

# Trinity Primrose United Church First Newsletter February 2024

# **Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge**

#### **Trinity Primrose United Church Council**

Welcome to the season of Lent. A season which focuses on spiritual growth and connection with God. We have the opportunity to come together as a United Church bringing a sense of renewal, connection with each other and the opportunity to grow as a new Church. We have worked well together making impactful decisions for our church.

The Collaboration Team, consisting of Shirley Farnell, Sabine Rohner-Tensee, Jeff Rohner-Tensee, Ed Crewson and Shelley Doney met back on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, with representatives from High Country United Church. The purpose being to explore the possibility of collaborating with their congregation/minister and what this would look like. Fast forward to February 2024, we now have a collaborative agreement in place. We are fortunate to have Rev. Janet Jones beginning on March 24<sup>th</sup> to lead us in worship. Rev. Jan will lead the second and fourth Sunday of each month beginning at 1:00p.m. with pulpit supply on the alternate Sundays beginning at 11:00a.m. Rev. Jan's enthusiasm and willingness to support us while we look for a permanent minister brings a sense of comfort, calm and stability. We are truly blessed.

#### **Important Dates**

Sunday March 03: Annual General Meeting, after church. Monday March 04: Church Council Meeting, 7:30p.m.

#### **Pulpit Supply**

Sunday February 25: Rev. Candice Bist, 11:00 a.m.

Sunday March 03: Ann Harbridge, 11:00a.m. Covenant Service for new church council/AGM

Sunday March 10: Rev. Candice Bist, 11:00a.m. followed by funeral service for Geraldine Sherritt.

Sunday March 17: Rev. Candice Bist, 11:00 a.m.

Sunday March 24: Rev. Janet Jones, 1:00p.m.

Friday March 29: Good Friday Service, 11:00a.m. (choir to lead service) Sunday March 31: Easter Sunday Service, Rev. Candice Bist, 11:00a.m.

#### **Announcements**

Congratualtions to Noah and Emily Cruikshank on the birth of their son, Scout David on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. Proud parents are Joe and Linda Cruikshank and proud great grandparents are Bill and Ruth Cruikshank.

Ken and Faye Brett are proud grandparents to Brinley Marie born February 7<sup>th</sup> weighing 6lbs, 6oz. Proud parents Drew and Lauren Barfoot are doing well. Congratulations to all.

Our thoughts and best wishes go out to Jean and Jim Cheyne, and family while Jean recovers from pneumonia.

Condolences to Darlene and Jerry Morrow and family on the passing of her mother, Helen Pallister. Marion Phillips passed away on Tuesday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the family.

Geraldine Sherritt passed away Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Friends and family will be received at Trinity Primrose United Church, Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-2:00p.m. Service will follow afterwards at 2:00p.m. A reception will be held immediately after the service in the Town & Country Room at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex, 200 Fiddle Park Lane, Shelburne.

Respectfully Submitted by Shelley Doney and Sabine Rohner-Tensee Co-Chairs Trinity Primrose United Church

#### **Amalgamation Committee Report**

Greetings Congregation of the newly minted Trinity Primrose United Church in Shelburne!

The Amalgamation Committee consisting of Shirley Farnell, Ed Crewson, Shelley Doney, Sabine Rohner-Tensee and Wally Barr have been working toward this moment since Fall 2023.

As of January 28, 2024, Trinity United Church and Primrose United Church have come together to form one amalgamated church. The two congregations voted unanimously at a meeting held after the Sunday service in support of this union.

Reverend Ann Harbridge led the poignant service and the productive meeting. We thank her very much for her time and expertise. At this meeting the new council for the new church was also voted on.

The Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge will remain the same in name and consists of:

Co-Chairs: Shelley Doney, Sabine Rohner-Tensee

Secretary: Ann McAlpine - temporarily

Treasurer: Paul Sutcliffe

Board of Trustees: Wendy Crewson Ministry & Personnel: Jennifer Crewson Worship: Darlene Morrow, Shirley Farnell Pastoral Care: Linda Moore, Ann McAlpine

Mission & Outreach: Karin Klouman

Property: Wayne Ferrier Visioning: *Chair vacant* 

Region Representative: Mary Hawthorne

Membership: Jean Cheyne

The council has met once to date and will do so the first Monday of every month. Please feel free to join us, or reach out with any ideas, concerns, or questions.

