

# Cherry Park Neighbourhood Association Newsletter

Winter 2024



## St. Mark's Lutheran Church

*growing in faith, caring, and community*

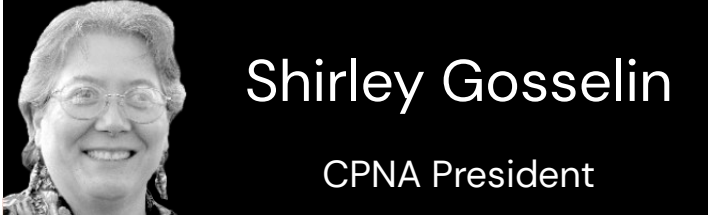


## Congregation receives the first community housing of KW

Pages 7 - 8



If you are not already on our CPNA email announcement group, please contact us at [cpna@execulink.com](mailto:cpna@execulink.com) so you can be added. This group is an important way to communicate between newsletters, so make sure you subscribe. If you have ideas for articles for future newsletters, feel free to reach out as well. Your participation is fundamental to keep our community a vibrant place to live!



Shirley Gosselin

CPNA President

Dear Neighbours,

As the calendar year comes to an end, it is time to remember all the good things that happened during the year and the people who helped make them a reality. We want to thank everyone in our neighbourhood who helped make our community a good place to live:

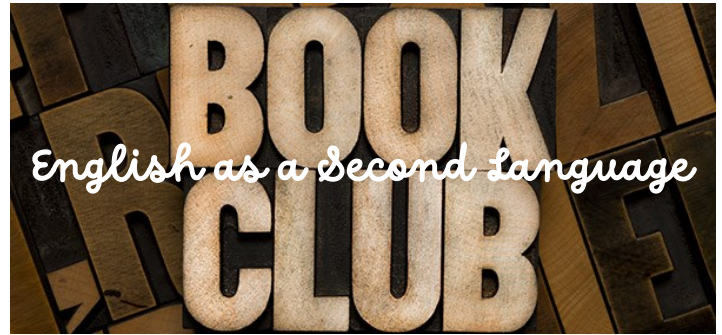
- Newsletter contributors, editors and carriers;
- Program volunteers and teachers;
- The outdoor ice rink workers;
- Family Day free skate day facilitators;
- Clean-up & BBQ organizers and pickup drivers;
- Neighbour Day workers & Gruhn St. Theatre Group;
- Cherry Festival Committee members and donors;
- Corn Social organizers and workers;
- Our development committee members;
- Community garden committee & bread oven leaders;
- Flower Committee gardeners and Plant Sale helpers;
- St. John School Garden Club helpers;
- And most especially our CPNA Board members.

We are also very grateful for the continued support from our community partners - Calvary Memorial United Church; KW Badminton Club; Royal Canadian Legion – branch 50; and the City of Kitchener staff. We have prepared a full slate of offerings for our Winter programs (see page 11). Registration will run from December 4<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>. At that time, any program without sufficient enrollment will be cancelled, so don't delay in registering for a program you are interested in. Classes will start the second week of January.

We are always looking for new ideas for programming for the spring. So please let us know what you would be interested in. We are happy to see the increase in the number of people who have joined our email Announcement Group. If you are not already on this list, please email us at [cpna@execulink.com](mailto:cpna@execulink.com).



Scan this code so we can continue the talk. Stay positive and be kind to each other!

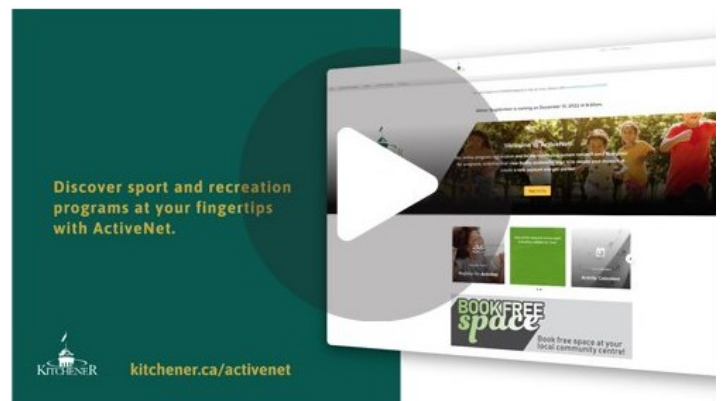


The CPNA has a book club for adults (14+) that usually meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 PM in Victoria Hills Community Centre. It is designed for people for whom English is their second language. We are always open to new members, but please email [cpna@execulink.com](mailto:cpna@execulink.com) ahead of time to let us know you are coming so that we book the correct room size.

