



THE UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Editors: Stepb Hattie and Gabriel Araba

Vol. 0016



TOGETHERNESS!

We have learnt so much about "Love" at UBC that it is the greatest force in the entire universe having Supernatural impact on our lives and everything that we see and do not see. That it is not manmade but the very expression of God.

One of the effects of love is "Togetherness".

There is so much power in togetherness. It is amazing what this could do for us. For example, let us take these illustrations; when water droplets come together you get a mighty ocean that can float gigantic boats, when little ants come together, they can build anthills a million

times their size. Many trees come together to make a rich forest as perfect shelter and resources that support life.

"When people come together, nothing shall be impossible for them".

You will find an amazing story on this in Genesis 11:6 "The people are united, and they all speak the same language. After this, nothing they set out to do will be impossible for them!" Let us speak same Kingdom language of love and unity.



The purpose of coming together must be pleasing to God and favourable to one another. It should be about the kingdom of God, Righteousness, Peace and Joy. Romans 14:17 "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit."



Togetherness is displayed in sharing affection and meeting each others needs. It is about closeness, being close enough to see where you can be of help. It is sharing the peaceful Fellowship that the world sees and knows that we are Sisters and Brothers of Jesus Christ.



John 13:35 "By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another" What a wonderful world we have been given and what an exceptional opportunity to share in one of the greatest opportunities of being there for someone else. Imagine what we all can achieve. Remember you have the power to foster oneness, togetherness in our Church community as we usher in the nations.

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." Romans 12:18.

Do not forget that I love you all. Hugs and virtual hugs from Pastor Gabriel Araba

WE ARE GOING HIKING!



Bill and Susan are inviting the Young Adults' Group to an experience worth your while. It is time to take a hike to the [Edmund Fitzgerald Lookout](#) on the other side of the highway from [Pancake Bay Provincial Park](#). Bill said that he could lead the hike as soon as the **weather permits**. Interested? Send "Yes Hiking" to 705-206-5354. The hike takes about 3 1/2 hours and requires good footwear (running shoes are fine). Those that do not want to make the hike can stay at the beach house which is 5 km past the park. No problem, refreshments will be provided. Smiles.



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HURRAY! UBC HIRED THE BEST OF THE BEST!

We are happy to announce two great hires. Jeffrey Remiendo (**UBC Bookkeeper**) a qualified and certified Accountant from the Philippines joined our team a few weeks ago and he is already doing a fabulous work; our books looking great and tidy. We are so happy to meet Jeff and his family who also live here in Sault Ste Marie. In his words,

"We are grateful and happy for the opportunity given to our family"

Jeff is a very kind and humble man with his beautiful wife and lovely children. Our prayers for spiritual wellbeing and success go up to God for him and family in Jesus name. To say that "we are going places" is an understatement, God almighty is helping us move forward at Holy spirit speed.

We are so happy to introduce our **New Project Coordinator**, Anett Joseph. She is coordinating our outreach initiatives ranging from the outreach to Singles Parents with talented seniors and childcare provisions, Young Adult network, Men's Events and the AfroCaribbean praise outreaches. Hmmm! We sense God all over these. Anett is from India, she loves visiting new places and keeping herself busy by learning new skills. In her words she says **"Together We can grow U and Me"**. Please welcome these amazing people to the UBC family.



You are invited to the Lord's Table



Communion Sunday Service on October 3rd, 2021. Please don't miss it. Communion elements are provided for the in-person attendees. We implore online attendees to please prepare your own bread or biscuit and Juice/wine to share the Holy Communion together. Pastor Gabriel would pray for the bread and wine. Most importantly, please prepare your heart as well. God bless you.

SUNDAY SERVICE VIA ZOOM PLATFORM, YOUTUBE & IN-PERSON

Our Sunday services will continue every Sunday at 10.30am on the zoom platform and in-person service as well. Please be a part of this amazing time. Please watch the recording later on YouTube – Search **United Baptist Channel**. All safety precautions are observed and we can look forward to an awesome time, every Sunday. For online, Please join church services using the Zoom link below. Zoom link details:

Meeting ID: 958 598 9328 and Passcode: YmvCuoXa!



United Baptist
CHURCH



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In other News- September 2021.



With dropping temperatures bringing the glorious, rich colours of Autumn that fairly glisten in the afternoon sunlight, we are reminded of Ecclesiastes 3:1

"To everything there is a season".
And, through every season, your Board of Deacons and Board of Management have continued to meet via Zoom. Following are

some highlights of those meetings:

- **Esther Stephen** gave a presentation to the Board regarding her desire to support others through Counselling. Research will be done to affirm the viability of this opportunity.
- Discussed how to **enhance the church** (inside and outside) to make it more welcoming with a decision to stain the exterior shed and acquire estimates for re-shingling the roof, to purchase potted mums for the church entrance, and to consider fundraising in the future to re-surface the parking lot.
- **Pens and stickers** with the church logo have been ordered for inclusion in a Welcome package for newcomers.
- Waiting for confirmation from **Girl Guide Troop #14** regarding the Troop sharing our building.
- Due to COVID restrictions, a decision was made to **not** hold a church barbeque on September 19th with consideration to an **International Food Festival** later.
- The Boards approved the **2021 budget** to be presented to the Annual Meeting. A year-end deficit of \$12,918 is projected, which will be recovered from our savings.
- The Sunday School has grown to **13 children** with 3 of the children in the playroom (Nursery Room). *There were 3 children in Sunday School at the beginning of September,*
- Ongoing is replacement of the **flooring** in the washroom off the Narthex.
- In support of keeping in touch with the congregation, the need for additional persons to make monthly **Care Calls** was identified (**volunteer callers** are assigned approximately 8 persons to call). Contact Pastor Gabriel if you can be part of this vital outreach.

