect and in confidence because listening is a gift for both the sharer and the listener.

There are so many ways to explain what we do at the Listening Post...here is just one.

The Listening Post fosters healing connection in our community. We do this through deep listening with people in Barrie and area, especially those who have experienced trauma, poverty, homelessness, addictions, loss and exclusion.

The Listening Post is celebrating!

Celebrating people being heard!

November marks the 6 month anniversary of starting our pilot listening site at the Busby Centre. As of the beginning of October we have had 141 people heard at a deep level. Quite a few of those are repeats which affirms to us that the listening experience is positive for people. We have offered 40 hours of one on one listening!

Celebrating volunteer listeners!

We are celebrating 7 new volunteer visitors having been trained this fall. These folks will start volunteering once we have their vulnerable sector police checks in place. Some have already started. Once we have a chance to coach and accompany our new volunteers at our first site we will have more people power to expand our listening site locations. The Listening Post welcomes volunteer listeners from the broader community and seeks to create a supportive, diverse community of common minded folk who value listening in all aspects of their lives. If you know someone who has a heart for listening please put them in contact with Ruth at the Listening Post.

Celebrating Pop-Up Free Listening!

We have offered free pop-up listening at Meridian Place, downtown Barrie 4 times with up to 5 volunteers showing up with their "FREE LISTENING" signs! Currently we are having a conversation with a possible public winter location.

Celebrating Recognition in the Larger Church!

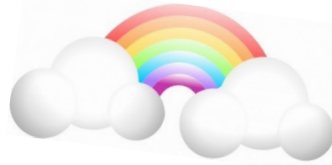
We received a growth grant from the United Church Edge program to help with funding in 2020. This funding helps fund Ruth McDonald's role as director of the Listening Post and that in turn allows her to engage, train and support more volunteers, network to establish more listening sites, educate social agencies and faith communities about the mission of the Listening Post, organize pop-up listening events, apply for future funding, create a webpage and keep you up to date on mission and action of the listening post.

We recently submitted an article for the Mandate magazine to tell the larger church about what we do. Make sure you watch out for it and see if you learn anything new about what is happening in your own backyard right here in Barrie!

Celebrating your support!

We are so grateful for all of you at Burton Avenue United Church for including us in your weekly prayer cycle each Sunday during the month of September and for your financial support as we move into 2020.

If you are interested in learning more about the Listening Post please email Ruth McDonald at listeningpostbarrie@gmail.com.



Welcome to the Rainbow Club 2019/2020

We have had another great start this fall in Rainbow Club. We've welcomed back many old friends and look forward to meeting lots of new ones. Please be sure to fill in a registration form (available in The Ark) so that we may know your child's needs/interests etc. and that we can contact you easily when needed.

We have a fun year planned with lots of drama, music, arts, crafts, food, discussion, games, parties and stories.

Through these activities and our *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum, we share God's love and lay the foundation for faith in our children.

We have a core group of very dedicated leaders, but **we are in urgent need of 2 teachers to work with our Grade 7 group**. Please talk to Catherine Fletcher if you are interested. *Police checks for our volunteers are church policy*

Our leaders are:

Primary: Marni O., Sheena F. H. , Donna H.

Junior: Carol B., Angela K.

Intermediate: NEEDED

Senior (grade 8 and up): Peter M, Cathy M.

Remember that the **Rainbow Club** meets in *The Ark* every Sunday during church and all children and teens ages 3 and up are most welcome.

Catherine Fletcher

Rainbow Club Coordinator

Congregational Life Committee

Summer has passed and Autumn is officially here and BAUC is thriving again. Our church life never stops but it does slowdown during the summer.

A BIG thank you to Katie and Harv Garraway for hosting a pool party on July 21. I think I can speak for all when I say we all had a "splashing" good time! Also thank you to everyone who helped with the serving of juice and cookies on Sunday after Church in July and August and to Valerie for overseeing this.

