

Streetsville United Church

Spring Tidings 2024



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CALENDAR

Sunday Services **10 am**

Services in person and streaming

March 24 **Palm Sunday**

March 28 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday

March 29 **Good Friday**

March 31 – 8:00 am Sunrise Service
(not online or streaming)

March 31 Easter Celebration Service

April 7 **Holy Communion**

Services listed above are on YouTube via the website at under the Worship tab
www.streetsvilleunited.ca

For details of the above events and more, please see Upcoming Events on the next page.



Update your contact info!

If any of your information has changed (address, phone, email), please let Kelly in the office know. We need up to date information for tax receipts, Tidings, etc. Call the office 905-826-1542 or send an email to info@streetsvilleunited.ca

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Christ is risen! *Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!*

This is the traditional Christian Easter affirmation—that the grave could not hold God in Jesus Christ, and God's resurrection power has burst forth to bless all of God's creatures.

And isn't it nice that the Easter celebration here in northern latitudes coincides with the beginning of spring? Soon itty-bitty bunnies will be born, and new eggs will appear in nests. There are signs of renewal all over the place during spring, and while we don't *have* to connect them with Jesus' resurrection, we followers of Jesus can praise God for Easter blessings with every bunny and egg that we see!

I also see signs of renewal in our Streetsville United Church community. New people are stepping into leadership roles. Different folks are offering new ideas to reach out to our neighbours. I can even see our Fresh Start sessions bearing fruit (if you know where and how to look). With this renewal of energy, we will spend the Easter season (because Easter is a *season*, not merely a single Sunday) focusing our worship on "signs of renewal," beginning with signs in the sky with a full solar eclipse on April 8. Are you ready for all this renewal?

I also challenge you to engage in our vision renewal project. I have heard many folks say that they feel that our Streetsville UC community feels rather directionless right now. Perhaps you have wondered why your bright, young minister hasn't taken the reins more and set a course yet. I strongly believe that the Holy Spirit has a direction for us, and we need to open our hearts and minds to discern what that Spirit-given vision is for us. And we need to discern that Spirit-given vision *together*. Soon our vision sub-committee will distribute a questionnaire for each member and adherent to complete to help us clarify our church values. Please complete this survey reverently, perhaps even with "fear and trembling" (Phil. 2:12), as we invite the Spirit to guide our discernment.

God's resurrection power did not merely raise a singular man from the dead two millennia ago. The resurrection is ongoing! As the songwriter Jeremy Camp declares, "The same power that rose Jesus from the grave...lives in us!" May you experience resurrection and renewal in this Easter season!

Peace,

Rev. Joe



UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS!

Maundy Thursday – March 28 6:00 pm - A gathering in the Fellowship Lounge with Rev. Joe commemorating the Washing of the Feet and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles. Sign up required.

Good Friday Breakfast – Friday March 29 8:30 - 9:45 in the auditorium before worship; in continuing support of Pathways. Good Friday service to follow at 10:00 am.

Easter Morning Sunrise Service! – March 31 at 8:00 am by the dock at Lake Aquitaine. Park at the Meadowvale Community Centre. This is a joint service with Eden United. Streetsville United will continue to hold its Easter morning worship service here at 10:00 am in our sanctuary.

Garage Sale: Save the Date! Saturday April 27, 2024. Items for donation include: Small household items, electronics and small kitchen appliances, linens, sports equipment, books, jewelry, games/puzzles, children's toys/games, puzzles, etc, children's clothing, tools. We are **not** accepting adult clothing or large furniture. ** Store donations for now, but jewelry items **are** being accepted now! Contact Lorraine Treanor or Deanna Hodges re: jewelry donations or if you have questions. More info coming in the weekly bulletin.

McGregor meat Fundraiser coming soon. This is a delicious way to support our church's finances! Watch the bulletin for more info and specific dates.



Church Council

The Council spent considerable time discussing and understanding our requirements for 2024.

Each member is aware of the challenges we will face in 2024, and each member of the Council will be open and communicative with the church membership of our position as the year unfolds.

If anyone has any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to ask any member of Council.

The Council will be working with Ministry and Personnel to streamline our governance model to advance our communications, duties and the workload of activities serving our church and its membership.

We will have a new Council Administration Recorder and we will be working with Randa Tadros to streamline our communications and web site.

Council continues to support the Fresh Start Program, which has been designed to transition our church, post-covid. The remaining sessions for the next couple of months involve two important topics:

- Renegotiating Roles and Expectations
- Finances...What you need to know.

Your involvement is critical for this initiative.

Neil Beattie, Church Council Chair

Streetsville United Supports Local Youth!

Whether by supporting Team Streetsville United financially or fundraising and walking for the Coldest Night of the Year on Saturday Feb. 24th, Streetsville United proudly showed its support of The Dam Meadowvale, to the tune of \$6,185. Thank you. The generosity was outstanding once again!