The council wishes to express its intention to serve the church with positivity, empathy, mutual respect, and inclusivity.

Respectfully Submitted by

Sabine Rohner-Tensee on behalf of the Amalgamation Committee

# **Final Report for Primrose United Church**

#### Primrose United Church has now closed for regular services (1875-2023)

The year 2023 was not an easy year for Primrose Church. Our ever-diminishing attendance and rapidly aging membership had resulted in a financial dilemma, and we sadly had to face the fact that we could no longer afford to pay our part to our two-point Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge.

In September we finally held a congregational meeting to discuss our future. The meeting was very well attended, and after much discussion the overwhelming result of the vote was to pursue an amalgamation with our "sister" church, Trinity United Church in Shelburne. Part of an Amalgamation Agreement was eventually formulated to keep the Primrose church building for at least another year- and try to make it remain relevant by holding special services there, which we hope and pray will happen.

In October we celebrated our 148th Anniversary. We invited Trinity to worship with us and the Trinity-Primrose choir performed beautifully. The little country church was full and very happy that day! It was a wonderful service with guest speaker Rev. David Howes presiding. During our time together on that day we were reminded of the many years gone by - and the many generations who had worshipped at Primrose Church, since 1875.

On December 17th we held our Christmas service, complete with beautiful Christmas hymn singing, and with the Trinity-Primrose choir performing for us again. It was a very well attended service, and it was sadly Rev Valerie's last time with us. Our gratitude went out to her for all the effort she put forth in making this a very fitting and such a loving event. This then became our last service, as a Primrose United Church congregation.

There were some tears shed among us all as we naturally experienced considerable sadness, but there was also some joy and excitement: We now look forward to the future as a newly amalgamated church community, called **Trinity Primrose United Church**.

We do hope to be able to gather again at Primrose from time to time, as a newly amalgamated church community! The property offers many unique aspects which we would love to preserve, including our beautiful meditation garden and a long history of serving the local farming community.

We want to extend our gratitude to our faithful congregants and adherents who all pulled together and helped make 2023 a year to fondly remember at Primrose.

Respectfully submitted by Karin Klouman & Shirley Farnell (Co Chairs, Primrose Church)







Best Wishes Reverend Valerie Vande Wiele!
We wish you every happiness and
thank you for your guidance and support at
Trinity and Primrose United Churches!











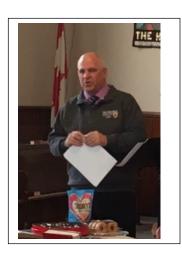


# **Pulpit Supply for Trinity Primrose United Church**

Thank you to Rev. Ann Harbridge, Rev. Dr. Candice Bist, Pastor Donald Hume, Rev. David Howes, and Scott Martin for your leadership and messages of hope and guidance as we begin our new chapter as Trinity Primrose United Church.









Reverend Ann Harbridge has been a good friend to Trinity Primrose United Church for over 8 years. She has provided guidance and hope through many changes. Her messages are inspirational, and uplifting and we are happy that she can join us on some Sundays to share her message.



Reverend Dr. Candice Bist was the Minister at Trinity Primrose United Church for 5 years. We were very privileged as she taught us the scriptures and the application to everyday life. We continue to enjoy the musical leadership of her husband Bruce Ley. It is a great pleasure to have her join us once per month for the next 6 months to continue her teachings as there is so much to learn.

Rev. Janet Jones has been in ministry with High Country United since September of 2014. She has graciously offered to join Trinity Primrose United Church on the 2nd and 4th Sunday at 1pm of each month until the end of August while we transition through a ministerial change. We are grateful to Rev. Janet Jones for her offer of support in her very busy day.

