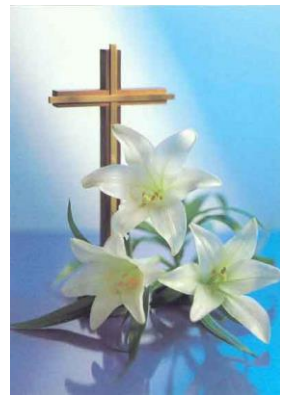


Streetsville United Church

Spring Tidings 2016

Happy Spring!

274 Queen St. S.
Mississauga, ON L5M 1L8
905-826-1542
info@streetsvilleunited.ca
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CALENDAR

Sunday Services 10 am

Holy Week and Easter Services

Advent Sundays

(all services 10 am)

March 20th Palm Sunday

March 25th Good Friday

(with breakfast served by the Men's Group in the auditorium beginning at 8:30 am). Signup sheet in the narthex.

March 27th Easter Sunday

April 3rd Holy Communion

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thu. Mar. 17 11:30 am – St. Patrick's Day Tea – in Heritage Hall \$5/person – sign up in the narthex.



Sat. Mar. 26 1:00 pm – Easter Egg Hunt! – in Heritage Hall, egg hunt and activities for children \$5.00 per child.

Sat. Apr. 9 6:30 pm – "Coffeehouse with Bruce" – back by popular demand! See 2nd Annual Coffee House p. 4.

Thu. Apr. 21 6:30 pm – UCW Spring Potluck – see News from UCW p. 2.

Sat. Apr. 23 7:00 pm – Transcend screening – see Transcend p. 4 for information about this inspirational movie.

Sat. Apr. 30 – Church Garage Sale

Please see Church Garage Sale p. 2 for volunteer and donation information.



MINISTER'S MESSAGE – The Date of Easter

I tend to associate Easter with the month of April, but Easter often occurs in March. This year **Easter is on Sunday, March 27**, among the earliest dates that it is celebrated. Sometimes we wonder how the date of Easter is set. Easter should be on the Sunday following the Jewish Passover, since Jesus was crucified on Passover and raised three days later. However, centuries ago the church changed the date of Easter, perhaps to clearly distinguish it from the Passover. Easter is celebrated on the Sunday following the first full moon of spring. Therefore, Easter is observed anywhere between March 22 and April 25. As some people have pointed out this method of determining the date of Easter is not very Biblical. But at least Easter is celebrated correctly on Sunday, the day of Christ's resurrection!

Recently I read an article in the paper saying that the Archbishop of the Church of England has called all Christian churches to come together and set a single unchangeable Sunday for Easter. He suggested either the first or second Sunday in April every year. The Archbishop says that this would be much better for planning purposes for both the church and for families. This does make sense, but knowing that the church can slow to agree and to change, it's likely this will take several generations to come about.

However, we all agree that Easter is worth celebrating. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the single greatest event since the creation of the world and the source of hope for ourselves and the world. As a great theologian put it, the resurrection means that now and in the end God wins! Despite the world's issues, God is in ultimate control and his plan and purpose will be fulfilled for us and for his creation. The ultimate power of sin and evil and death has been defeated and will be put away at last. God reigns! Jesus is Lord! This truth is worth celebrating with words and songs and thanksgiving. And we do this on Easter Sunday. But each Sunday's worship is a celebration and a proclamation of Christ's resurrection. For we live in a world in which the crucified one lives!

I encourage you to attend our **Good Friday service at 10 A.M. on March 25**. Breakfast is served by our Men's Group from 8:30 to 9:30 A.M in the Auditorium. A free will offering is accepted. After the solemn marking of Christ's death on Good Friday we will celebrate with joy his resurrection on **Easter Sunday at 10 A.M.**

May God richly bless us as we mark Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, his sacrificial death on Good Friday, and his resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday. These events are the foundation stones of our faith and our hope which the church proclaims to the world. God wins!

Refugee Sponsorship

I am especially pleased with the efforts being made by our congregation towards sponsoring a Syrian refugee family in cooperation with two other United Church congregations. Please read the update in this edition of Tidings and support this project as you are able. We are looking forward to **Bruce Worthington** entertaining us at the **Coffee House on Saturday, April 9**. The proceeds from this evening will go towards the refugee project. It will be a great evening as it was last year.

Rev. John

NOTICES

Volunteers?

