

**Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
January 11, 2026 – 10:30 am**

Baptism of Jesus

Central Queens' Mission Statement

Central Queens United Church is a loving and living community called to support the life stages of all people, celebrating joy and sharing in pain. Through faith and fellowship, we are united by God's love to live and serve as Disciples of Christ.

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

Welcome

Welcome in the name of the Christ.

Welcome to this place of worship, situated on the unceded traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people.

Welcome to this place of retreat and refuge, worship and wonder.

It is good to be here.

It is indeed good to be together.

Announcements

Birthdays & Special Occasions

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Quiet Preparation for Worship

Bible Presentation (*Placed during the singing of the Introit*)

***Introit** Come, O Holy Spirit MV #23 vs 1

***Call to Worship**

The heavens open.

The waters move.

God speaks.

We are listening.

Before anything is asked of us, love is spoken.

We come to receive.

***Hymn** I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry VU #644

Prayer of Approach

God of quiet beginnings, we come into this moment not to prove ourselves, not to explain ourselves, not to be more than we are.

We arrive carrying the habits of a world that tells us to strive, to earn, to justify our place.

But here, at the water's edge, you meet us without conditions.

You call us by name. You look upon us with kindness. You speak delight where we expect demand.

Still the noise within us. Loosen the grip of fear and comparison. Make space in us for the deep knowing that we are already held.

Receive us, O God, and shape this time as a place of truth, gentleness, and renewal.

With Jesus, we share in the ancient prayer (on screen)

Responsive Reading – Psalm 29 VU #756

***Hymn** I've Got Peace like a River VU #577 vs 1 & 2

All God's Children

Hymn

I've Got Peace like a River

VU #577 vs 3

Children may retire to Sunday School

Presentation of Our Gifts

Invitation to Generosity

***Presentation of Offering** In the Bleak Midwinter VU #55 vs 4

Offertory

Offertory Prayer

Generous God, receive these gifts and the lives from which they come.

Take what is ordinary and use it for healing.

Take what is small and make it enough.

May these offerings serve your purposes in the world-strengthening community, easing suffering, and opening doors where hope is needed.

Bless what is given, and bless all who receive. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Understanding

Sacred Scripture

Isaiah 42:1-9

God's servant brings justice.

Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus is baptized.

Anthem

Prayer

Sermon

Loved Before You Do Anything

Reflective Music

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

***Hymn** I Have Called You by Name MV #161

Changing the Light

*Blessing

***Choral Benediction** Hope Shines as the Solitary Star MV #220

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able

Ministers	All of us
<u>Clergy</u>	Rev Greg Davis
Office Hours	Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 12 pm
Office Phone	902-964-2291
Email	minister@cquc.ca
<u>Church Office</u>	
Office Hours	Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 12 pm
Phone	902-964-2221
Email	office@cquc.ca

Welcome to All – We are delighted you have joined us. May God's word today strengthen your faith, inspire curiosity and learning, and motivate your service of others. If you are looking for a church home, we would like to invite you to consider us your spiritual family. All are welcome in this place.

Thank You to Ellen Davis for her beautiful gift of music this morning.
Congregation of Central Queens United Church

Life and Work of Our Church

Greg's Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 am – 12 pm. If anyone is in the hospital or would like a visit from Greg, please call him at 902-964-2291. If you wish to meet with Greg outside the scheduled hours, please call 902-964-2291 or email minister@cquc.ca for an appointment.

Scent-Free – “No scents make good sense”

Please refrain from wearing scented products such as perfume, cologne, and fragrant personal care products as they can trigger serious health issues for those with fragrance allergies. Thank you for your cooperation so that everyone can attend our church.

Scripture Readings - The scripture readings selected for next Sunday, January 18th, are:

Isaiah 49:1-7 *the mission of God's servant.*

Responsive Reading – Psalm 40:1-11 (VU #764) *I waited patiently for God.*

I Corinthians 1:1-9 *I thank God for you.*

John 1:29-42 *Simon and Andrew become disciples.*

These are made available to you should you wish to read them during the upcoming week.

FundScrip – The next order date is January 18th. You can reach Janet Howes by email jhowes1969@gmail.com or by phone or text (902-393-1527). E-transfers accepted.

Official Board Meeting this Thursday, January 15th, at 7:15 p.m.

Bookworms United – Our next meeting will be this Friday, January 16th, at 10 am. at the church. We will be discussing *The Reading List*. All are welcome to join us.

Annual Meeting – The Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, January 25th. Thank you to everyone who submitted their reports.

