



## **OLD HAY BAY CHURCH Celebrating its 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2017!**

**T**he original building was built in 1792 by United Empire Loyalists with the guidance of American Methodist Minister William Losee. Twenty two original founders subscribed funds in Halifax Currency to ensure its construction as they committed themselves to a new future in a new land.

It is Canada's oldest surviving Methodist Church, and is the cradle of Methodism in Upper Canada. The Meeting place held religious ceremonies, court and soldiers. It was sold into private hands and used as a barn. Come visit and learn more.

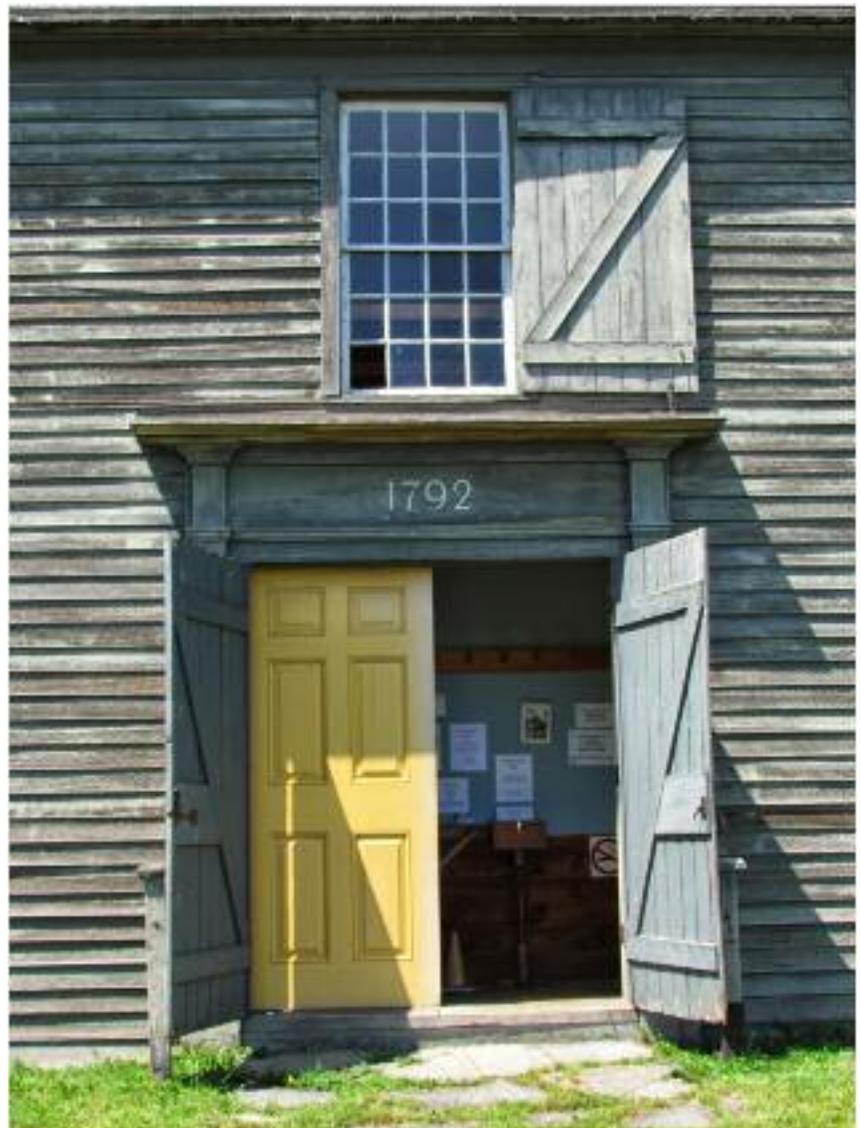
If you are intrigued by Loyalist or religious history, unique architecture or simply wish to enjoy some quiet time by the shore, come and visit!

Now owned by the United Church of Canada, Old Hay Bay Church, has been designated a National Historic Site in Canada, recognized by Heritage Ontario and the American Methodist Church.

Each summer, on the fourth Sunday of August at 3pm the annual pilgrimage service remembers the history of the

church. The date commemorates the anniversary of the tragic drowning of ten young people on their way to services at the

church in 1819. We welcomed Rev. Dr. Laurence De Wolfe as our 2017 guest speaker. He is the senior minister at Glenview Presbyterian Church, Toronto, having arrived there from the Atlantic School of Theology, where he taught preaching and pastoral leadership. His teaching methods include story telling.



