

Streetsville United Church

Spring Tidings 2025



274 Queen St. S.
Mississauga, ON L5M 1L8

905-826-1542

info@streetsvilleunited.ca

www.streetsvilleunited.ca



CALENDAR

Sunday Services 10 am

Services in person and streaming

April 13- Palm Sunday service with the children waving Palm branches and singing

April 17- Maundy Thursday Supper and washing of feet and hands ritual

April 18- Good Friday, starting with breakfast, followed by the service

April 20 Easter Sunday service

Services listed above are on YouTube via the website 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 your information has changed (address, phone, email), please inform Heather in the office. We need up-to-date information for tax receipts, Tidings, etc. Call the office at 905-826-1542 or send an email to info@streetsvilleunited.ca

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

What place does Jesus have in your life? Is he contained in a dusty Bible on a bookshelf? Are you limited to 1-2 hours a week on Sunday morning? Do you feel you can only find Jesus behind the 150-year-old facade on the corner of Queen and Barry in Streetsville?

Throughout the lesson of Lent, we at Streetsville United Church have been working to place Jesus at the CENTRE of our community life. The first three words of our new mission statement are "Centred on Christ," which is important because Canadian culture has shifted away from Christian dominance. We can no longer rely on public schools, sports, or businesses to reinforce Christian teachings and practices. As followers of Jesus in 21st-centuryCanada, we need to be more intentional about our Christian faith. Lent is traditionally a time when Christians choose a spiritual discipline (like prayer, contemplation, Bible study, or fasting) to help them deepen their relationship with God in Jesus Christ--and these disciplines are good to try throughout the year, too!

However, even as we place Jesus at the centre of our church, we will find that Jesus is on the move, and we need to move WITH Jesus! As a church, we are on a journey led by Christ "to be a vibrant, multi-generational congregation within our diverse community sharing God's truth and unconditional love." That previous phrase is our new vision statement, and with Christ at our centre, our community of faith will look more and more like what the statement envisions. Which word or phrase in the vision statement catches your attention most? Might God be leading you to help our congregation to be what that word means?

Lent is a journey that culminates with Holy Week and the celebration of Easter, God's victory over sin and death through God's Son, Jesus Christ. I hope that what you read in this issue of *Tidings* inspires you and prepares you for the next thing that God is doing--in your life and our church life.

Have a blessed Lent and a Happy Easter!

Peace,
Rev. Joe



NEW JOURNEY FOR KELLY!

Ken and Gail Boulton, along with Rev Joe, acknowledged Kelly's retirement by delivering a gift basket with gifts offered by members of the congregation. Kelly was very touched by the thoughtfulness that went into your gifts. The basket was brimming with jams, chocolate, baking, maple syrup, wine, and lots of cards!



WELCOME HEATHER MURRAY!

Welcome Heather into the family of Streetsville United as the Office Administrator.

Heather comes to us with a broad range of administrative, management, and organizational skills. She is looking forward to working on opportunities that support Rev Joe, our church, and committees.



CHURCH COUNCIL

Anyone is **welcome to attend** the monthly **Church Council meetings**; you do not have to be a member of the Church Council or a resource person assisting one of the Committees.

As the incoming Chair of the Church Council for 2025, I warmly invite you to 'come and see' what 'happens at the Council meetings, generally held on Tuesday evenings beginning at 7:00 pm; the next ones are on April 8th and May 13th. These are inspiring, welcoming gatherings where ideas are shared, and decisions are discussed and voted on. Those who are not Council members do not vote but are welcome to share thoughts and opinions or simply listen. Monthly committee reports are emailed to Church Council members before each meeting, which streamlines discussion to key items.

Please reach out to any Church Council member or me if you would like further information or to raise a topic for discussion by your SUC Council.