**We can't wait to see you there!**



**Need help**  
registering for a program?  
**Watch our video for helpful tips!**



Visit [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0BIO886\\_qbc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0BIO886_qbc)

or just point the camera of your device to this QR code:



# From ice rinks to clean streets: Volunteer and be a neighbourhood hero!

By Olga Lioudvinevitch

**A**re you ready to make a real difference right in your own neighbourhood? The CPNA is on a mission to create a vibrant and close-knit community, and we need your help to achieve it. From maintaining our thriving community gardens to organizing fun-filled events for youth & adults, from editing and publishing our newsletter to building the annual ice rink that brings smiles to everyone's faces, we have a variety of exciting opportunities for you to become a neighbourhood hero. If you have special talents in communication, volunteer management, photography, gardening, manual labour, programming, maybe you can just carry heavy things, or maybe your skill is in another category, we need you! Join us to make our neighbourhood a better place for all. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a newcomer to volunteer work, your passion and enthusiasm are what truly matter to us. We do not require any professional credentials or prior experience in most of our roles, though they would be considered assets.



## Some of the positions available:

**Neighbourhood Newsletter:** managing editor, writer, delivery person.

**Communications:** website manager, social media communications manager, photographer.

**Social Event:** planning committee, vendor coordinator, cooking, serving food, set-up, clean-up, supervising kids.

**Garden:** maintain the community flower beds.

**Programming Coordinator:** organize a line up of programs, offered locally, which engage our community.

**Programming Assistant:** assist the coordinator.

**Ice Rink:** rink flooding, cleaning and maintenance.

**Volunteer Teachers:** any skill that others in the neighbourhood might be interested in learning? bird watching, fixing electronics, cooking, dog training, etc.

**Bread Oven:**

**Leader** - lighting the fire & keeping it burning for 4h, cleaning up after the bake, cutting wood for the fire.

**Bakers** - people who enjoy learning to bake outdoors.

If any of those or an alternative position interests you, we want to hear from you! Send us an email at [cpna@execulink.com](mailto:cpna@execulink.com) to explore further. Please include your name, interests and skills. It will be lovely to welcome you in our community team!







# Satellite Locations

## MORE LOCATIONS TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY



We have partnered with Victoria Hills Community Centre to reach more people! Serving our daily bites and calzones, two nights a week.

*Lunch bags will also be available.*

*1 calzone & 1 bite per person*



## GRAB A BITE. GIVE IF YOU CAN.

### VICTORIA HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE

10 Chopin Dr. Kitchener

Tuesday and Thursday

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Children need to be accompanied by a parent or an adult.





**A**nother growing season is over (except for some hardy kale). This year, we had a lot of sun and quite a bit of rain, but not so much heat, so some plants were very happy and others not so much. Typical for most growing seasons. It takes quite a bit of work and attention to grow a good garden crop. If you may be interested in getting a plot for the 2024 growing season, please email [cpna@execulink.com](mailto:cpna@execulink.com)

after Jan 1<sup>st</sup> when we start our waitlist for plots for that year. Please remember that gardeners usually need to put in an hour a week working on their plot and chores. Every gardener has to do some communal chores in the garden to keep it looking good. We only had 5 bakes at our outdoor oven this year due to a shortage of leaders. With people moving out of the neighbourhood often due to various reasons, we always need new people to train to take a turn leading the baking sessions. You don't need to be a baker to lead a session, just 4 hours of free time on a weekend or holiday (of your choice). You need to be able to manually saw a bit of wood (saw provided) and lift around the equipment box, so please consider this option. It is like going to the cottage & cooking



outside (without the commute). The training is easy. You just accompany a trained leader for one session and you learn all the steps and get to practice them. We also need to get more people to try baking. The

current bakers are always ready to share recipes and ideas. Pizza, pita, naan, focaccia, buns and various breads are the most common things baked, but various people have baked vegetables of all sorts, and one

person has even baked a chicken in the oven. Most people bake extra to share samples with the other bakers. Please consider trying this out! It is a nice way to get to know your neighbours and have fun together :-)



From the Gruhn Theatrical Group

Scan for  
tickets &  
details!