Since September started we hosted a Welcome Back potluck luncheon and celebrated July, August and September birthdays on September 29 with cake at coffee time. Speaking of coffee time please keep in mind that in this automated world we are not quite able to have our Sunday coffee /tea time automatically set up with the flick of a switch or abracadabra of a wand. Unfortunately we need people power! It is not a difficult task but our committee would appreciate some new volunteers this year. We will gladly help you out until you feel confident enough to do it alone. Perhaps you can do set up but not clean up or the other way around. That is helpful. You don't need to set up tables and chairs or take them down. Speak to one of our committee on Sunday if you are interested!

Upcoming events are new Member Sunday and a fun night of cards. Watch the bulletin each Sunday or our webpage for further details.

Your Congregational Life Committee: Alita, Valerie, Lynn, Linda, Janet, Cheryl and Nancy

Truth and Reconciliation Committee

Fall has arrived and the TRC Committee is getting back to the work of listening, learning and living into right relations. We continue to offer ourselves as witnesses and we invite you to join us in these sacred tasks.

We thank all who wore their orange shirts and joined in honouring residential school survivors for Orange Shirt Day on September 30th.

We encourage you come out to watch the film, *After the Last River*, being presented together with the Outreach Committee in the sanctuary on October 22nd. This "real life" story will, hopefully, deepen your understanding and stretch your heart in compassion for the Indigenous community of Attawapiskat in northern Ontario.

We also continue to meet regularly at the Barrie Native Friendship Centre as part of a wider ecumenical group. At our last meeting there, we spoke with staff person Vanessa Kennedy about upcoming events and programs and ways our congregation can come out and support the work of the centre.

In peace,

Jane Rees, Julie McGonegal, Selene Taylor & Colin MacDonald

Life Long Learning Committee

The Life Long Learning Committee is celebrating a successful weekend away at Sparrow Lake Camp from September 13- 15, 2019. At our peak time over the weekend, Saturday afternoon, we had 75 people in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful weather, many indoor and outdoor activities (canoeing, kayaking, archery, crafts, games, baseball, etc.), food, fellowship, campfire, and worship.

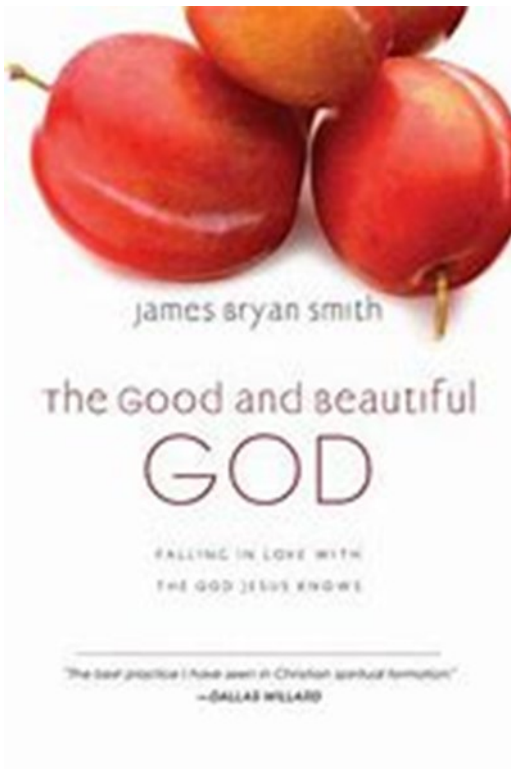
Many thanks to those that helped make the weekend a huge success by helping in the kitchen, planning worship, offering music at worship and/or campfire, entertaining busy children, or just being at camp and enjoying the fellowship.

We look forward to another fun camp weekend next Fall.

In the coming couple months, we hope to offer a fun activity to celebrate the start of the Advent season. Keep your eye on the Burton Banner for details.

