

Streetsville United Church

Spring Tidings 2017

Have a Joyous Easter!

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CALENDAR

Sunday Services 10 am

Holy Week and Easter Services

Advent Sundays

(all services 10 am)

April 9th Palm Sunday

April 14th Good Friday

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

April 16th Easter Sunday

May 1st Holy Communion

UPCOMING EVENTS

"Coffeehouse with Bruce" - date to be announced. See 3rd Annual Coffee House p. 2.

Thu. Apr. 20 6:30 pm - UCW Spring Potluck - Celebrate Canada! - see News from UCW p. 2.

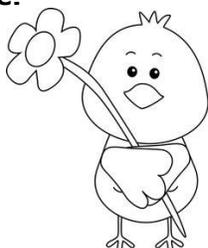
Sat. Apr. 29 - Church Garage Sale

Please see Church Garage Sale p. 3 for volunteer and donation information.



Tue. May 16 7:00 pm - Fashion Show - featuring "Northern Reflections". Includes dessert and door prizes!

Sun. Jun. 11 - Church Picnic-style lunch - details to follow in the weekly bulletin as the date approaches. **Save the date!**



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

In a few weeks we will worship on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Every year I look forward to these worship services. This is always a powerfully moving time for Christians, because the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are at the heart of our faith.

In Matthew 27:45 we read that as Jesus died on the cross, "from noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon." This unusual darkness reflected the darkness of human sin which put Jesus on the cross. It reflected the pain of God's creation, as the very creation wept over the unjust death of him through whom all things were created. The darkness represented the physical and spiritual agony in the heart of Jesus, who cried out "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" The darkness represented the sorrow and pain in Father's heart, as he and his beloved Son were separated while Jesus became sin and paid the price of our salvation. The darkness represents the sorrow and heaviness in the hearts of Jesus' disciples, including his mother Mary and the other followers who watched Jesus suffer on the cross.

Good Friday is a day of darkness but we must not turn from it, lest we miss the light of Easter Sunday. Yes, it was dark on Good Friday, but a new light dawned on Easter Sunday morning with the resurrection of our Lord from the dead. God's mighty act brought to light the Lordship of Christ over all creation. The resurrection brought the dawn of our redemption from the power of evil and sin and death. Christ's resurrection brought a living hope to the world and the promise of eternal life to all who believe. Easter means that no matter how dark it may be now, light is coming, God's light. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it." (John 1:5)

I am very pleased that many of you have been digging deeper into the Scriptures during this Lenten season. We have had a good time in our 2 classes studying Jesus' Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount. I am gratified by the good number who have shown interest and faithfully attended these classes week by week.

Please note our **Good Friday Service - Friday, April 14 at 10 A.M.** (with breakfast served in the Auditorium by our men's group beginning at 8:30 A.M. No charge but free will offerings are accepted); and then the **Easter Celebration Service - Sunday, April 16, at 10 A.M.**

I would ask that you also note the other upcoming events in our church this spring. A major fund-raising event will take place on **Saturday, April 29** with our **Annual Garage Sale**. Last year this event raised over \$6,000 for the church. Many hands are needed in days before the event and on the 29th to make this event a success once more. Thank you to all who participate and willingly offer their help.

May God richly bless you through this sacred and holy season,

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 another skill 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?

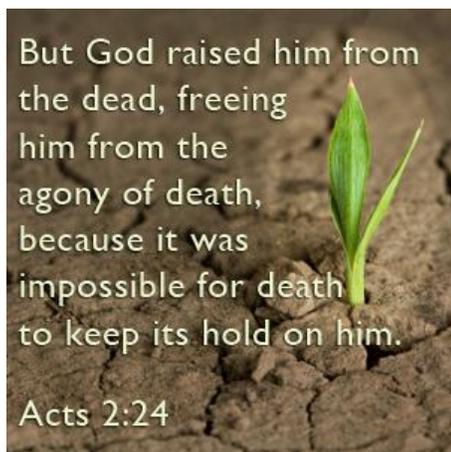
Streetsville United Church is a busy place! To keep track and to help you know what rooms are available please call or email Kelly in the church office or Doug Hitchcock (Rental coordinator) when you need to book a room. To find out if a room and date are free you can look on the calendar outside the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