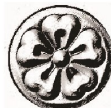


# THE LONGEST NIGHT

## A SOLSTICE PLAY

**Dec 15 at 6:30PM**

**Cavalry Memorial United Church**  
**91 Gruhn St (back entrance off Gruhn St)**  
**Doors open at 6:00PM**  
**Tickets are FREE**



Cherry Park  
Neighbourhood  
Association



# St. Mark's Church gets ready to start offering affordable place to live for people in need

By Mark Willcock



St. Mark's Place (825 King Street West, Kitchener) will be the first supportive affordable housing building to be built by Indwell in Waterloo Region, named in honour of the former St. Mark's Church. Indwell's mission is to create affordable housing communities that support people seeking health, wellness and belonging, providing hope and homes to people who need it most in our community. There will be 43 permanent apartments filled with people who are currently homeless or precariously housed in unsafe conditions. Many have been waiting years for an apartment they can afford. Each tenant will have their own kitchen and bathroom in a studio or one bedroom apartment. On-site services and health support will also be offered to each tenant based on individual needs. Services will range from medical nurses to addiction and medical health

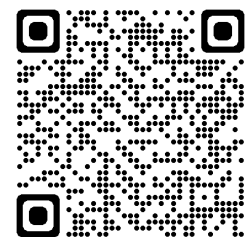
support, psycho-social support, general housing support and food security programming. Rent will be approximately \$550 per month plus support services. The original sanctuary space will be converted into a large community space and kitchen area that will support tenants with one meal each day, along with hosting programming geared for tenant wellness. A smaller community space will be used to host groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and others. Evidence of the history of the church will be visible in the re-imagined building, particularly in the sanctuary where the original wood ceiling and stained glass windows that have been kept throughout the structure. St. Mark's Place is set to open in late November 2023. Indwell looks forward to being a contributing partner in the local Cherry Park community for many years to come. Stay tuned for more in the near future.





## A sanctuary of hope, home and support for many families

For many years, the St. Mark's Lutheran Church invited neighbours into their midst, shared their lives and their building with many different community groups in and around the Cherry Park neighbourhood. Stories of hope and joy, of change and transformation, reverberate even though the congregation has had to move to another location. This church had a particular desire to help those in need evidenced by the countless stories of people who found help through many programs run at the church. Before merging with other local Lutheran congregations, the former St. Mark's congregation wanted to see their building continue its legacy of helping people in need. And they found the right fit. The next chapter in the life of the building to be written will also be filled with stories of hope and transformation. Stories of people in our community who will find help and support to improve in their health and wellness through St. Mark's Place in its new life as a supportive affordable housing building. For more information about the community housing project, visit [www.indwell.ca](http://www.indwell.ca), or simply point the camera of your device to this QR code:



**The Provincial byelection for the riding of Kitchener-Centre has been called. Voting will be November 30<sup>th</sup>. We encourage all our residents to become informed on who is running and the issues. Please get out and vote.**





# The snow will soon be here! The City of Kitchener provides helpful guidance on clearing rules and expectations for all residents during the winter

### When it starts snowing:

Clear snow and ice from your sidewalks. Do not push snow back onto the road. On collection day, put your garbage and recycling on your property and not on the road. Remind kids not to climb or play on snowbanks. Clear your fire hydrant or gas meter if it's buried. If the City declares a snow event, respect City's by-laws and don't park on the road. If you need help with sidewalk clearing, there is assistance available at [kitchener.ca](http://kitchener.ca):



### Sidewalk shovel:

After the snow stops falling, you have 24 hours to shovel your sidewalks to bare pavement. When the City gets a complaint about an unshovelled sidewalk, they inspect the property and issue a notice to the homeowner. If the sidewalk is not clear when the City inspects it again, they will invoice the homeowner for snow removal. Find free sand for icy sidewalks at [kitchener.ca](http://kitchener.ca), or scan this QR code to go directly to the section:



The City doesn't plow sidewalks because of budget constraints. According to a City report on winter sidewalk maintenance (2016), municipalities that implemented city-wide sidewalk snow-clearing identified that service levels are inconsistent, and sidewalks are maintained to snow-packed, not bare, conditions. Unfortunately, there is no way to avoid pushing snow into driveway entrances during plowing operations. To avoid extra work, you could delay clearing your driveway entrance until your street has been cleared.