An electronic or paper copy of the **Minutes** of the September 19th, 2021, **AGM** (Annual General Meeting) will be provided upon request.





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“My daughter,

I want you to know – I am good.

I am always good.

I have been yesterday; I am today, and I will be forever.

My plans are good. My purposes are good. My love is good.

And I have chosen you to carry My goodness and to impact your world.

So, just listen to Me, hear My voice. You don't have to know every step or part of the plan.

Just trust Me, put your hand in mine and together we will walk the journey ahead.

You will have to summon all the courage you have; you will have to find strength you didn't know you had; you will have to respond with a yes, where in the past you may not have done so...and then hold on tight. It's going to be an adventure. Perhaps not what you had planned – but definitely what I did.

I will never leave you nor forsake you.

I will be with you forever.

So, be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions I give you in Scripture.

Do not deviate from them, turning neither to the right or to the left. Stay the course. Stay faithful. Stay

with Me.

We will walk this journey together.

We will see this world a better place because of who YOU are.

You are called.

You are capable.

You are stronger than you think.

With Me, you have everything you need.

I love you. Amen

This was the closing prayer - that of **Jesus speaking to women** at the Currie McPhail Mission Circle at the September 14th, 2021, meeting

The program included a video message from Karen Wilson, President of the Baptist Women's World Alliance. Karen spoke to the Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec at their 2021 Spring Conference. In her message, Karen referred to the story of Deborah in Judges 4 and 5. Deborah was a leader of her people, a prophetess and the only female judge. Karen encouraged us to be like Deborah.... to be obedient to God's word and listen so that we too can serve and be open to being leaders in our community. Her message was timely as our church moves forward with new beginnings and our Outreach Program.

Looking ahead, next meeting, **Tuesday, October 12th** will be planning for the **November 13th Sale for Missions**. *Donations of baking, craft and gift items, preserves, etc. are welcomed and appreciated.*

- Susan Van Atte



October is Pastor Appreciation Month

*The following was sent in response to a request from CBOQ for publication in an upcoming issue of The **CBOQ Newsletter**.*

“We believe that God especially chose **Pastor Gabriel Araba** for us in answer to our prayers. He is charming, hard working, very caring, dynamic, and thoughtful. We also deeply appreciate the support and input of his wife - **Dr. Teni Araba** with her leadership, not only in the field of music - with a growing music team - but also as a worship leader. His teenage daughter, **Romi**, has been an asset both in music and in the area of technology.

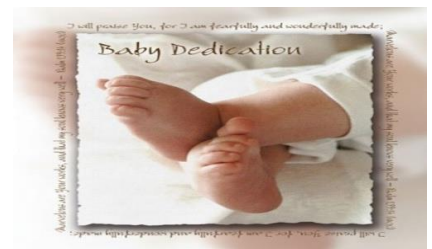
Through his teaching position at Sault College and the work of the Holy Spirit, many wonderful new people have joined our church family, with our congregation now covering a wide range of nationalities.

Our Sunday Service attendance (via Zoom, in person and on YouTube) has almost doubled in his time with us.

His impact was clearly noted in March of 2020, where he was the keynote speaker at the hill area churches for the World Day of Prayer Service. In thanking him, the well-seasoned and experienced speaker and moderator, paused for the longest time, looked directly at him, and then she said - **"Sir, you are a hard act to follow!"**

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. Matthew 19:14 NIV

It was both an honour and a privilege, on Sunday, September 19th, to join with two families at a truly significant and meaningful time in their lives - *dedicating their child to God.*



Isabella Elizabeth Simpson, born May 24th, 2021, **daughter** of Kaylee-Anne Dickson and Dylan Simpson, **granddaughter** of Mandy and Scott Dickson and **great-granddaughter** of Shane and Virginia Dickson.

Infinity Nicole Genevieve Rolt, born August 21st, 2021, **daughter** of Whitney Gagne and Zack Perks, **granddaughter** of Travis Perks and **great granddaughter** of Kathy and Keith Perks.



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With God's infinite grace, may we as members of this Church Family, provide our love and support in their lives and endeavour to encourage and nourish their Faith Journey.

Taking the temperature of our church

The fourth in a series where we will discuss fifteen questions proposed by the Canadian Baptists of Ontario & Quebec (CBOQ) in the topic '**Taking the temperature of your church**', part of the series **Revitalizing Small Churches**.

The statements that the Deacons' Board discussed at the September meeting, are as follows:

People in my church are willing to volunteer and be involved in new groups and ministries.

A revitalizing church requires volunteers to carry out the duties, functions and ministries of the church. We have been blessed lately with additions to our Music Ministry, for our Sunday School, greeters at the door, our Media Team, secretarial duties, helping with coffee time, the Care Team and preparing this newsletter. I know that I have not captured all of the volunteers, and I apologize for that. If you have been considering volunteering for something that interests you, and waiting for someone to ask, please step forward and acknowledge your interest. *We would be happy to hear from you.*

I believe individual member's voices are heard in my church.

We have a **Care Team** that tries to keep in touch with our church family at least once a month. If you did not realize it, this is your opportunity to **voice your concerns and celebrations**, to be heard. It is important for our church family to be engaged and reach out.

- Rod Stone



As a Church Family, warmest congratulation to **Rod Stone** on the September 22, 2021, 1:09 am birth of his first grandchild, **Payton Stortini**, 6 lb., 14 oz, with lots of dark hair, daughter of **Amanda and Gregg Stortini**.
Amanda is happy to have that part over with!