Here is most of Team Streetsville United gathering as we began our 5k walk.

Church Council Welcome

M&P are pleased to welcome Cathy Hitchcock, Randa Tadros, Leslie Guimond and Sandy Jutzen to Church Council! They were elected to their positions by the Congregation at the Annual General meeting and are filling very important roles on the Christian Education and Outreach Committees, and as Secretary for Church Council. Please support and encourage them as they work in their new roles.

M&P is very open to inquiries by members who seek information on committee responsibilities. Many opportunities exist for creative input and support on all committees of Streetsville United. We are also open to continuing to facilitate opportunities that support the leadership team.

POTLUCK LUNCHEON!

We did our best to 'Beat the January Blah's' on Sunday January 28th, and it was a success! Many of us enjoyed a Potluck luncheon, wonderful fellowship, and a beautiful hand-decorated cake as one of the delicious desserts! Thanks to all who attended and helped in various ways.



Sew Powerful Purse Ministry

Streetsville United Church Women took on a worthwhile project this past year. The Sew Powerful ministry helps young girls in Zambia stay in school, even when they have their periods. Local women sew reusable menstrual supplies, make soap and underwear. The rest of the world joins in to make purses to hold these supplies using a pattern provided by Sew Powerful. UCW members Katie Powell, Sharon Smale, Bev Mathew, Sheila Wilson, Emily Hodges, Jean Stopa and Wendy Johnson made 30 purses. We are grateful to the UCW executive for paying for the postage to mail the purses and for the \$10 US per purse that is asked for to help with the sewing in Zambia. The number of purses made last year worldwide was over 29,000. We were proud to be a part of this ministry.



For more information see www.sewpowerful.org
Wendy Johnson - wendyejohnson@yahoo.com

Governance – what's that all about?

Governance at Streetsville United simply means – the rules by which we must abide. Every Community of Faith has a constitution document that outlines and provides guidance on how we are to function. Church Council has given support to the idea that we review the SUC Constitution, last updated in 2019, so that it more closely reflects our vision and mission.



Similarly, there is an interest in facilitating small group projects with short term commitments. Watch for upcoming information at a planned **"Time and Talent Fair"**!

An opportunity for you!

An opportunity to take our outreach outside the building!
An opportunity to demystify how books are filed in the library!
An opportunity to Chase the Chill!
An opportunity to create new content for the church website!
An opportunity to get your hands dirty in the garden!
An opportunity to declutter our space!

Come to Coffee Hour on Sunday, April 21 to learn more about these and other opportunities with short term commitment that supports the committee work of our church!

From the Joy Givers

The UCW unit the Joy Givers came together this week to create a little joy for the residents of Cheshire Place Streetsville.

This congregate home supports ten older adults living with mixed health issues including physical disabilities and acquired brain injuries. A special thanks to Deanna Hodges for her inspiration and talents to lead the unit in this activity.

Please see some of the hand-crafted Easter cards that will be distributed to the residents and "hoppy" lollipops.



Lovely flowers



Bunny treats and cards



Bunny!

UCW NEWS

This new year of 2024 has been very busy for our UCW members! All units continue to meet once a month. The Friendship Circle meets the second Thursday afternoon at 1pm, Joy Givers later that same day at 7pm, and the Sunshine Circle meets the third Tuesday at 1pm. All meetings are in the Fellowship Lounge.

SUC celebrated UCW Sunday on January 28 with the induction of this year's executive. There were displays of various outreach projects and missions we support for the congregation to see and discuss with our members. The project of Sew Powerful Purses was completed and ready for sendoff – please see the separate report on this project in this newsletter.

February was the season for funerals. The UCW continued the valuable ministry of providing receptions for 3 of our members, Jim Courtney, Les Cunningham, and Vaclav Honsa. The reception is an important time for the family and friends to gather and share time together and memories of their loved one. We are honoured to be able to provide this support to the families in their time of grief.

The World Day of Prayer will be celebrated this year within our UCW units with a joint meeting on March 19th. The service was written by the women of Palestine.

The Annual Spring potluck dinner will be held on Tuesday April 16 at 6pm in Heritage Hall. The guest speaker is John Dunlop, the Director of Heritage and Indigenous Relations for the City of Mississauga. His presentation will focus on the Streetsville Heritage and Conservation District Feasibility Study and Plan and the impact on homes and businesses in the area. As this topic may be of interest to many in our congregation, **all are invited to join us**. As this evening has a heritage theme, we are suggesting foods may also be heritage –perhaps an old family favourite recipe. Do not let this keep you away though, all potluck dishes will be delicious and enjoyed! A signup sheet will be available in the narthex for planning purposes.

Lastly, please **SAVE THE DATE for this year's Harvest of Crafts Sale on Saturday October 26**. As we plan another exciting day of interesting gift and crafted items and delicious baked goods and preserves, we need your support to help make this another successful day! Spread the word and invite friends and neighbours to attend.