# <u>Pulpit Supply for Trinity Primrose United Church – Cont'd</u>

#### March

Sunday, March 3 at 11am --- Rev Ann Harbridge. Annual General Meeting

Sunday, March 10 at 11am -- Dr. Rev. Candice Bist

Sunday, March 17 at 11am -- Dr. Rev.Candice Bist

Sunday, March 24 at 1pm -- Rev Janet Jones

Friday, March 29 at 7pm -- Good Friday service led by the Choir and Music Director, Bruce Ley

Sunday, March 31 at 11am -- Dr. Rev Candice Bist

### **April**

Sunday, April 7 at 11am -- Rev Ann Harbridge

Sunday, April 14 at 1pm -- Rev Janet Jones

Sunday, April 21 at 11am -- Dr. Rev Candice Bist

Sunday, April 28 at 1pm -- Rev Janet Jones

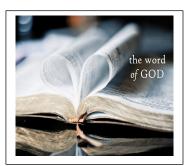
# Some thoughts from Al Widbur



# The Bible

When you carry 'the Bible',

Satan has a headache,
When you open it,
he collapses.
When he sees you reading it,
he loses his strength.
And when you stand on the Word of God,
Satan can't hurt you!





# UCW and WOWRC Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council Reports

#### **UCW Report**

On February 10, 2024, the regional UCW held a zoom meeting with 43 persons in attendance. We celebrated and supported the three church camps within our region: Camp Bimini, near Stratford, Camp Menesetung, near Godridge and Silver Lake near Kincardine. A representative from each camp spoke about their specific camp and showed a video of things that went on last summer. The camps are recovering from the covid shutdown but losing two years of training staff has made it difficult to have sufficient staff available for campers. Each speaker stressed how influential camp is in the life of the campers who attend. Several of these camps hold outdoor education programs in the spring.

Worship for the UCW group was provided by the Camp Bimini speaker. The question she left us with was, "Where do you see God in your everyday life?" Something to consider.

We are looking forward to our AGM to be held in Mount Forest on April 30. The business of the region will likely be conducted in the morning, followed by a catered meal at noon and a speaker discussing how to help us envision the future of UCW. All ladies are welcome to attend.

Locally we continue our monthly gatherings on the second Tuesday on the month.

#### **WOW Region Rep Report**

As a commission member of Discipleship and Justice, we continue our monthly commission meetings via zoom. We have been involved with the remit process, ensuring that all pastoral charges are aware of and voting on this remit. It will soon be time to review the grant forms for the next year's grant applications which your M&S contributions fund.

I am in my second three term serving on this commission. Our commission needs more members. Are you called to serve?

Submitted by Mary Hawthorne

# Rev. Norma Godbold's 90th Birthday!

On February 21st Rev. Norma Godbold celebrated her 90th birthday!
She would like to invite all from the Trinity Primrose United Church congregation to join her, for a celebration on May 4th, held at the Agricultural Centre in Shelburne. This will be a "come and go" event, from 1- 4 PM and catered by the Primrose community.



#### Trinity Primrose United Church Treasurers Report

I feel somewhat like the child who has been thrown into the "deep end".

It's not true of course, the finances of the church have been very well taken care of by the past committee and a heartfelt shout of thanks must be sent out to David and Mary Hawthorne, Fran Braiden, Jamie McAlpine, and Gord Gallaugher. Along with Alan Selby, auditor. I am pleased to note that no one has taken any vacations from which they haven't returned!

Gord Gallaugher, Fran Braiden, Jamie McAlpine, and I make up the finance committee for 2024. With the amalgamation of Trinity and Primrose the number of bank accounts we have to oversee will be reduced to only two accounts, Operating and Memorial. First Line for Syria will be taken care of independently I believe.

So far so good?

After February we will continue to provide timely statements outlining our financial position at each month end.

We have commenced a cost saving programme for all consumables. Can we source for less? Can we make arrangements at lower cost? On this front we have an opportunity to save as much as \$509.40 per year on our photocopier lease and supplies. Our lease is coming due, and I recommend we renew at the new lower cost which, incidentally, will be fixed for the next 66 months starting immediately. We trust we can uncover other cost savings to lower our overall operating costs.