Kate Sparrow

Chair of Streetsville United Church Council

OUTREACH NEWS

STREETSVILLE UNITED SUPPORTS LOCAL YOUTH (CNOY)

This year, 18 participants from Streetsville United Church walked in the Coldest Night of the Year event. Most walked on the evening of February 22nd, and two people did the walk in their community. It was a very comfortable night to walk in the Meadowvale area and have a lovely meal upon completion. As a group, the final amount raised was \$6101.00. Thank you to all the walkers and to the people who donated. This included friends, families, and members of the congregation.

A special word of appreciation to our team leader, Murray Lewis, for



all his work and dedication in making this a successful event.

The Streetsville United Team completed the 5K walk.

UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS!

Maundy Thursday – April 17 6:00 pm

A gathering in the Fellowship Lounge including a light supper. Rev. Joe will be commemorating the Washing of the Feet and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles. Sign up required.

Good Friday Breakfast – Friday April 18 at 8:30 am - 9:45 am in the auditorium before worship. Good Friday service to follow at 10:00 am.

Easter Morning Sunrise Service! – April 20 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 26, 2025.

DONATIONS:

Donations are now being accepted and can be placed on the stage in the auditorium. During the week prior to the garage sale, donations will be accepted Mon April 21 10:00am – 3:00pm and Tues April 22 to Thurs April 24, 9:30am– 4:00pm and 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Prior to this, you may also drop off on Sunday mornings or contact Lorraine Treanor (905-826-3761) or Deanna Hodges (deannahodges@rogers.com) to arrange a time for drop off during the week.

Reminder: we do not accept adult clothing or large furniture. Jewelry donations can be given directly to Lorraine or Deanna.

VOLUNTEERS:

We will be looking for lots of volunteers to help with the garage sale (set-up, cashiers, general help, clean up, etc.) during the week of Tuesday April 22 – Friday April 25 and on April 26, the date of the sale. Sign-up sheets will be available in the narthex starting next week.

YARD SIGNS:

Signs will be available starting next Sunday so please take one and advertise our garage sale on your front lawn!

If you have any questions, please contact Lorraine or Deanna.

STEM CELL DONOR REGISTRATION DRIVE

On Saturday, March 29th between 10:00 am. and 2:00 p.m. the Outreach Committee, in conjunction with Canadian Blood Services, held a stem cell registration drive in Heritage Hall. This was in support of Caitlin Bridel of our congregation. Youth between the ages of 17-34 were eligible to register. The registration involved a swab and only took a few minutes. Youth in high school received one hour towards their community service hours with their registration. Light refreshments were available for participants. If a registrant is identified as a match with someone in need of a stem cell transplant, they will be notified and will have the opportunity to help save a life. The results of the drive will be shared in an upcoming April church bulletin.

OUTREACH FUND DISBURSEMENT

The upcoming disbursement of Outreach funds will be within the next few weeks. The amounts given and the organizations that received the money will be shared in a later bulletin.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jennifer Honsa, who has now completed her time on the Outreach Committee, for all her contributions. Throughout her many years, she has worked with interest and diligence to guide the committee to positive decisions and make sure that Outreach had a presence in both the congregation and the community.

Cathy Hitchcock
Sandy Jutzen

PASTORAL CARE NEWS

POTLUCK LUNCHEON

The snowfall could not prevent the Pastoral Care Committee from hosting a mid-winter Potluck luncheon on Sunday February 9th! It was very well attended and was an excellent example of the joy of sharing food and fellowship with our church family. We thank the rental group for their flexibility in moving to the Auditorium in order to accommodate us.



McGregor Meat Sale: Our thanks to John Wilton for coordinating another meat sale this spring. He has scheduled a delivery date of **Tuesday May 13 at 5:30pm**. The sale information package will be available in early April with orders due approximately May 5. Stay tuned for further updates. John is not available to coordinate a sale in the fall and so we are **appealing for a volunteer** to lead the campaign and ideally shadow John this spring. This is not a big task which can be done from your home and for a short campaign it contributes valuable funds to our church. Please contact Bev Mathew or John Wilton for further information.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

A Prayer Shawl Ministry has begun at the Streetsville United Church. We started with support from Eden United Church, which has been part of this program for many years. Prayer shawls are made to provide comfort, love, and support to anyone experiencing difficult times in their lives. The shawls are soft and cozy and can also be given to mark a celebration in life.