The Board of Trustees needs your support as we kick off a fund raising campaign to finance the major repairs and upkeep the church, cemetery, and custodian cottage requires. Our grand ole lady of the south shore is showing her age. Financial donations for the repairs to the church may be mailed to Kathy Staples, Treasurer, 1105-828 Sutton Mills Court, Kingston, ON K7P 2S9. Cheques should be made out to Old Hay Bay Church and please mark "repairs" on your cheques.

The church is open daily from 9:30 am – 5:30 pm, and is also available for family gatherings, weddings or a quiet rest stop. We have a variety of local history books and souvenirs for sale by cash or cheque. LIKE us on Facebook, visit our website [www.oldhaybaychurch.ca](http://www.oldhaybaychurch.ca) or call 613.373.2261 open season or 613.767.3100 in the off season.

*Submitted by Rev. David Jones*

## Update! CYCLING TO THE ARCTIC

We presented a story in the April 2017 Edition of 'Circuit Rider' about the cross-Canada cycling trip being undertaken by Jonathon Reed (a regular presence at BQ youth gatherings for the last decade or so) and his creative partner Ashid Chishti. They are currently about three quarters of the way through their bicycle trip through Canada documenting the sights they are seeing and the conversations that they are having to gain a picture of our country as it turns 150 years old. Check out their blog: <http://astheravenflies.es/> to find out more and watch for a story summarizing this trip in a future issue of 'Circuit Rider'.



## MORE UPDATES!

Conference President, Rev. Wanda Stride, is hoping to blog about her experiences during her time in the post. We hope to have information on how to access the blog in the November issues of 'Circuit Rider'. **Watch for it!**

# WESTBROOK UNITED CHURCH

We were blessed to receive a grant from Bay of Quinte Conference (2017) for \$6,000 to enable us to continue our program of Child and Youth Worker. Our Child and Youth Leader moved on to another position and it seemed critical to hire the right person in her place. Jessica Bullett became our Child and Youth Leader; she has many skills as someone who has helped run a summer program for children with Music and Drama, someone with a BSCH in Psychology and someone who has many years' experience in the United Church. Jess is energetic and dynamic a real addition to the team at Westbrook. She has a beautiful voice and loves music. We are blessed!

Jess is busy working with children in Sunday School on a weekly basis and also with Kidz Klub which runs on Tuesdays from 6-7:30. These groups are slowly building and are a great outreach to the community. We have hired a young person from the community as an assistant for Kidz Klub. Madisson Young has the advantage of knowing the kids. Jess has also planned Vacation Bible School for the community, we have hopes that this program has built on the great success from last year. One of our young people has been hired to work with a Vacation Bible School at Edith Rankin, we have made a commitment to hire her to work with our children after this training. We did start out the year with a Moms and Tots program which did not take

off as we would like, presently it is suspended for the summer and we will try again in the fall. We purchased a table and chairs for this event and they are used regularly. Once again we started off the Farmer's Market this year with a fish fry, face painting, a craft table and a bouncy castle for children in the community to come and enjoy.

Jess writes, "The Sunday School program at Westbrook United Church runs September through June. The main goal to my programming is to provide a self-esteem building atmosphere while providing engaging activities. The programming also emphasizes what it means to spread God's love in our everyday lives. Children that participate in the Sunday School program range in age from 2-15 so activities are planned that can be altered based on the age of the children. Sunday School activities have included stained glass craft, a relay race and a scavenger hunt." Jess continues: "Kidz Klub is a weekly activity night for children. Similar to Sunday School, the goal of Kidz Klub is to provide a positive, supportive environment for kids to have fun. Each week is themed (for example Science Magic or MasterChef) in an effort to expose kids to varying activities. Activities include bottle rockets, bridge building, relay races and team games. These activities promote creativity and inquiry as well as foster a collective atmosphere. Our Kidz Klub has been very successful with 7 children that come consistently each week."