Respectfully, Paul Sutcliffe, Treasurer

#### United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week Dinner in Shelburne

On Feb. 10, Trinity Primrose United hosted a potluck dinner for people of all faiths in Dufferin County. It was well attended by over 110 guests who brought delicious food from their diverse cultures and traditions.

In addition, Pizza Pizza donated 10 pizzas, and Mary Brown chicken donated 100 chicken legs and discount coupons. The kitchen and basement were overflowing!

The program was planned by Bella (Shaila) Carter who had initiated the Second Saturday Dinner gatherings along with Rev. Dr. Candice Bist several years ago. Local politicians were welcomed and introduced. Dedications in memory of past Interfaith dinner leaders and participants Alex Carter and Sikh Priest Gurmant Singh were shared. The Six Faith Leaders present offered prayer, and each spoke about Harmony for a few minutes. This was a true celebration of: 'When Strangers Become Friends', the theme for Harmony of the United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week, 2024. The guests extended their thanks to our church for hosting and sharing the space.

Submitted by Ann McAlpine





# **News About the People in Our Congregation**

Before you read any further, I am begging forgiveness for any special occasions or people that I may have missed compiling these lists. For our next newsletter, please let your Care Group Leader or the church office know the details of your special day or event! communications@shelburneprimrose.com

> Thank you in advance! Warmly, Linda



**Congratulations** to Noah & Emily Cruikshank on the Birth of their son, Scout David on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. Proud Grandparent are Joe & Linda Cruikshank and Proud Great Grandparents Aare Bill & Ruth Cruikshank.

**Congratulations** to Lauren & Drew Barfoot on the birth of their daughter, Brinley Marie on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

Proud Grandparents are Ken & Faye Brett.



# Happy Birthday Wishes to these Amazing Members

Betty McCabe – 95 – Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> Mary Hardick – 98 – Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>

Rev. Norma Godbold - 90 - Feb. 21st

Helen McKelvie – 96 – Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> Bruce Cameron – 95 – Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> Murray Irwin – 90 – Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> Evelyn Wallace - 95 - Mar. 24th



## Our Prayers and Sympathies to the Families of

Darlene & Jerry Morrow & family on the loss of her mother, Helen Pallister. To the family of Marian Phillips after her passing. To the family of Geraldine Sherritt after her passing at Matthew's House. To the Leitch Family and Heather and Greg Holmes after the passing of Heather's Mom, Lois Leitch.

#### **New Home**

Congratulations to Lawrie Rutledge on his move to the Kingsmere Retirement Centre in Alliston. Before he moved he donated \$500 from his garage sale to First Line for Syria to support church efforts in resettling Syrian refugee families.

#### **Get Well Wishes**

To Jean Cheyne as she recovers from pneumonia.





#### First Line for Syria Report to Donors and Supporters

To all of you who have supported First Line for Syria in so many ways- we thank you.

The new year is well underway, and with it comes the heavy burden of conflict in so much of our world. It is difficult not to despair. And to be honest, the refugee support work we do has been discouraging in some ways as well.

What has not been discouraging, however, has been the progress made by the first two families that First Line has sponsored. The daughter in the family who came in 2016 will soon graduate from university with a Business Administration degree. The second family which arrived late in 2021 is such a pleasure to visit. Despite having arrived at a time when Covid had closed ESL classes they have made remarkable progress with English and Ahmad (father) and Fatima (oldest daughter) are both employed. Other children have had odd jobs as well as attending school and improving their English. Ruwaida (mother) runs a tight ship at home, has learned to drive and looks forward to furthering her own education, hoping to pursue a nursing degree,

As for ongoing and future work, you may realize that First Line has sent two applications to sponsor two more families who are languishing in Azraq Refugee Camp in Jordan. The families have been locked in this camp for the past eleven years with no access to school, limited access to health care and forbidden to work or progress. (If you have access to Google Earth then you can actually see the refugee camp by searching Azraq Camp, Jordan). The camp has been "home" to up to 80,000 people. With these two applications, we are attempting to complete the family reunification of the family of Al Diri siblings who have suffered unbearable losses due to the Syrian civil war.

