

Melrose Muse

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Proverbs 18:15 – An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

Please refer to www.melroseunited.ca
for this month's activity calendar.

Celebrating: September 21: UN International Day of Peace

A prolonged civil war that began in 1996 has led to extreme violence and human rights abuses in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Women and girls are bearing the brunt of the atrocities, suffering widespread sexual violence and abuse.

Mission & Service partner [L'Église du Christ au Congo](http://www.eglisechristcongo.org) has issued a "cri d'alarme" to the world highlighting the urgency of the situation. The Rev. Nzeba Kalombo Berthe, General Secretary of the Department for Women and Family of the ECC, says: "This cry of alarm invites us into national solidarity and compassion to assist these innocent victims to recover their dignity—but also to offer them hope as future professional women and honourable mothers."

Supported by L'Église du Christ au Congo, local women volunteer to support and accompany survivors, war orphans, and women's groups. Families receive support to foster war orphans and provide them with a loving and safe haven. ECC also provides funding for school, medical care, and psychosocial support.

The United Church, in partnership with others, is answering a call for prayers and action supporting peace in Congo and an end to the war on women. We are thankful that our Mission & Service gifts support the women and children of the Democratic Republic of Congo, who seek security, dignity, and healing.

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

<http://www.united-church.ca/may-8-minute-call-peace-and-prayer>

Upcoming Special days in the United Church

September 18

All ages Service/Rally Sunday

September 21

UN International Day of Peace

TGIF Updates:

Please join us at the Ancaster Fall Fair for this month's TGIF. September 23 @ 6:30pm. Carpooling or transit shuttles are available. Email Gwyn or Michelle for more information.



Locke Street Festival

Melrose will once again be having a table full of glorious jams and jellies at the Locke Street Festival. Please plan to stop by to stock up. If you are able to volunteer for set up, take down or selling please talk to Gwyn X. for more information.



Sunday September 18 is All Ages Service/Rally Sunday!

We need young people for the following jobs:

1. Greeting/Ushering
 2. Collecting Offering
 3. Lighting the Christ Candle
 4. Leading the Call to Worship
- Please contact Michelle if you are interested

More Important News

Thursday's are for fun!

Every Thursday evening plan to join us for an hour of fun play and music. From 6:00-6:30 we will have organized open gym time followed by music with our church's choir director from 6:30-7:00. A snack will be provided at the start of the hour. All ages welcome however if under the age of 6 parental accompaniment is required.

VBS: Fun had by all! Surf Shack was a success!

The children and staff had a great time all week learning about God, conservation (they even got to touch a live turtle!) and became fast friends. Everyone did their best not to melt during one of the hottest weeks of the year. Stay tuned for more details about next summer's program.

Advent Play: Do you want to be involved?

Do you have a flair for the dramatic? We are looking for people with ideas and skills to help lead this year's advent play for the children. Support will be provided as needed. For more information, contact Michelle.

A devotional for your day:

[Read: John 14: 27-31](#)

It was nearing the end of Jesus life on earth. He was talking with His disciples to prepare them for what was ahead. They would face turmoil and tribulations – but He comforts them by letting them know that He would leave His peace with them. God's peace is not like what the world has to offer. We can know the peace of God despite what is going on in our lives. Even when we are in life's storms, we can know God's peace. We can have that assurance that Jesus is with us always. He will never leave us, nor forsake us. He holds our hand and walks with us through whatever we maybe facing. So if you are going through a rough time right now, know that Jesus is with you – even right now- and He is walking with you by your side. He will give you His peace as you continue to call out to Him. May you know God's peace today and every day.

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Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. - [Philippians 4: 6-7](#) (NIV)

No matter what I may go through, Lord,
The raging storms of life,
I pray I'd know the peace of God
That comes from Jesus Christ.

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Upcoming Sunday School Lessons:

September 18: All Ages Service/Rally Sunday: A lesson on Communion

September 25: Super-Heroes of the Bible – Daniel

October 2: Super-Heroes of the Bible – Jonah

Youth Connexions

Kicks off October 1 for the fall.

Here is the schedule below:

October 1, 15, 29

November 12, 26

5:30-7:30 pm

This year's theme is "Staying Connected"

Details of locations for each date to come in mid September.

Youth Connexions is a fun interdenominational youth group formed through a partnership of West Hamilton Churches and McMaster University. Open to youth in grades 5-8.

Nursery:

Please note that while there is not always regular coverage in the nursery caregivers are always welcome to access it during church programs.