Life Long Learning Committee Nicole Masuda, Marni O'Brien, Briana O'Brien, Sally Telford, Sheena Fletcher-Hoving, Shelley Cliche

STUDY GROUP



We all have ideas about God. Some are true, but many are false. The thoughts we have about God determine not only who we are, but how we live. With the book, The Good and Beautiful God: Falling in Love with the God Jesus Knows, you are invited to put your ideas about God to the test. Do they match up with what Jesus reveals about God? Once you have discovered the truth about God in Scripture, you can engage in a process of spiritual formation aimed at making these true narratives real in your body, soul and mind, helping you to grow in the knowledge of our good and beautiful God.

The author of the “Good and Beautiful” series is James Bryan Smith, Associate Professor of Religion, as well as the Dallas Willard Chair for Christian Spiritual Formation at Friends University in Wichita, Kansas.

Colin MacDonald will be leading this group that will gather weekly on Tuesday afternoons (2:00-3:30) or evenings (7:30-9:00) beginning November 5. We will go through the first six chapters, take a Christmas break after December 10, and resume the study beginning January 7, 2020. The series will end on Tuesday February 4.

There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer, and you are welcome to give your autograph there. The minimum number of participants will be 3, with the maximum 15.

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Youth Inc begins on **Sun., Oct. 20** from **7:00 - 8:30 pm**, Grades 6 and up.

All Welcome! Bring a Friend.

Fun, friendship, faith, food.....

BURTON AVENUE UNITED CHURCH

Roast Beef Dinner



\$20.00 For Adults

\$10.00 Children (12 years & under)

For Tickets:

Call the church
office

9:30-12:30 a.m.

Monday-Friday.

705-726-0401

Burton Avenue
United Church37 Burton Avenue
Barrie
www.burtonavenueunited.com
www.facebook.com

Time: 6:00 pm

Date: Friday,
October 25th, 2019

**Tender Beef
served with:**
potatoes, gravy,
vegetables,
salad,
condiments,
and.....

Homemade**Pies !!!****Gluten Free****Alternatives**

Burton Avenue United Church is hosting a

The "Original" Victorian Tea

Featuring English Scones with Devon Cream and Tea.
\$12.00 for Adults \$6.00 for Children under 12 years.



Free Admission to the **Sale Area** that features
a selection of Christmas Baking, Jams & Pickles, Crafts,
Collectibles and Gently Used Treasures.

Saturday, November 30, 2019
1:30-4:00 p.m.

37 Burton Avenue
Barrie
705 726 0401

BURTON AVENUE
UNITED CHURCH

"We are not alone. We live in God's world."

Victorian Tea takes place on Saturday, Nov. 30 running from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. Admission – \$ 12 for adults and \$ 6 for children 12 and under. Admission is charged for the tea room at the door. Admission to the other areas is free .

Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29 are preparation days . Please speak to any convenor to see how you might help us out. Contribute baking, preserves and pickles, wait tables, take tickets, wash dishes, set up tables, drink tea and eat scones with cream and strawberry preserves- the possibilities are endless! If we don't ask you **Ask Us**. This is a great event for all ages and what a wonderful way to kick off the advent season . We hope to see you there.

VICTORIAN TEA CONVENORS

General Convenor and Decorating – Brenda Young – 794-5988– wiley-cook@sympatico.ca

Kitchen Convenor - Nicole Masuda – 427-1226 – nicolemmasuda@gmail.com

Tea Room Convenors – Brenda McGee – 718-4010 - ajmcgee@rogers.com

Miriam Oben – 734-0395 – jmim.oben@sympatico.ca

Baking Convenor – Islay Scott - 817-6190 – ila.scott@sympatico.ca

Trinkets and Treasures Convenors – Brian and Harmonie Barkell – 727-9842 – handb@rogers.com

Publicity – Edd Taylor – 722-6084 – sltjet1@gmail.com

Tables and Room Setup – Lyle Edwards – 728-1374