The shawls are made by volunteers, can be any colour or pattern, and can be knitted or crocheted.

Several of the shawls have been given to members, and many have told us how they use their shawls all the time and how comforting they are.

If you are interested in making a prayer shawl or know of anyone who could benefit from receiving a prayer shawl, please contact Sandy Hayashi at (905)-569-9966, Karen Monk at (905) 826 6184, Rev Joe or the Pastoral Care Committee.

Thank you for your support and for this valuable program.



Karen Monk / Sandy Hayashi

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Here's egg-exactly what they wanted!

Last month, our men's group enjoyed a tasty breakfast prepared and served by members Ed Weidner and Carlos Patron. Each year, this talented cooking duo creates a batch of delicious breakfast sandwiches served with fried potatoes, coffee, and juice, just like in the restaurant. While the rest of us are waking up, their hard at work in the Heritage Hall kitchen. When we arrive at 8:30 am, breakfast is ready to be served!

Thank you all for this treat!



PANCAKE DINNER

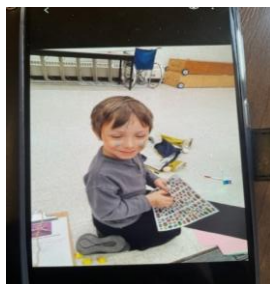
Early in March, many of our congregation gathered for a delicious pancake supper at the church, served up by the men's group. We've had this dinner several times before. The dining room was almost full, seating over 75 people who gathered with an appetite for meeting together over a tasty meal. There was face painting, children's toys, and games available for the young ones. Reverend Joe introduced a dialogue on Ash Wednesday.

Many walked up to receive the traditional symbolic smudging. This added to the authenticity of the occasion.

Thanks to everyone for their participation, food preparation, setup, and generosity.

Our local No Frills grocery contributed financially. If you shop there, please thank them.

We raised **\$720** for Pathways Community Services!



Archer Faulkner



Ariya Faulkner

Since our last edition of the Tidings newsletter, we have been blessed with the gift of music from the Senior Choir at the annual Christmas Service on Sunday, December 15th, and thank each member and our Music Director, Michelle Chung for the inspiring and joyous presentation. At Coffee Hour following the service, we showed our appreciation for the music at Streetsville United as we enjoyed cake and refreshments during our time of fellowship. Well done!



WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We are very pleased to share the Christian Education opportunities at Streetsville United Church that range between the young members of the Sunday School, through activities of our older youth, and even to the varied sessions of adult educational experiences.

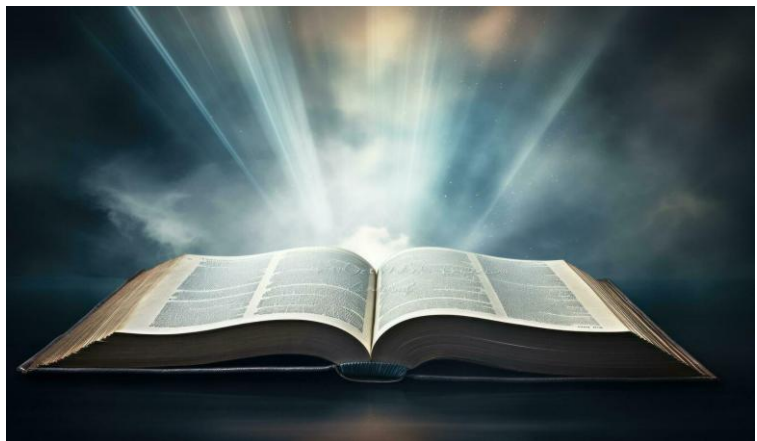
As always, we are grateful for the dedicated leadership of our two anchor Sunday School teachers, Dee Hopkins and Deanna Hodges who continue to provide regular, active, and engaging Sunday School sessions for our young students, regularly assisted by Madeleine Tume. We welcomed the performance of the young students during the White Gift service and are looking forward to seeing their participation in the Easter Palm Sunday events. We are also grateful for the older youth who participate in the occasional dialogue presentations within worship services. We thank Philip and Nico Szmborski and Madeleine Tume for their performance of a dialogue at the beginning of Lent and look forward to additional scripts to include other youth of our congregation.