Plows must drive at a minimum speed to throw snow off to the side. Some sidewalks are close to the curb and it's hard to avoid getting snow on them. Please call (519) 741-2345 to report these situations and the City may remove the snow. If the fire hydrant near your home is buried by snow, please dig it out. You can also call Kitchener Fire at (519) 741-2582 or the City of Kitchener at (51) 741-2529, option 3. If a community mailbox is blocked by snow, please call Canada Post at 1-800-267-1177. Together, we can make a safe & clear snow season for all residents.



Winter is around the corner, and that means the Cherry Park ice rink will soon be available to everyone for skating, hockey and family fun. The rink is a great resource for people to get some exercise, connect with friends and make cherished memories. While our community does love its rink, the rink itself is a labour of love. It is maintained 100% by local volunteers who generously give their time to keep it in order. If you'd be interested in helping us, we'd love to hear from you! We can be reached at [cpna.squarespace.com/join-us](http://cpna.squarespace.com/join-us). Any time you'd be willing to share with us will make the winter a little more enjoyable our neighbourhood. Scan the QR code for a direct access to the page.



**By Matthew Russell**



# Pumpkin Dessert

By Shirley Gosselin



## Ingredients

- 4 large eggs
- 1 package yellow cake mix (2 layers)
- 1 ¼ cups sugar
- ½ cup margarine
- 28 oz pumpkin puree (4 cups)
- 1 ½ tsp cinnamon
- Ice Cream (or whipped cream) optional
- 1 tsp ginger
- ½ tsp nutmeg
- ½ tsp cloves
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 ½ cup evaporated milk (1 regular can)

## Directions (serves 24)

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 13x9 inch baking pan.
  2. In a regular mixing bowl, beat the eggs on high until frothy. Beat in the sugar. Add the pumpkin puree, spices and salt. Beat until well mixed.
  3. Add in the evaporated milk. Beat on low to blend. Pour into the greased 13"x9" pan.
  4. In another bowl, put in the cake mix. Cut in the margarine until the mixture is crumbly. Sprinkle evenly over the pumpkin mixture in the pan.
  5. Bake in oven for 90 minutes, or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean.
- Serve hot with ice cream or cold with whipped cream. This dessert may be frozen.  
3 ½ tps of pumpkin spice can be substituted for the above spices. Enjoy!

## Important notes about CPNA programs

- 1) Registration is on a first come, first served basis and will continue until the class is filled or the deadline is reached. Classes with low enrolment may be cancelled or programs may be changed if necessary at the discretion of Cherry Park Neighbourhood Association.
- 2) All class transfers must be done before the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> class you're currently registered. A 100% refund will be given if you withdraw from a program more than 7 days before the first day of the class. Refunds will only be given in the same form of payment made. Cash refunds over \$20 will be refunded by cheque. If credit is left on account, it will expire after 3 years. No refund will be given if a request to withdraw is made less than 7 days prior to the first day of the program.
- 3) If the participant has a disability or special need, and requires accommodations to attend the class, one-to-one assistance may be available. Please contact (519) 741-2200 Ext. 7229 or TTY 1-866-969-9994 to discuss arrangements. CPNA programs is a safe space for everyone!





# Winter 2024 Programs

Registration starts on December 4<sup>th</sup>  
and closes on December 29<sup>th</sup>



Scan to register

**T**o register for a program, go to [kitchener.ca/activenet](http://kitchener.ca/activenet). Payment for on-line registration is by credit card only. You can also register in person at any Community Centre or Indoor Pool, or even at the City Hall (7<sup>th</sup>

floor), where you can pay using cash, debit or credit card. If you show a current Leisure Access Card upon in-person registration, you'll receive a \$10 discount on courses over \$30 or a \$5 discount on courses under \$30. Bring the regis-

tration receipt (printed or a digital copy) to your first class to present to the instructor. Keep in mind that instructors cannot make registrations or take payments. There will not be class on statutory holidays. Check out the list below.

