



A service of celebration was held on Sunday, November 10, 2013 to commemorate UCiM's journey towards becoming an Affirming Ministry in the United Church of Canada. The morning's service was two fold - an observance of Remembrance Day and time for celebration.

The service began with a processional by the choir. The Canadian flag was proudly carried in by one of our veterans, Mr. John Wiens who was dressed in his beret and medals, followed by Kelly Ashton who carried in the wreath.

Over the past few weeks the children made rainbow flags during Sunday school which they proudly waved and then placed on the table after story time.

Ken Delisle spoke on the theme Lazarus come out for the Reflection taken from the gospel of John.

Later in the service, the Rainbow flag was carried in Olympic style and placed on the table. The flag bearers later lit seven candles representing the colours of the rainbow while Joy Bissoon, vice-chair of Council read from our action plan, the seven acts of commitment for the next year .

A certificate from Affirm United was then presented to John Badertscher, chair of Council by Ken Delisle representative from Affirm United.

Soloist, Valerie Wilson sang In Flanders Field. This rite of remembrance along with the minute of silence added to the solemn observance of Remembrance Day while the choir's rendition of the anthem, Be a Candle of Hope added to the festive mood of our celebration.

Cake and coffee after the service helped to bring members together to mingle and talk about the service and what it means for Meadowood.

This celebration is not the end but the continuation of the journey that started two years ago. As we look to the future, Council will put in place a small group to monitor how we live out our commitment to being an Affirming Ministry.

With thanks and appreciation to all who went along on the journey, to those who put the service together, and to those who participated in the service.

Diane Dwarka