In 2021 the application for Mahmoud Al Diri and family was submitted to our SAH (Sponsorship Agreement Holder) - the United Church of Canada. It is the responsibility of the SAH to review the application and then forward it to the IRCC (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada) for processing. The good news is that last March the Al Diri file was given a number. This raised hopes that the family would be here and safe, quickly. That hasn't happened. But now the family has completed their first interview and there is a high probability that they could arrive within the next half year. We are very excited!!

The second family has been sitting in limbo. For more than two years the United Church has still not managed to submit their application to the IRCC. To make matters much worse, two weeks ago the metal shed in which they live (standard for each family in the camp) burned in the middle of the night. They lost all possessions and escaped with only their pyjamas. First Line has been able to help financially so they can at least buy clothing, bedding etc. We were able to do this because of the many generous donations we have received through the years. It would be a terrible fire indeed if it didn't have a little silver lining: In this case, the United Church Central has agreed to prioritize this family when the next window for applications at the IRCC opens. There was so much laughter and joy amongst their relatives already here in Alliston that there is finally some light at the end of the tunnel!

There are obviously huge struggles ahead for the two families coming to Canada, each family with 5 children. New language, school, new culture. If they are as adaptive and hopeful as their kin already here and living in Alliston, then the future is indeed bright. The members of First Line are committed to making their transition as smooth as possible. We must provide financially for the first year as well as arrange the kids in school and the adults in ESL, health care etc. etc. **Anybody with ideas or suggestions for housing for a family of seven please contact us.** This is priority number one.

If anyone can donate either time or money, you can be sure both are needed. To be more specific, donations of time could include driving family members to appointments or shopping, teaching ESL, or helping with fundraisers and more. All aspects of this work are hugely rewarding. As members of First Line, we have been exposed to new cultures and new people in a way like no other. Please contact us if you can assist in any way.

Tax receipts are issued through Trinity Primrose United Church. There is no administrative overhead in our organization since it is entirely volunteer-driven. Our unofficial saying is "We can't help everybody in this world but we can help somebody". Please continue to support First Line in any way you can. **Thank you so much for your past support!** 

#### First Line for Syria Report - Cont'd

Online canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/38297/donation

E-transfer firstlineforsyria@gmail.com

Cash or cheque (please email <u>firstlineforsyria@gmail.com</u> to arrange)

We are happy to offer charitable tax receipts for donations of \$25 or more.

This is made possible through a partnership with our local United Church.

#### Questions?

Contact Wally Barr at 519-215-3306



This is the Al Diri family due to come in a few weeks ( we hope!)

Their names are; adults **Mahmoud** (father) and **Hana'a** (mother), the children are **Anwar** and **Gulnar** (daughters), **Ahmad**, **Ibrahim** and **Mohammad** (sons). The two youngest have been born in the refugee camp.

# Shepherd's Cupboard Foodbank

# Most needed items at this time are

- Diapers size 4, 5, and 6
  - Depends
    - Pasta Sauce
    - Peanut Butter
      - Kraft Dinner



As always thank you for supporting the Foodbank.

**Submitted by Ardith Dunlop** 

# **Spirit Touches Art Touches Spirit (stARTs)**

This is your invitation to attend a very special Arts day, on *Saturday*, May 4<sup>th</sup>, from *10:30 am.* to 3 pm. Our Trinity Primrose United Church building is being transformed into a combined *Art Gallery and Concert Hall*. We can proudly say we have the best acoustics for music in Dufferin County! The arts performances run nonstop throughout the day with musicians, dancers, poets, authors, speakers, organist, singers, and pianists.

Numerous artisans will display their works including: woodwork, pottery, glass, painting, jewellery, textile and fibre artists, and more.

The day culminates with a mass choir performance with voices representing many areas of Dufferin County.

Please come for a few minutes or plan to stay for the day. Admission is free.

