

Melrose Muse

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Look at our bright shiny new format!

Michelle recently upgraded her computer (it was nine years old...). If you notice anything missing from this edition or not quite right – be sure to let us know!

Devotional

Read: 1 Corinthians 13: 1-8

God's love is so different from our love. We often don't feel love or express love. God always feels love toward us – for He is love. His love is unconditional, which means, He will always love despite what we do or say. God can never stop loving us. It's in His very nature to love. Even when we say and do wrong things, He still keeps on loving us. We need to build God's love into our lives, so we may love as He does. Let God fill you with His love. Ask Him to help you love people and see them through His eyes. As we continue to walk with Jesus, and **choose to respond with love, the more God's love grows in us. So choose today to love God's way.** © [By M.S.Lowndes](#)

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.
- [1 John 4: 16](#) (NIV)

How is your family going to celebrate Earth Day? Here are a few ideas:



1. Ditch the electronics and save energy by getting outside.
2. Pledge to reducing the amount of garbage you produce this month.
3. Reuse or repurpose an item rather than throwing it away.

Upcoming Events in the United Church Liturgical Calendar

April 24

Earth Sunday

April 24

Camping Sunday

May 8

Christian Family Sunday

TGIF Updates:

There was not TGIF in March due to the timing of Easter.

In February we were blessed to have a speaker from Wesley Urban Ministries come and share the important work they are doing here in Hamilton. We learned some ideas of what we can do as a church in the future. Here are some action items we are working on:

1. Coming up with fundraising ideas for the youth drop in program
2. Seeing what role we can play as a facility to assist with Wesley's various programs.

We also tie-dyed shirts and they turned out great.

Upcoming events for April:

Seder Dinner Family Potluck

Janet Kronick has invited us all to join her as she serves as host and leads us through a traditional and fun evening. Please stay tuned for more details.

More Important News

Sunday Worship and those sweet little voices:

Have you noticed the angelic sounds of the children during the children's hymns lately? Alex has been working hard (with help from Alanna and Janet) on Thursday nights and on Sunday mornings (both during the service and during the Sunday school time) to prepare the children to share their voices on Sundays.

Good News and Music Club:

Every Thursday join us for pizza, crafts, music with Alex Cann And free time in the gym. 6-7:30pm. Grades 1-8. Occasional Parental involvement may apply.

Events for youth:

- St. Andrews United Church – 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. 6-8pm – contact Laurie or Greg 905-383-7411
- St. John United Church – Senior Youth Ages 14-18 Wednesday Nights 7-9pm – 905-387-2135

VBS:

Clear your schedules for August 8-12! Melrose will Be hosting the Hamilton Conference VBS. Bring your kids. Bring your friends. Bring your friends kids. Everyone is welcome! More details will be available soon.

Please refer to www.melroseunited.ca

For this month's activity calendar.

Camping Sunday – Camp really does have an impact!

In honor of the upcoming camping Sunday here is a brief excerpt From last year's camp Sunday minute for mission from the United Church of Canada's website:

Every summer, United Church kids pack their hockey or duffle bags, backpacks or suitcases for a week or Church camps offer a place of faith and fun. Children, youth, and staff gather, giving thanks to God for the Many United Church camps offer camperships, where campers are able to attend at a reduced cost so that attend can have a wonderful experience in the Canadian wilderness.

Campers experience a community surrounded by God's creation. Many campers who have struggled at home are changing.

Mission & Service supports camping in the United Church through networking and camp accreditation, so that every child has a wonderful experience for United Church kids across the country.

We are thankful for the generous gifts that make it possible for children to have an experience of faith and Please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith.

Loving God, we are called to be your colours in the world, to walk with each other, to share in love through our gifts for Mission & Service.

Guide us to shine brightly in the world. Amen

Upcoming Sunday School Lessons and Volunteers:

April 3: Easter Recap (it's the most wonderful day of the year!) – Michelle Millson

April 10: Meeting Jesus on the Road- Sandra W.

April 17: Gentleness- Marilyn and Alan W.

April 24: Jesus is With us Always- Brenda M.

Nursery coverage may also be available.

Youth Connexions

Youth Connexions is wrapping up another year this month. The majority of the work is done by a volunteer team out of McMaster University so the schedule largely reflects the university's academic term.

Many thanks to all those who helped this year and look for more information in the fall for the start of new programming.

Final Date for Winter 2016:

April 2 @ MacNeil Baptist: 5-7:30pm

An evening of food (think kid friendly dinner), fun (think games led by university students) and learning April 2 features a poetry Workshop led by Nia Reid). Open to youth in grades 5-8.

If you have a little more time check out this link: <http://www.united-church.ca/apr-24-minute-heaven-among-stars-trees-and-lakes>