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I understand that some of you did not receive this, so I am resending. My apologies to anyone who is receiving it twice! Kim

Upcoming Worship

January 16th - Join us for worship on YouTube
[Orleans United Church - YouTube](#)

2022 Offering Envelopes

There are still **64** boxes of 2022 offering envelopes in the Church Office. Please help cut down on the need to hand deliver by picking up yours as soon as possible. If you are unable to pick up, please let Winston know at babin.a.w@bell.net or 613-830-8826.

The Health and Education

Committee hoped to host in-person sessions on mental health issues over these next few months. As that is not possible due to Covid, we will offer a number of on-line information sessions. The Royal Ottawa is offering a free virtual broadcast series focused on providing mental health information and resources around a variety of themes. Register by clicking on the title below to be part of the Royal's monthly conversations! Please take part yourself or share with a family member, friend who might benefit from this helpful information. The first is coming up very soon: January 26th, 2022

[Winter blues, seeking sunlight — How to help with the winter blues](#)

Stayed tuned for our next session information coming in February.

For those who are grieving the loss of a beloved pet, the Ottawa Humane Society is running online support groups:

<https://ottawahumane.ca/your-pet/pet-loss-support-groups/>

Afghan Refugees in Ottawa

A group of volunteers are helping the Afghans who helped our Canadian Forces and have had to flee their homeland. There are about 300 families in Ottawa and many are currently looking for housing as they have now received their Canadian documents.

Here is the wish list. Please note we are not asking or accepting clothes and are only providing furniture to the families.

We also ask items be washed, clean and not torn

1. Everything Kitchen (pots, pans, cutlery, toasters, microwaves, spatulas, dishes, glasses, mugs etc.) Kettles for boiling water is a big thing.
2. Beds - Mattresses and **Box springs** - singles, bunkbeds, double and queen size (singles are in huge demand as the families are quite large) cribs. We are not accepting king size beds at the moment.
3. Bedding - sheets, blankets, pillows, pillowslips
4. Dressers
5. Sofas and living room chairs
6. Dining Table and chairs
7. Lamps
8. Desks (not large ones please)

In short - just about everything but clothes and king size mattresses.

Drop off is across from St. Elias Greek Orthodox on Ridgewood Avenue. Warehouse is not always open so it would be best to contact me to arrange drop-off time.

People can contact us at Afghanmove2022@gmail.com or telephone Mary Logan directly @ 613 853 1576.

Upcoming Workshop Series

**OUR GOD LOVES AND EMBRACES THE
LGBTQIA2S+ COMMUNITY**

Caroline, Molly and Luc are excited to co-lead a theologically oriented series on love, diversity, inclusion & celebration of our LGBTQIA2S+ communities.

**WHEN: EVERY SECOND THURSDAY @ 7:30 PM
STARTING JANUARY 27, 2022**

Please contact Kim at orleansunited@rogers.com to register for the four 90-minute workshop sessions.



Rev. Caroline Penhale

January 10, 2022

Beloved Ones,

I have news to share. This news is not easy but it is news that I trust we can and will work through. We are a good community that way; one that consistently finds its way in faith.

I am writing to let you know that I have requested a change in pastoral relations that will go into effect July 31, 2022. I will work right up to June 28, 2022, and then I will take my vacation in July. That way, there will be no interruption of the important work we will do together in the next six months.

Change really is the only constant, or so it would seem in my life story anyway. The past five years that I have served with Molly and with all of you, we have navigated many changes in our faith community.

Being in this community has been a positive experience for me. Particularly, I want to express my gratitude for having been able to work next to Molly. Our collaboration has helped me grow as a minister. From Molly, I have learned what excellence in worship takes, what it is to be a faithful servant leader, and how to keep pace with a big, busy congregation. You are in good and capable hands.

As for me, God is leading me in a new direction. With God's nudging and help, I plan to start a coaching practice serving clergy and other faith leaders, and I will be discerning how to continue serving as a UCC minister in the wider church. I am both excited and nervous about this new direction and welcome your prayers.

I will miss the "can-do" spirit of Orleans United Church. Over these past five years, I have enjoyed and appreciated working with such talented and caring people, including Scott, Kim and the lay leaders who have stepped up to serve in various ways. I have also consistently felt your love and support. Thank you.

God will certainly be present in this next chapter, guiding and leading in directions that we can't quite see yet. I trust that this next chapter in OUC's story will be full of God's goodness and pray that you will be surprised and delighted by what comes next.

It has been an honour to serve you. I will miss you and I pray that your ministry as followers of Jesus' Way will continue to flourish in the years to come.

In Christ,

Rev. Caroline