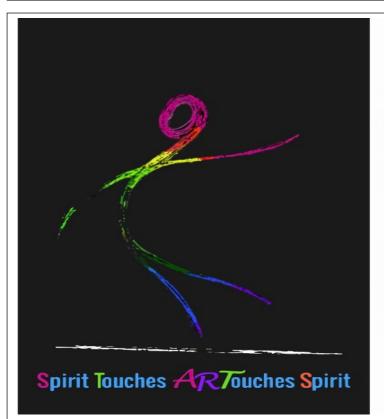
Look for further information on Social Media, in the newspaper, and on the radio.

Partially sponsored by the Dufferin Community Foundation.



Spirit Touches Art Touches Spirit Committee members are:

Len Guchardi, Ann McAlpine, Chantel Richards, Phyllis Robinson, and Ken Topping.



Come Meet Local Artists & Performers!

# TRINITY PRIMROSE UNITED CHURCH SHELBURNE

Saturday, May 4, 2024. 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. 200 Owen Sound Street Shelburne, Ontario

WWW.SHELBURNEPRIMROSE.COM



# **Trinity Primrose United Church Upcoming Events**

**Saturday, March 2**<sup>nd</sup> – **8 am** - *Men's Breakfast* – *At Country Cabin* – All are welcome!

**Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 11 am –** *Ann Harbridge Pulpit Supply* – Covenant Service for new Council and Annual General Meeting

Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 pm – Council Meeting

Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> – 11 am – Dr. Rev. Candice Bist Pulpit Supply

**Sunday, March 10**<sup>th</sup> – **1pm** – *Visitation for Geraldine Sherritt at Trinity Primrose* UC – *Followed by a service at 2 pm.* – *A reception will follow immediately after the service at the Town & Country Room at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex.* 

**Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> – 12:30 pm –** *Women's Fellowship Time* – All ladies are welcome.

Bring a brown bag lunch and enjoy a time of social fellowship.

**Sunday, March 17**<sup>th</sup> – **11** am - *Dr. Rev. Candice Bist Pulpit Supply* 

Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – 1 pm – Rev. Janet Jones Minister

**Friday, March 29**<sup>th</sup> – **11am** – *Good Friday Service* – led by the choir.

**Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> - 9:10 am –** *Ladies' Breakfast* – at Main Street Café – All are welcome!

**Sunday, March 31**<sup>st</sup> – **11 am** – *Easter Sunday Service - Dr. Rev. Candice Bist Pulpit Supply* 

**Sunday, March 31st - Plant Sale Order Forms - will be available for interested gardeners.** 

**Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> - 8 am -** *Men's Breakfast – At Country Cabin –* All are welcome!

Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – 11 am – Ann Harbridge Pulpit Supply

Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – 1 pm – Rev. Janet Jones Minister

Sunday, April 21st – 11 am - Dr. Rev. Candice Bist Pulpit Supply

Saturday, April 27th - 9:10 am - Ladies' Breakfast - at Main Street Café - All are welcome!

Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – 1 pm – Rev. Janet Jones Minister

Saturday, May 4th - 8 am - Men's Breakfast - At Country Cabin - All are welcome!

Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 - 3 pm - Spirit Touches Art Touches Spirit - at TPUC

Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 1-4 pm – Rev. Norma Godbold's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party

Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – 11 am – Ann Harbridge Pulpit Supply

Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> – TPUC Plant Sale – more details to come!

Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> – 1 pm – Rev. Janet Jones Minister

Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> – 11 am - Dr. Rev. Candice Bist Pulpit Supply

Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> – 1 pm – Rev. Janet Jones Minister

Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> - 9:10 am - Ladies' Breakfast - at Main Street Café - All are welcome!

# **Church Office**

Phone number: 519-925-0905

Irene Chinyenze, communications tech coordinator communications@shelburneprimrose.com

Office Time: Tuesday and Thursday from 2:40 pm to 5 pm \*Deadline to submit items to be included in the SPPC email: Thursday at 1 pm.

Website -

Trinity Primrose United Church

200 Owen Sound Street,

Shelburne, Ontario

L9V 3L4

c/o Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge

www.shelburneprimrose.com

\*\*Please make sure all pictures/posters are in PNG or JPG format.