Helping Hands!

This is an example of the 'behind-the-scenes' work that is done to keep our building in good repair. The Auditorium curtains were fixed and repositioned, making the space tidy and cared for. Thank you to all the busy workers who maintain our cherished building and fixtures!





Using a Fresh Start

You may have heard about the '**Fresh Start**' discussion sessions we've had over the last number of months. '**Fresh Start**' is a program offered by the United Church of Canada with a variety of learning modules. After the COVID pandemic, we chose a few which are best suited to our church's needs and have paid for these facilitator-led sessions. Now we need to build and strengthen our future vision for this community of faith as we consider positive changes. Fresh Start is helping us discuss, consider, and decide our next steps. Every one of us in this church family is invited to attend...please do! Your support, thoughts and ideas are valuable, and welcomed. Look for the sign-up sheets in the Narthex or call the church office.



We have an added feature - the UCW donated 2 lovely Candelabras which when lit create a wonderful ambiance.



New Candelabra Courtesy of the UCW

Worship

Rev Joe is leading us through a series of themes.

For Epiphany, there was the celebration of Lights, and all were asked to keep the lights in our homes throughout January. A unique way of extending the holiday cheer.

The celebration of Black History/Heritage Month collided with the beginning of the Lenten season, nonetheless, these two events were acknowledged throughout February. However, the theme for the Lenten series is 'Following Jesus in the Real World' with a different topic and scenery displayed at the front of the sanctuary. To date, we have journeyed with Rev. Joe in accompanying *Jesus at school' at the grocery store, at the doctor's office, in traffic, and at Tim Hortons.*

Below are a few depictions of these topics:



Jesus at the doctor's office



Jesus in Traffic

We will continue this journey up to Good Friday and Easter.



As always, we welcome the Boomer band and the excellent music collaboration with Michelle Chung.

The worship committee is grateful for the many volunteers who support our services. If you would like to become a volunteer, please speak with one of the co-chairs or leave your contact information with the church office.



Finance Report

The February financial numbers are comparable to those of 2023. The month ended with a deficit of (\$6,600). The YTD deficit is (\$10,900) compared to (\$10,700) last year. There are many sources of seasonal revenue to come – Easter givings, camp rentals, fundraising events, new opportunities etc. Property projects have yet to be determined, however we know there will be expenses this year where last year was minimal.

A **Macgregor Meat Fundraiser** is scheduled for this spring. **Delivery is booked for Tuesday May 14 at 6:15** in the parking lot. Sales information will be forward by email as soon as it is available.

Streetsville United Church - Income Statement YTD February 2024 vs YTD February 2023 and Budget

	Actual YTD February				2-month Linear Budget		YTD Actual as % Annual Budget	Annual 2024 Budget
	2024	2023	Variance		YTD	Variance		
			\$	%				
REVENUE								
Envelope Offerings - General, Initial, Special	\$ 22,845	\$ 22,595	\$ 250	1%	\$ 27,250	\$ (4,405)	14%	\$ 163,500
Loose Offering, Canada Helps, UCC Foundation	\$ 1,143	\$ 1,842	\$ (699)	-38%	\$ 2,250	\$ (1,107)	8%	\$ 13,500
United Church Women	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ (300)		\$ 833	\$ (833)	0%	\$ 5,000
Facilities Rental - Total	\$ 12,089	\$ 8,130	\$ 3,959	49%	\$ 13,512	\$ (1,423)	15%	\$ 81,070
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 2,697	\$ 2,877	\$ (180)	-6%	\$ 2,100	\$ 597	21%	\$ 12,600
Total Operating Receipts	\$ 38,774	\$ 35,744	\$ 3,030	8%	\$ 45,945	\$ (7,171)	14%	\$ 275,670
OPERATING EXPENSE								
Personnel	\$ 30,222	\$ 26,041	\$ 4,180	16%	\$ 30,522	\$ (300)	17%	\$ 183,129
Operating Church Home	\$ 13,277	\$ 14,598	\$ (1,321)	-9%	\$ 14,709	\$ (1,432)	15%	\$ 88,255
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 6,217	\$ 6,324	\$ (107)	-2%	\$ 5,678	\$ 539	18%	\$ 34,066
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 49,715	\$ 46,964	\$ 2,752	6%	\$ 50,908	\$ (1,193)	16%	\$ 305,450
NET INCOME - SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ (10,941)	\$ (10,720)	\$ (222)	2%	\$ (4,963)	\$ (5,978)		\$ (29,780)
OUTREACH / BENEVOLENT FUND								
Outreach/Benevolent Receipts	\$ 3,377	\$ 3,343	\$ 34		\$ 3,967	\$ (589)	14%	\$ 23,800
Outreach/Benevolent Disbursements	\$ 3,154	\$ 4,054	\$ (900)		\$ 3,750	\$ (596)	13%	\$ 23,800