Library and Book Cart -

Work on the renewal of the library is continuing with the faithful assistance of Martha Heeney and Deb Simpson. The culling and re-organization of the book collection is pretty much complete, and the labelling and shelving will soon follow. We anticipate being open for browsing and borrowing within the next few months. The Book Cart in the lobby of the church contains books of interest, connection to the worship series, as well as children's books and bibles for borrowing.

Adult Christian Education

Along with Reverend Hopkins, we are happy to assist in the various events that have occurred over the winter months. The discussion group around the podcast 'In Out', which focussed on the church in a diverse community, was of particular interest as we continue our engagement with the Vision Statement of the church.



OPEN DOOR UPDATE MARCH 2025

Please Help a Wonderful Cause

Outreach at Streetsville United touches many lives. One of our longstanding community involvements is with The Open Door. With a very small staff and an army of volunteers, they help improve people's lives. They offer hot meals, smiles, and socialization (poverty is very isolating). There's a small room for a quiet chat and prayer, and someone who will listen and pray with them.

Are you wondering how you can be involved? You probably brought socks, mittens, and hats last Christmas, so you have already participated!

Each of our UCW groups supplies a variety of meals throughout the year. We also supply disposable plates, cutlery, napkins, and beverage cups. Needs are always increasing. Three years ago, we supplied for 40 to 50 people. Now they often serve 90 to 100.

Here comes an opportunity to help the Open Door continue to serve its clients, and it will only cost you a little time! There is always a need for clean clothing in good wearable condition (if a button is missing, I can take care of that). Soon, light jackets, sweaters, T-shirts, rainboots, and jackets will be needed, sneakers and sandals as well. Footwear and clothes for all ages, all sizes are always needed. All items are sorted and organized so that clients can choose the items that will suit their family. Neighbours, friends, and family bring me their excess and unwanted items. And it's all provided to the clients at no charge.

Check out the website:

www.opendoorsquareone.org for more information.

Currently, there is a great need for socks. Gently used and laundered, please.

Special Occasion dresses will be welcomed as prom time approaches. (an opportunity to get rid of bridesmaid dresses, too!)

Sleeping Bags in good condition are needed for unhoused people.

For more information, please contact me. Texts or emails are preferred:

Text: 647-402-7436

E-Mail: deb@synchronicity.ca

We opened the year with the season of Epiphany, and again, we were encouraged to keep our lights on throughout this period. Rev. Joe initiated the Mission and Vision Statements as part of his themes and throughout the worship services. Throughout January and February, the theme was 'Good News For Diverse Communities.' We had a pulpit swap where Rev. Joe preached at Eden United Church while Rev. Joanne Hedge from Applewood United Church preached at Streetsville United. She focused on "Thirsting for Connection". On January 26th, we celebrated our women of the church with an induction service, and the sermon focused on "Great Faith of Women. During February, Black History Month, Rev. Joe focused on the Black Saints of the Bible, such as the unknown Eunuch, and highlighted some geographical areas of the world, such as Egypt, Tunisia, and others, where African people had a significant impact on the church. These weeks provided us with new knowledge about the bible. On the second Sunday in February, we once again welcomed the scouts, and for the choir anthem, two of our children, Angel and Michele Uwaezuoke, sang solos with the choir. It was a very welcoming and inspiring Sunday service.

We experienced another proud moment when we welcomed four new members into our congregation -Chika Uwaezuoke, Emeka Uwaezuoke, Sandy Jutzen, and Bevan Jutzen. With permission, See the picture below:



Mission -Centred on Christ, serving God and our neighbours.