"CELEBRATE CANADA"

Come and Celebrate Canada 150 with the UCW on Thursday April 20 at 6:00 PM in the Heritage Hall. We encourage all women of our congregation to join us at this festive event as we share our favourite Canadian dishes at the potluck dinner, and dress in our traditional red and white or other outfits reflecting Canada. There will be tables for any special Canadian artifacts that you may have and would like to share. Bring your brain ready for Canadiana trivia and your singing voice for a Canadiana singsong! Donations for the youth at Our Place Peel will be collected (toiletries, socks, gloves, hats etc). Monetary donations will be used to help finance the "door project" in the Fellowship Lounge, the replacement and upgrading of the doors to the kitchenette and cupboard (approximately \$1500). Plan to join us for a fun and festive evening on April 20 - save the date now!



COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR WALK



Over \$4,000 raised for the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser!

Saturday February 25th marked the fifth year participating in the Coldest Night of the Year (not the coldest, but definitely cold and very windy!). The Streetsville United team pictured above raised \$4,045 in support of The Dam, Mississauga's drop-in centre for youth, which provides a positive, healthy and encouraging environment that is drug and alcohol-free. Across Canada, this campaign raised over \$4 million supporting similar local charities. Thank you to everyone who participated in or contributed to this worthwhile outreach.

Back by popular demand! Stay tuned for details about the 3rd annual 'Coffeehouse with Bruce'. Later this spring, plans are underway to bring back Bruce Worthington for an evening of musical entertainment, delicious refreshments and uplifting fellowship. We've had a great turnout the last couple of years...plan to attend this year.

Bible Readings

FOR HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday: Mark 11.1-11

Monday: John 12.1-11

Tuesday: John 13.20-36

Wednesday: John 13.21-32

Thursday: John 13.1-17

Good Friday: John 18.1-John 19.42

Saturday: Isaiah 53

Easter Sunday: John 20.1-23

Hosanna!

www.biblesociety.ca



*Patience with family
is LOVE*

*Patience with others is
is RESPECT*

*Patience with self
is CONFIDENCE &*

*Patience with God
is FAITH*



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUTREACH?

Our Syrian Refugee Update – GREAT NEWS!

We have positive news about our Syrian refugees. We recently learned that the paperwork for our refugees is moving forward. We anticipate that the family will be cleared for arrival by the summer and the individual by the late fall. We have the funds in place and now need to look for an apartment for the family. Members of the constituent group will be contacting people who had offered furniture and household items for the family so that we can make sure everything is in place for the family's arrival. We all look forward to our first arrivals and ask for your prayers for our refugees. The family had a baby boy in January named Ahmad. He is pictured right.



CHURCH GARAGE SALE

Saturday April 29, 2017

This will be our 12th annual garage sale, having raised \$38,243 in the past eleven! In April 2005 which was our 1st one – we raised \$1500 which was used to purchase new Sunday School tables. Last year we raised \$6,000 so we have grown substantially in funds raised. This major fundraiser for our church requires many people to make it a success, so we are counting on as many of you as are able to contribute your time during the week of and on the day of the sale. High School youth and our men are encouraged to participate, as it is an exhausting endeavor. Sign up sheets will be placed in the narthex in mid April.

We also need your donations of items for the sale. PLEASE NOTE WE CANNOT ACCEPT ITEMS AFTER 12 NOON ON FRIDAY APRIL 28. WE DO NOT WANT the following: large furniture or large appliances, old TVs, VHS tapes or old computers. Please no broken, cracked, chipped or unclean items. Jewellery can be given to Adelaide no later than April 15.

Due to the growth of this sale, we will be setting up tables in the auditorium on Sunday April 23rd (after coffee hour) and transporting already stored donations to this area. MEN please HELP.

Children's clothing, toys, games and books etc. are to be taken directly outside the Fellowship Lounge starting April 24.

Anyone with a silent auction item (new or like new) can give it directly to Adelaide from now until April 23.

There is also the cafeteria which will require chili, soup, sandwiches and desserts.

Please direct any questions to Adelaide 905-812-9483.