Would you like to volunteer for something at church and don't know who to contact? Are you thinking you could put your **Faith into Action**? We have several lists of people who have spoken up and provided their email addresses, so we can call on them when needed. If you would like to be asked, for something like handy work around the church or baking or something else you could offer, please let the church office know or contact Kate Sparrow at 905-302-4549.

Need to Reserve a Room at the Church?

Streetsville United Church is a busy place! To keep track and to help you know what rooms are available please call or email Kelly in the church office or Doug Hitchcock (Rental coordinator) when you need to book a room. To find out if a room and date are free you can look on the calendar outside the choir room or you can access the online calendar – contact Kelly to get access online.

Kelly 905-826-1542 or email kellycrewson@streetsvilleunited.ca

Doug 905-564-0139 or email hitchcock@rogers.com.

Pastoral Care Committee

If you or someone you know needs a visit or to be prayed for, please inform the church office or Kate Sparrow at 905-302-4549. Members of the church and the Prayer Chain are available to assist Reverend John.



NEWS FROM UCW

SUC UCW was honoured to host this year's **World Day of Prayer** service on March 4. This is an ecumenical worship written by one country, this year Cuba, and celebrated worldwide. We worship together with St Andrew's Presbyterian and St Joseph's Catholic Church rotating host churches each year. The theme this year was "Receive Children. Receive Me." A number of our members participated in this meaningful service of readings, scripture and music. Fellowship and refreshments followed in the Heritage Hall, some foods with a Cuban flavour. A very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all in attendance.

As we look for signs of spring we look forward to our annual **Spring Potluck Dinner**. This event to be held Thursday April 21, at 6 pm, will focus on the roots each of us has. As we prepare for the arrival of our Syrian refugee family, we realize we all have a heritage elsewhere, whether it be many generations ago or much more recent. All women of the congregation are invited to join us for this event, bring along your favourite potluck dish, perhaps one from your ancestral country. More information will be available but in the meantime save the date!

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR WALK

On Saturday February 20, a team of walkers participated in the Coldest Night of the Year. Thanks to all who helped team Streetsville United raise \$4,746 for the DAM. Your support is appreciated!



CHURCH GARAGE SALE

Our annual fundraising garage sale is fast approaching. We will be gratefully accepting items for the sale from April 15 and **PLEASE** only give clean and in good condition items, absolutely nothing dirty, damaged or broken – it just makes more work for the handful of volunteers processing the items. We are unable to accept big furniture and appliances, old TVs and clothing. We do want books, jewelry, toys, games, DVDs and CDs, tools, pictures, dishes, linen, sporting goods, etc. Also please check with family and friends for appreciated donations.

We will need many **VOLUNTEERS** to help, beginning the week prior and the day of. MEN volunteers are especially needed. (I can't believe I just said that) Please consider the church a fitness center for the men as we have opportunities for weight lifting (heavy boxes) and also running (taking boxes to various locations in the church).

We will have the main sale in the auditorium, kids room in the Fellowship Lounge with a cafeteria, jewelry and seasonal goods in the Heritage Hall, resulting in a lot of people (including high school students) needed to cover the various locations.

Help us to make this the best \$\$ sale ever. Please speak to Adelaide at 905-812-9483 with any inquiries. THANK YOU. Final details to follow.

Bible Readings

FOR HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday:

Luke 19.28 – 48

Monday:

Isaiah 53.1 - 12

Tuesday:

Matthew 26.1 - 16

Wednesday:

Psalms 22.1 - 18

Thursday:

Luke 22.7 - 62

Good Friday:

Luke 22.63 – 23.49

Saturday:

Luke 23.50 – 56;

Acts 2.25 – 31

Easter Sunday:

Luke 24.1 – 49

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School

In planning for this coming September, we are in need of two new people. We are looking for a teacher for JK to grade 2 and a Sunday School Superintendent. The classroom teacher is a shared job and you will teach every other Sunday. The Superintendent is responsible for the overall leadership of the Sunday School. Adelaide Tapscott, the outgoing Superintendent, will assist the new person with the transition. Thank you Adelaide for all your hard work.

If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact Cathy Hitchcock the CE Chair.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUTREACH?

Our Syrian Refugee Odyssey



In September our congregation embarked on an odyssey to sponsor a refugee family from Syria and attended the first set of such meetings put on by Halton Presbytery. By October we had become part of the North-West Mississauga Constituent Group, along with Erindale and Erin Mills United Churches, working together on a family sponsorship plan.