Vision - To be a vibrant multigenerational congregation within our diverse community, sharing God's truth and unconditional love.

At the beginning of March, on Transfiguration Sunday, Rev. Joe preached about it being a 'life-changing mountaintop experience. The pancake supper with the blessing of the ashes ritual on Shrove Tuesday started our Lenten series, which will culminate with the following: -

April 13th – Palm Sunday service with the children waving Palm branches and singing

April 17th – Maundy Thursday Supper and washing of feet and hands ritual.

April 18th – Good Friday, starting with a breakfast followed by the service.

April 20th – Easter Sunday service.

Throughout the Lenten season, Rev. Joe's sermons will be based on a word from the Mission and Vision statements with associated hymns or worship songs.

We thank Michelle Chung, the choir, and the boomer band for associating the music with the worship themes.

We continue to thank the audiovisual and technology team, the schedule coordinator, the sanctuary leads, the narthex greeters, and our scripture readers for enabling our worship services to offer **vibrant**, welcoming experiences for those in attendance and online.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Worship Co-Chairs
Wendy Dowling and Antoinette Clarke

COURTYARD IMPROVEMENT

As a congregation that is centred on Christ, we need to keep our property in excellent shape so that multiple generations can use it to grow in vibrancy. Last fall, an Adhoc committee was struck to look at necessary courtyard improvements. This involves work in 3 areas:

- Waterproofing is necessary on the exterior wall by the elevator entrance. This must be done to maintain the integrity of the building and needs to be completed before other courtyard improvements can proceed. Funding is in the Property budget to cover this expense with minimal supplement from the reserves account as needed. We will proceed with this as soon as possible (end of March/beginning of April).
- Walkway – the current uneven surface of the pavers on the walkway needs to be addressed before they become a serious tripping/safety hazard. In addition, doing this work will also improve drainage to the catch basin which will help reduce water/ice buildup on the walkway. UCW has set money aside over the last couple of years for work in the courtyard.
- Playground areas on both sides of the walkway – Willowtree Montessori School has been fundraising for some time to contribute to our church courtyard and improve this area for more enjoyable play for the children. Little grows in this area, and it is often a mudhole.

This project is still in the planning stages as we meet with contractors to determine the best options and costs. Because Property has money in the budget for waterproofing and the UCW and Willowtree are contributing significant funding to cover the walkway and playground areas, additional financing is not anticipated, and the deficit this year will not be affected by these improvements. Once completed, this will benefit all who enter here and use this space. Stay tuned for further updates!

Courtyard Adhoc Committee:

Rob Gravelins, Ken Poulsen, Diane Wilton, Bev Mathew, and Sandra Perri (Willowtree)



UCW COMMITTEE NEWS

Our three units continue to meet once a month in the Fellowship Lounge. The Friendship Circle meets on the second Thursday afternoon at 1 p.m., and the Sunshine Circle meets on the third Tuesday at 1 pm. Joy Givers meet on the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

UCW Sunday was celebrated on January 26 with the induction of this year's executive. After the service during coffee hour, a cake was served to the congregation on behalf of the UCW. Everyone enjoyed the celebration.

Our units continue to provide funeral receptions as an important ministry of the church. The reception is an important time for the family and friends to gather and share memories of their loved ones. There were receptions for 2 longtime members of our church, Oda Raham and John Nowoselski. There will be a Celebration of Life for Johann Maybee, a longtime member of the SUC and Friendship Circle, on Saturday, April 5th, from 2-4p.m.

On Tuesday, February 18, a joint meeting was held in the Fellowship Lounge with all units attending and hosted by the Sunshine Circle. Karen Monk introduced Lillian Budden from Eden United Church, who talked about the prayer shawl ministry. Many of the prayer shawls were on display, and they were very colourful. Then Antoinette Clarke introduced Rochelle Bush, who delivered a presentation on Ontario Black History and the Underground Railroad, mostly in the Niagara area. Slides were shown on historical buildings and people in the area.

