

Hi, my name is Samantha and I just finished my first summer as a counselor at Camp Kee-Mo-Kee. After being a



## Welcome Cheryl!

We are excited to have Cheryl join our ELUCO family for the next 8 months! Her knowledge, experience and enthusiasm will be a welcome addition for the people we serve!



Hi! My name is Cheryl Bolton and I am thrilled to be joining the ELUCO team as part of my internship. I am a farm wife and mother of three amazing young adults and have recently graduated with my Master of Divinity degree from Emmanuel College in Toronto.

While I may have a rural background I have a heart for urban ministry. During my time at Emmanuel College I spent a year working in Regent Park, a vibrant and eclectic neighbourhood just east of downtown Toronto. It is said that within a 10-block radius there are 23 languages spoken and a multitude of countries and cultures represented. During my time in Regent Park I met people from all walks of life and socio-economic situations. I fell in love with the diversity and sense of community but was dismayed by the lack of support and understanding from outside the community, particularly from governmental agencies.

I hope that through the work of ELUCO and the work being done in this area I can find ways to love and serve others through the Church so that we can all live out Jesus' new commandment that we love our neighbours as ourselves. The Church is not a building; the Church is the people, all of God's people. The experience and insight I gain here I want to take back into the congregation and work at breaking down the walls and barriers between the Church and the outside world.

I have my work boots and hardhat at the ready; let's break barriers together!

- Cheryl Bolton

## Keep the Date:

**Annual General Meeting**  
Gethsemane Gardens  
September 24  
7:00 pm

**Family Love and Share Sale**  
First-St. Andrew's United Church  
September 27  
9:00 am-12:00 pm

**Walk and Roll  
for Families**  
September 28<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 pm

**Voices of Broadway Show  
Choir Concert**  
First-St. Andrew's United Church  
April 11, 2015



## Notes from Nancy

Ask my favourite season and I'd say autumn, but summer time sure is fun!

With a reprieve from school, the warm weather and sunshine brings outside adults in lawn chairs and the lively chatter and laughter of kids running and playing. It's a wonderful opportunity for folks to catch up with one another and build our community.

One of the best things about summer is a week at summer camp, filled with super fun outdoor activities and making new friends. Unfortunately, for some of our children, it is one of the few times they actually get to just be a kid. Driving them to and from camp is one of the most fulfilling parts of my week as children burst with excitement and tales of their adventures.

ELUCO is grateful for the generous support in sponsoring and assisting with driving children and youth to summer camps. This year we were able to send 29 children to Camp Kee-Mo-Kee, including 3 Jr. Leadership and 1 LIT (Leader in Training), plus 15 children to Stevenson Children's Camp. Some prefer day camps. 2 children attended Outdoor Adventure Camp and Photography Camp at the Boys and Girls Club, while 2 youth honed their basketball skills with members of the London Lightning Basketball Team at the YMCA.

Perhaps one of the most beneficial programs we bring to our community is the month long Social Skills Day

Camp for 7-9-year-old boys and girls. The social skills learned and built upon here will stay with these children throughout their lives, and I can't imagine a more fun way to teach or practice these skills. What a great start to my workday; some children joined me for breakfast and then everyone walked, skipped, sang and chatted all the way to the local fire hall every day. This was a phenomenal experience for our children not only having an amazing staff complement, but with firefighters interacting and mentoring them too. Children and parents both tell

me they wish it could have lasted all summer long!

Perhaps one of the best programs we bring to the community is the month long Social Skills Day Camp...

everyone would fall in love with them. Indeed Camp Kee-Mo-Kee and Skills Camp were lucky to have these outstanding ladies on their staff teams. I'm so proud of "our girls!"



## Samantha's Story

*Hip-hop, Kee-Mo-Kee rocks, let me see  
your right hand drop. Boom, shake it out,  
shake it out, shake it out.* This is the song  
my fellow co-workers and I greet  
campers with when they arrive at Camp  
Kee-Mo-Kee.

Hi, my name is Samantha and I just finished my first summer as a counselor at Camp Kee-Mo-Kee. After being a camper for five years and doing the LIT (leader-in-training) program, I got hired for the summer of 2014. It was one of the most incredible experiences of my life. I learned so much about the campers, the surrounding nature and myself.

As a child, I wasn't fortunate enough to be able to pay for camp. Luckily there was funding for me to be able to go. No one knew that I hadn't paid to go to camp, and it made no difference when people found out years later. As a camper, I fell in love with the camp. I loved all the activities; nature, sports, crafts, Christian-values, and pool, and I loved all the staff. The counselor and programming staff had a family-type vibe and it made everyone feel welcome and at home. Camp KMK is my home away from a home. Last summer, 2013, I applied for the LIT program and got accepted. This was an incredible moment for me because I knew I had a better shot at being hired if I had that on my resume. The program was three weeks long; the first week felt like school. We had to learn how to be good leaders before we could move further. The second week we were placed in the cabins with two counselors to observe. We had things to learn about proper procedures when dealing with certain situations with caers. Our final week we shadowed a counselor for the week; took breaks when they took breaks, had night-watch with them, and had to deal with situations ourselves. It was a great learning experience and I knew I wanted to be a counselor.

When I received the email from the camp director that I was being offered the position of counselor this summer, I nearly screamed. Working at camp this summer has changed my life. I was able to make countless new friends, and impact the lives of the children who attend camp. So many of the campers were afraid to be at camp but by the end of the week they did not want to go home because they had so much fun. It brought a smile to my face. Every week is filled with new adventures and amazing people to get to know. Seeing the smile on my campers' faces at the end of the week, hugging them and saying goodbye to them and their parents makes every struggle worthwhile. I wouldn't trade this summer for anything.







# Family Love and Share Sale



Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> 9a-12 noon



Activities with St. Leonard's staff



ELUCO board members pick up campers at camp Kee-Mo-Kee

## Current Needs

- ✓ Peanut free school snacks and juice boxes
- ✓ Toilet paper
- ✓ Kleenex
- ✓ Volunteer drivers for occasional events
- ✓ plus anyone willing to drive their truck if available

Many thanks to all who have donated their time and resources to make our ELUCO outreach ministry possible!

## Contact Information

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## Donations

ELUCO  
P.O. Box 32013  
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N5V 5K4

## The ELUCO Food Cupboard

Gethsemane Gardens,  
1461 Huron St.  
Hours: 9:30-12:00, Wed & Fri