



The Low United Church is proud to host...

6th Annual Animal Memorial Service and Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 3, 2010

2 pm - Animal Memorial Service

3 pm - Blessing of the Animals

**Low United Church
85 Martindale Rd., Low, QC
Information: 819-467-5308**

Animal Memorial Service: 2 pm

When a beloved pet dies, the loss for a person can be profound. Our pets are our companions. We raise them, train them, feed them, walk and care for them. In return, they provide us with unconditional love and affection.

Rev. Read Sherman will guide us in reflection, prayer and candle-lighting to celebrate the lives of the wonderful animals that we have loved and lost, as well as all of God's creatures. A free-will offering will benefit **Ottawa Therapy Dogs**. All well-mannered pets are welcome.

Blessing of the Animals: 3 pm

Providing the weather cooperates, this blessing will occur outdoors. All pets will receive a certificate of blessing and a treat! Light refreshments for all participants will be provided.

**Bring your pets, photos of pets, and even stuffed animals to be blessed!
Everyone is welcome!**

In past years, we have had dogs, cats, chickens, rabbits and other animals!
Dogs should be on a short leash. Please bring cats and other small animals in a carrying crate.



Our guest speaker for 2010 is Karen Luker, a valued member of Ottawa Therapy Dogs (OTD) who visits the palliative care unit of Elizabeth Bruyere Health Centre weekly as a volunteer with her therapy dog and family pet, Gogo. This team makes a valuable contribution to the spirit and morale of many patients, family members and staff.

Karen has also been the OTD READ coordinator, helping to set up therapy dog teams in local schools to assist children with reading difficulties.

Their work first began when Gogo was just a young dog. They visited a friend who was undergoing cancer treatment in 2004. "I quickly discovered the power of pet therapy and the potential Gogo had to assist people in need," says Karen. She will share her stories of Gogo, and of dealing with loss and change.