

Announcements

BEAVERLODGE WEMBLEY HYTHE PASTORAL CHARGE

Sunday, March 1 – Lent 2

Scripture Readings for those who would like to read them in advance:

March 8 – Lent 3

Exodus 17:1–7 Water from the rock.

Psalms 95 (VU pp. 814–815) Let us shout to the rock of our salvation.

Romans 5:1–11 Hope in God does not disappoint us.

John 4:5–42 Jesus and the Samaritan woman.

StewardShip: Acts of generosity pull us towards dreams of a new relationship to God, to the earth, and to all others.

Beaverlodge-Wembley-Hythe Pastoral Charge

Tea on Tuesday: Everyone is welcome to join us at the Cultural Center to view the new show and for Tea and Social time. 10 to 12, Tuesday, March 3.

Worship Committee Meeting: Tuesday, March 3, 1:30 pm at **Wembley United Church.**

World Day of Prayer: March 6, 7:00 pm Beaverlodge United Church, Ecumenical Service. Host Country Nigeria. All are welcome.

Pastoral Charge AGM: March 15, Beaverlodge Service at 11:15, Meeting at 12:30, Potluck at 1:15 Everyone is welcome to attend.

Pastoral Charge Board Meeting: Thursday, March 12, 7:00 pm Wembley

Volunteer Hours: Part of our Statistic Report asks for Volunteer Hours. Please total the number of hours you have volunteered and send them to Neva by March 5. Can be for your whole family, for a group, etc – I do not need details, only totals.

Cold Weather Policy: Cold Weather Policy: When the temperature and wind chill is -35 or lower or the temperature alone is -35 or lower, church services are cancelled for both churches; and, in the case of freezing rain, fog or other hazardous conditions, the Service Leader is not to travel.

Pastoral Charge Office Hours: Thursdays only, 10 to 1

Wembley United Church

- Wembley Sunday Service 9:30 am
- **Wembley Thrift store:** Thrift store hours - **Second Saturday** of each month from 10:00am to 1:00 pm in the Church basement. Facebook Page is **Wembley Thrift Store**, check out our page for updates and specials

Mailing address: Box 534, Wembley, AB

Street address: 9711 100 Street Wembley, AB T0H 3S0

E-transfer Offerings: unitedwembley65@gmail.com

Web page : <https://wembleyuc.ca/>

Facebook pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/406148680279467>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1552615295042898>

Beaverlodge United Church

- Beaverlodge Sunday Service 11:15 am

- BUC Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 11, 6 pm

Mailing address: Box 387 Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0

Street address: 403 10 Street Beaverlodge, AB

E-transfer Offerings envelope.steward@gmail.com

Web page : <https://beaverlodgeuc.ca/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/BeaverlodgeUnitedChurch>

Kitchissippi United Welcomes 105 New United Church Members at Special Service



[Image credit: Ashley Barnes]

Kitchissippi United Church, in Ottawa, Ontario celebrated a historical moment of growth this past Sunday, when they welcomed 105 new community members to join The United Church of Canada.

The joyful service, filled with dancing and song in English and African languages, signalled a new era for a community that's building an invitation of hope to those for whom it makes a

world of difference.

The new members are all part of [God's Beloved \(opens in a new tab\)](#), an inclusive group of LGBTQIA+ African Christian refugees founded in August 2024 at Kitchissippi United by Rev. Jenni Leslie, minister at Kitchissippi United, and Rev. Daniel Addai Fobi, a Ghanaian [poet](#), advocate, and faith leader from a Pentecostal background, who leads the group. God's Beloved Group was established when the community recognized the need for a safe Christian space for LGBTQIA+ African refugees and newcomers to Canada, who were struggling with loneliness and isolation. For many of them, the financial and legal stresses of immigration were compounded by those of severe traumas experienced in their home countries, where discrimination and violence against LGBTQIA+ people is heartbreakingly commonplace.

“How many ministers have seen this in their lifetime?”

Prior to God's Beloved, Kitchissippi United's Sunday congregation typically included 40 to 60 people, with crowds sometimes reaching 80. At the service this past Sunday, 105 alone were joining the church as new members, with many as well in the pews there to worship alongside them and express support.

It was a visual display of community growth that for many present, was amazing to behold.

“It was pretty incredible to see that many people joining the church at once. There were more people up at the front than in the congregation!” said The Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, Moderator of the United Church of Canada, who attended the service and gave a blessing to the community of faith.