We will be having sandwiches and sweets following the worship service; then we will have the Annual Meeting.

E-transfers – Central Queens United Church is set up to accept e-transfers. If you prefer to give your offerings through e-transfer, please send via email to veldabertram@gmail.com.

Sunday Worship Cancellations – In the event of inclement weather, an announcement will be made by radio on Ocean 100 by 9 am. It will also be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Sunday School Helpers are Needed to assist in our Sunday School ministry. Please contact the church office if you can help with this very important ministry.

Bulletin Deadline–Deadline for items to be placed in the bulletin is **Wednesday evening**. Bulletin items can be emailed to office@cquc.ca

Food Bank – Please remember to support the Food Bank with non-perishable food items. You can drop them off in the wooden box at the church entrance any Sunday or during church office hours.

Office Church Directory – In an effort to keep contact information as up to date as possible, please give Trudy any changes to your contact information. If you would like to be added to our directory or need to update your info, please contact Trudy at office@cquc.ca or you can call her during office hours at 902-964-2221.

Puzzles/Book Exchange – Be sure to check out the wide variety of books and puzzles available in the main hall. Help yourself to a puzzle and/or book or bring some of your own to share!! If you happen to find any missing pieces of puzzles at home, there is a container above the puzzle shelves for these 'lost pieces'.

Pop Can Pull Tabs – Remember your pull tabs!! George Mason is collection pop can pull tab which are then given to the Daughters of the Nile women's organization. The funds go to the Shriners Hospital in Montreal where they are used to buy reading materials for children in the hospital. Your pop can tab collections can be dropped off here at the church. Thank you.

Community Events

Winsloe United Church Ceilidh next Sunday, January 18th, at 2 pm. Hosts Jacinta MacDonald and the Winsloe United House Band welcome special guests Lawrence Maxwell and Colleen MacPhee. Admission is \$15 at the door; doors open at 1:30 pm.

The Hunter River Helping Hand Program is a monthly food pick up on the second Monday of each month for residents of Hunter River, Greenvale, Brookfield, Rennies Road, New Glasgow, Wheatley River, Hazel Grove, Fredericton and Darlington that register with the program. Applying for help can feel difficult, but please know your application will be handled with compassion and confidentiality.

Registration for the program can be done Monday-Thursday between 9 am and 2 pm at the municipal office located in the Hunter River Community Centre at 19816 Route 2. Proof of residence in the service area for each member of the household will be required at the time of registration. Registered users will need to inform the office by the last Monday of each month if they will be requiring assistance the following month.

Food and monetary donations can be dropped off at the Hunter River Community Centre during regular office hours, Monday-Thursday between 9 am and 2 pm or during library hours Tuesday between 4 pm and 8 pm, Wednesdays 2 pm-5 pm or Friday and Saturday between 9 am and 2pm. The municipal office can be contacted for further details or to answer any questions you may have via email at admin.hunter.river@gmail.com or 902-621-2170.

Mission and Service – *Mountains of Service*

If you ever travel to the northern mountains of India and meet a man named Surrender Singh, the first thing he'll do is invite you on a walk. Not a short stroll, but a real mountain trek. And the beauty of the Himalayas is only part of what he wants to show you.

With him as your guide, the trail becomes a story. Every bend holds a memory. Every village has a face he knows.

Many still call him “Singh san” from his time training at the Asian Rural Institute, a Mission and Service partner in Japan. For more than

Mission and Service – *Mountains of Service* (Continued)

four decades, he has climbed these ridges. As you walk beside him, people call out greetings. He calls them by name. Someone brings tea. He digs in his pack and pulls out bananas or biscuits to share. And suddenly you're not just passing through—you're part of the conversation.

He'll point to a house and tell you how he once slept on the floor there while helping build a water pipeline with the Mussoorie Village Development Committee, the group he now leads. Another turn in the path, and he's showing you the school that has given local children a chance to learn close to home.

And then there are the women's groups. Surrender Singh lights up talking about them. He trained them in organic farming. Now they grow and sell their produce, earning steady incomes and strengthening their families and communities.

By the time you reach the end of the trail, you realize that you haven't just taken a hike. You've walked through the story of a life spent in gratitude and service to others.

Mission and Service partners like the Asian Rural Institute are where leaders like Surrender Singh gain the skills and confidence to transform their communities. When you support Mission and Service, you help grow this kind of leadership and community—the kind that takes root, spreads, and changes lives, one mountain path at a time.