## LOCATIONS:

**Calvary United Church**

**91 Gruhn Street**

**Downtown C. Centre**

**35-B Weber Street**

**St. John School**

**99 Strange Street**

Programs - Kids, youth and adults	Code	Age	First Date	Last Date	Start Time	Duration	Cost	Location
<b>Zumba (MON)</b> A fun way to exercise with family and friends.	131302	16+	8-Jan-24	18-Mar-24	7:00 PM	1 hour	\$60	Calvary United Church
<b>American Sign Language - Beginners I (TUE)</b> Learn to communicate with your hands.	131287	12+	9-Jan-24	19-Mar-24	7:00 PM	1 hour	\$60	Downtown Community Centre
<b>American Sign Language - Beginners II (TUE)</b> Upgrade your signing skills beyond Beginner I.	131289	12+	9-Jan-24	19-Mar-24	8:00 PM	1 hour	\$60	Downtown Community Centre
<b>Basketball (TUE)</b> Practice key techniques & improve your play.	131292	9 to 12	9-Jan-24	19-Mar-24	6:15 PM	1 hour	\$50	Calvary United Church
<b>Pickleball for Kids (TUE)</b> Learn about this growing sport for all ages.	131297	9 to 12	9-Jan-24	19-Mar-24	6:30 PM	1 hour	\$50	St John School
<b>Spanish - Beginners (TUE)</b> Learn basic Spanish phrases for a trip abroad.	131298	16+	9-Jan-24	19-Mar-24	7:00 PM	1 hour	\$60	Calvary United Church
<b>Spanish - Intermediates (TUE)</b> Level up your fluency on conversations.	131299	16+	9-Jan-24	19-Mar-24	8:00 PM	1 hour	\$60	Calvary United Church
<b>Basic Dungeons &amp; Dragons for Youth (WED)</b> Join a classic role-playing cooperative game.	131290	11 to 15	10-Jan-24	20-Mar-24	7:00 PM	1 hour	\$10	Calvary United Church
<b>German - Beginners (WED)</b> Learn basic German phrases for a trip abroad.	131294	16+	10-Jan-24	20-Mar-24	7:00 PM	1 hour	\$60	Calvary United Church
<b>German - Intermediate (WED)</b> Improve on your next vacation to Germany.	131295	16+	10-Jan-24	20-Mar-24	8:00 PM	1 hour	\$60	Calvary United Church
<b>Yoga (WED)</b> Relieve stress and improve your flexibility.	131300	12+	10-Jan-24	20-Mar-24	7:00 PM	1 hour	\$60	Calvary United Church
<b>American Sign Language - Beginners I (THU)</b> Learn to communicate with your hands.	131286	12+	11-Jan-24	21-Mar-24	7:00 PM	1 hour	\$60	Calvary United Church
<b>American Sign Language - Beginners II (THU)</b> Upgrade your signing skills beyond Beginner I.	131288	12+	11-Jan-24	21-Mar-24	8:00 PM	1 hour	\$60	Calvary United Church
<b>Basic Dungeons &amp; Dragons for Kids (THU)</b> Join a classic role-playing cooperative game.	131291	7 to 12	11-Jan-24	21-Mar-24	6:30 PM	1 hour	\$10	Calvary United Church
<b>Yoga for Kids (THU)</b> Even the little ones can benefit from this practice.	131301	7 to 12	11-Jan-24	21-Mar-24	6:30 PM	45 min	\$50	Calvary United Church





Scan for more

Printed in co-operation with:

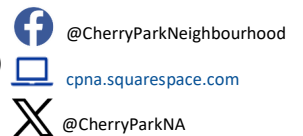


**Shirley Gosselin**  
CPNA President  
Editor-in-Chief  
Copy Editor

**Lamir Verçoza**  
Managing Editor  
News Editor  
Journalist

**Images:** MS Publisher's  
internal online pictures  
(Creative Commons license)  
and contributor's courtesy

**FOR THE LATEST**



Cherry Park Neighbourhood Association



1 (519) 742-3248



[cpna@execulink.com](mailto:cpna@execulink.com)