In November, a sub-committee was put together at our church comprising of Anthony and Leona Mutlak, Brad Butt, Marney Elsley, Ali McMurter and Jennifer Honsa, with considerable guidance and input from Bev Oag. The committee has been working behind the scenes cataloguing available furniture and household goods for the family, planning budgets, looking for suitable accommodations, helping to set up the banking required, and overseeing fundraising. Our congregation has stepped forward with generous fundraising support, warm enthusiasm, and offers of help all around. Jim Courtney has kept the updates posted on our web site as they become available.

In early February our refugee family was confirmed - two parents aged 40 and 45, and five children aged 3 to 12. Their home and village were destroyed by bombing in Syria more than three years ago, and they have been in search of a safe place to reside ever since. They are currently waiting in Sudan for final permission to travel to Canada. The brother of our family's mother is a resident of Mississauga and is co-sponsoring the family with us. This will be very helpful as we have very limited Arabic language capabilities in our congregations!

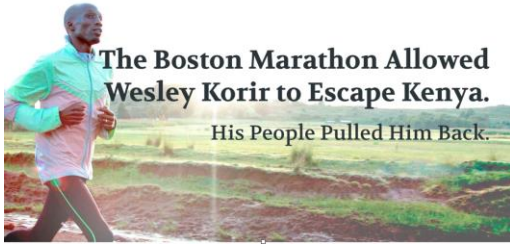
Ken Boulton has posted a photo presentation of our family on the TV monitor outside of the Fellowship Lounge, so please make sure to have a look.

We look forward to updating you once we have an arrival date and the family starts its new life in our community. The odyssey continues...

For more information, or if you'd like to make a donation to this project, please see <http://streetsvilleunited.ca/news/syrian-refugee-sponsorship/>.




TRANSCEND SCREENING



On Saturday evening **April 23rd 7:00 PM** Streetsville United Church will host a screening of Transcend. The movie tells the story of marathon runner Wesley Korir, winner of the 2012 Boston Marathon. While the original intention of the film was to try and understand why runners from Kenya and Ethiopia are so dominate in the field of long distant running, the movie takes a dramatic turn during its filming in Kenya. Come and learn what Wesley is doing to help his native Kenya. A Q&A with co-producer/director Tad Munnings and light refreshments will follow the movie.

It is hoped that the movie will be of interest to members of the congregation, runners and the local community. Tickets are \$10 with all proceeds to go to support the Transcend Running Academy.



Your Cross
MY VICTORY

Grant, O Lord, that in your wounds I
may find my safety, in your stripes
my cure, in your pain my peace, in
your Cross my victory, in your
Resurrection my triumph, and a
crown of righteousness in the glories
of your eternal kingdom.



2nd Annual Coffee House With Bruce

Saturday, April 9th 7:00 PM
Heritage Hall

\$15.00 Adults - \$8.00 under 12

Includes Coffee and Refreshments
(Proceeds to SUC Refugee Sponsorship Program)

Come hear **Bruce Worthington** perform. Casual Coffee House-style. Tickets include dessert. Help support our Refugee Sponsorship fundraising. Enjoy a wonderful evening!

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HYMNS?

- Dentist's Hymn:** Crown Him with Many Crowns.
Weatherman's Hymn: There Shall Be Showers of Blessings.
Contractor's Hymn: The Church's One Foundation.
The Tailor's Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy.
The Golfer's Hymn: There's a Green Hill Far Away.
The Politician's Hymn: Standing on the Promises!
Optometrist's Hymn: Open My Eyes That I Might See.
The IRS Agent's Hymn: I Surrender All.
The Gossip's Hymn: Pass It On.
The Electrician's Hymn: Send The Light.
The Shopper's Hymn: Sweet Bye and Bye.
The Realtor's Hymn: I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop.
The Massage Therapist's Hymn: He Touched Me.
The Doctor's Hymn: The Great Physician.

AND for those who speed on the highway – a few hymns:

- 55 mph:** God Will Take Care of You
75 mph: Nearer My God To Thee
85 mph: This World Is Not My Home
95 mph: Lord, I'm Coming Home
100 mph: Precious Memories

Give me a sense of humour, Lord,
Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humour out of life,
And pass it on to other folk.



Thanks to Cathie Furlong for submitting!