The World Day of Prayer was celebrated on Thursday, March 13 at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Lounge. It was a joint UCW meeting and hosted by the Friendship Circle. The service was written by the World Day of Prayer committee of the Cook Islands. The theme for 2025 was: "I Made You Wonderful" and was based on Psalm 139.

The Annual Spring Potluck dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 29, at 6 p.m. The theme for the evening will be Drawing the Circle Wide, as we are encouraged to bring a friend or neighbour to celebrate our vision of reaching out to the community. Sign-up sheets will be in the narthex for several Sundays ahead of the event. All are invited to join us for a fun evening.

Please Save The Date for this year's Harvest of Crafts Sale on Saturday, October 25. As we plan another day of gift and crafted items and delicious baked goods and preserves, we need your support to help make this another successful day. Spread the news!!!!



FINANCE REPORT

The February results were a deficit of (\$9,003) versus a deficit of (\$10,975) YTD last year. The YTD deficit appears high compared to the Annual Budget, but this is largely because of the seasonal timing of various revenue and expenses. February is too soon to tell any trends. Revenue was strong, supported by the Pay It Forward campaign and strong rental income (although some of this is prepayments). We received our biannual HST Rebate. A portion of this rebate has been properly reclassified to the In Memorial Fund where the office roof was funded. Expenses of \$56,821 are higher than last year and the 2-month linear budget due to increased Personnel Costs with the overlap of Kelly and Heather in Administration, Property Costs due to increased natural gas and salting as we experienced significant cold temperatures and heavy snowfall and Office Administration costs higher due to the up front Website transition costs.

Streetsville United Church - Income Statement YTD February 2025 vs YTD February 2024 and 2025 Budget

	Actual YTD February				2-month Linear Budget		YTD Actual as % Annual Budget	Annual 2025 Budget
	2025	2024	Variance		YTD	Variance		
			\$	%				

REVENUE

Envelope Offerings - General, Initial, Special	\$ 26,817	\$ 22,845	\$ 3,972	17%	\$ 27,833	\$ (1,017)	16%	\$ 163,500
Loose Offering, Canada Helps, UCC Foundation	\$ 466	\$ 1,143	\$ (677)	-59%	\$ 1,383	\$ (917)	3%	\$ 13,500
United Church Women	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 833	\$ (833)	0%	\$ 5,000
Facilities Rental - Total	\$ 17,755	\$ 12,089	\$ 5,666	47%	\$ 15,893	\$ 1,862	22%	\$ 81,070
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 2,781	\$ 2,663	\$ 117	4%	\$ 2,733	\$ 47	22%	\$ 12,600
Total Operating Receipts	\$ 47,818	\$ 38,741	\$ 9,078	23%	\$ 48,676	\$ (857)	17%	\$ 275,670

OPERATING EXPENSE

Personnel	\$ 33,195	\$ 30,222	\$ 2,973	10%	\$ 31,291	\$ 1,904	18%	\$ 183,129
Operating Church Home	\$ 15,080	\$ 13,277	\$ 1,803	14%	\$ 14,720	\$ 360	17%	\$ 88,255
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 8,547	\$ 6,217	\$ 2,330	37%	\$ 6,367	\$ 2,180	25%	\$ 34,066
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 56,821	\$ 49,715	\$ 7,106	14%	\$ 52,378	\$ 4,444	19%	\$ 305,450

NET INCOME - SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ (9,003)	\$ (10,975)	\$ 1,971		\$ (3,702)	\$ (5,301)		\$ (29,780)
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OUTREACH / BENEVOLENT FUND

Outreach/Benevolent Receipts	\$ 4,602	\$ 3,377	\$ 1,225		\$ 3,818	\$ 784	20%	\$ 22,910
Outreach/Benevolent Disbursements	\$ 3,134	\$ 3,154	\$ (20)		\$ 3,818	\$ (684)	14%	\$ 22,910