In the first year of the grant we purchased a computer and Jess uses this along with her own website for her programming. Finally this program is beginning to have a life of its own. The outreach into the community is starting to pay off in that we have several new faces in the pews on a weekly basis. This has not yet transferred to the younger members of the community. We are not sure how Kidz Klub will connect with the church but we are all patient as we become A New Thing. It's amazing that this outreach is able to happen, we do have a responsibility to the families in the community and they are starting to respond.

We are not alone, God is with us, thanks be to God!

*Submitted by Judy MacGillivray  
(DLM-R)*



# Camp Lau-Ren Celebrates 65 Years Around The Rock

Camp Lau-Ren hosted the biggest Alumni gathering in years on July 8-9, 2017. Participants in the 65 Years Around The Rock Alumni Event were met with balloons, banners and a warm greeting by the Alumni Committee as they checked in by the Jubly Dining Hall. The sun shone down on ice-breaker activities in the field, crafts in the McLaren Craft Hall and joyful reunions among the over sixty Camp Lau-Ren Alumni who had registered for the event. A relaxed schedule meant participants could renew old friendships, wander to the different activities, go for a chilly dip in the Ottawa River or look through old photo albums in the shade in a comfy chair. Alumni committee co-chair Steve McCulloch welcomed all to the campfire and introduced a local men's singing group called the Valley Harmonizers which included several Lau-Ren Alumni. After a group photo was taken from the top of the Rock, Lau-Ren Board chair, Chris Van Drunen presided over the official re-naming of Lute Cabin to "Harrison" in honour of the many contributions of former property committee member Evans Harrison, who was present. Alumni Committee co-chair Emily McKenzie, welcomed all to the cook out. Burgers, hot dogs and beans were

enjoyed by all. After a short vespers service, Alumni were invited to contribute items to a time capsule which was to be buried in the beach sand and opened at the next Alumni Event. After snack in the Dining Hall, campers sang lots of old camp fire favourites which included "Barges", "Rufus, Rustus Johnson Brown" and "Taps". Jay McLaren and daughter, Jennifer, lead the group in the singing of some old favourites. What would a Camp Lau-Ren campfire be without s'mores, which followed. A number of participants left the site for the evening, the rest went back to cabins to prepare for a good night's sleep. The next morning began with a well-attended polar bear swim and jumper duty for breakfast. After morning watch, the group that remained assembled in the Dining Hall for a final meal together. Before eating, there was a moment of silence in memory of long time Lau-Ren volunteers Ruth Harrison and Len Norlock. As always, a meal is followed by clean up jumper duty and cabin clean up. Final good byes wrapped up a well-attended and successful event with dreams of meeting around the Rock for another Alumni get-together in five years.

*Submitted by Bruce Patterson*



## “By the People for the People”



Members of Trinity United Church in Madoc and the local community unveil a plaque commemorating the work that they did together to open a park in close vicinity of the church. Trinity United Church, located in the centre of the village, sees itself as a meeting place for all and working on this project has extended that outwards.

The unveiling ceremony was held on July 1st as part of Canada Day celebrations in the community.

*Photo left to right back row: Harold Bailey, Ron Moffat, Fred Bendell; front row: Eric Sandford, Mayor Thomas Deline, Rev. Audrey Whitney, Susan Bendell.*

### DID YOUR CONGREGATIONS SPONSOR A SYRIAN REFUGEE FAMILY?



If so, Bay of Quinte Conference' Interfaith-Intercultural Action Group wants to hear from you. They are assembling stories from across the Conference to consolidate into a book which will be released in the coming year. Please email the Conference Office at [officeadmin@bayofquinteconference.ca](mailto:officeadmin@bayofquinteconference.ca) to get the template or look for it in the mailing that your congregation received in August.

### Deadlines for 2017

Submit CR news and photos for

November Observer - Sept. 25  
January - Dec. 31

– or send as soon as possible to [circuitrider@bayofquinteconference.ca](mailto:circuitrider@bayofquinteconference.ca)

## Circuit Rider

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e-mail us to join a notification list when the next CR is available.



OCTOBER IS

STEWARDSHIP MONTH



IN

BAY OF QUINTE CONFERENCE!

*Celebrate Mission  
and Service!  
Sunday, October  
15th is Toonie  
Sunday.*



*Encourage your  
congregation to be  
creative! One idea:  
A pill bottle will  
hold between 25 to  
40 Toonies. Have  
your congregation  
start saving for  
M&S now.*