

MELROSE NEWSLETTER
November 6, 2026

SUNDAY WORSHIP DATES AT MELROSE

- November 8, 2026
- November 15, 2026
- November 22, 2026
- November 29, 2026

GREETINGS!

In the name of the One who loves us and holds us dear!

We are an inclusive community on Locke Street, dedicated to seeking justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with God. We are a progressive church with traditional elements to our service and quite a lot of music. We welcome people who are questioning. We dress informally and understand that children often run around and make noise.

A Message from the Board

Official Board Meeting ~ November 19th @ 7:30pm
All are welcome at any board meeting! Our meetings are held in person and on Zoom. If you would like to attend, please contact the office for more information, melrose@melroseunited.ca

United Church Calendars are now available!



You may now order United Church Calendars from the United Church Bookstore! To order just go to the United Church Bookstore website, https://ucrdbookstore.ca and search 2027 calendar. Calendars are $8.49 plus shipping and handling.

A New Fundraiser!



***UPDATE* Our tiles that were available for pre-order are now sold out! Thanks to everyone who ordered!** Our old slate roof tiles have been repurposed into coasters! They are sturdy and a reminder that a house built upon a rock endures! This is a fundraiser for our ongoing roof repairs. We will be selling them for $20 each at our November 21 Mistletoe Bazaar!

Connect With Us

melroseuc

melroseunitedchurch

melroseunited.ca

melrose@melroseunited.ca

86 Homewood Avenue
Hamilton, ON
L8P 2M4



We always welcome children and understand that they may not be quiet during the service. We appreciate their joyful noise and are glad that they are here!

DIVERSE
INCLUSIVE
ACCEPTING
WELCOMING
SAFE SPACE
FOR EVERYONE

Mistletoe Bazaar!

The Mistletoe bazaar is coming up on November 21st! Volunteers are still needed! The most important part is the needed contribution of baked goods: squares, loaves, cookies for our baked goods table and of course we need TONS of cookies for our famous cookie walk. Please speak with Libby, Margaret, Gwyn or Catherine about your baking contributions or if you are available to volunteer!



THE ONLINE STORE IS NOW OPEN FOR PRE-ORDERS TO BE PICKED UP ON THE DAY OF THE BAZAAR!

Just go to https://melrose-united-church.square.site/.

Are you interested in becoming more involved at Melrose?

The following rewarding positions are still available!

A) Trustee. This position, in conjunction with others, manages the investment portfolio of the church! Willingness to learn and ability to have one meeting every two months. Only one requirement: must be a member of Melrose United.
B) Ministry and Personnel - 2 positions. Your job would be to be paired with one of our paid personnel at Melrose. Meet with them, to discuss issues, work performance and support them. Again, all training provided!
C) Friendly Visitor! Are you sociable? Some of our older folks need a friendly caller, a short visit or even a simple drop-off of a baked food item! Just takes a smile and a hug!
Please speak with Gwyn, our Church Administrator Sue, or Rev Ken about any of these available and fulfilling positions!

Let it Snow!
Women of Song Christmas Concert

On Sunday, November 29, we will be presenting our Annual Holiday Concert, "Let It Snow!" at Melrose United Church from 2:30 to 4:00 PM. Women of Song have been busy rehearsing and will be joined by other local talent for your listening enjoyment.
Tickets will go on sale soon and will also be available at the door. For more information, contact the Church Office, melrose@melroseunited.ca.



2026 Professional Church Administrators Conference





This year, the Annual Professional Church Secretaries and Administrators Conference was held at Lambton Centre, near Sarnia from October 18th to 20th, with our very own Church Administrator, Sue, in attendance! Participants came from churches of all sizes, from large city congregations to small rural communities, bringing a variety of experiences, ideas and perspectives on managing and supporting our church communities. The conference featured wonderful guest speakers, whose presentations focused on the importance of volunteering and the many ways volunteers contribute to the life and ministry of our church communities. There was also time for a little fun and fellowship, including a visit to a local cidery for a tasting and a lovely walk around their beautiful property! Located along the shores of beautiful Lake Huron, Lambton Centre provided a wonderful setting for the conference. I also managed to capture some fabulous photos during my visit! Keep an eye out, as a few of them will be featured in the newsletter header over the coming weeks!

A Story from Rev Ken's Book
Maddie and Mom, Lessons in Christian Living



Madison came into her parents' bedroom to see her mother sitting on the bed, looking through some items in a small box.

"What are you looking at, Mom?" she asked.

"I'm just getting out the poppy I wear for Remembrance Day."

"Don't you buy one every year?"

"Yes, I do," her mother replied, "one to wear on my coat, But this one is special. I thought I might wear it on my dress or my blouse this year."

"What's so special about it?"

"It belonged to my grandfather," she said, taking the object out of the box. "It's one he always wore."

"It looks a little different than the ones you usually see," Maddie observed.

"My grandmother made it for him. She was quite handy with such things. The poppy is real cloth, not the paper ones you just wear for a few days."

"It's pretty, Mom. But why do you want to wear it now?"

"I don't really know, Maddie. I was just thinking about my grandfather, and I thought it would be a nice way to remember him."

"Well, it is getting close to Remembrance Day, but isn't that for remembering soldiers and stuff?"

Her mother smiled. "My grandfather was a soldier. In the Second World War. See?" she said, retrieving an old photo from the box. "Here's his picture."

"Wow!" Maddie remarked. "He's wearing a uniform. But there are two men in the picture with really nice smiles on their faces. Who's the other one?"

"That's his brother, John."

"His brother?" Maddie asked. "Does that make him your uncle or something?"

"My great uncle. Your great-great uncle."

"Oh, I don't remember ever hearing about him."

"That's because he died in the war. In combat."

Maddie frowned. "That's really sad. And it's kind of weird. He looks so happy there. Like nothing bad could ever happen to him."

"I'm sure both he and my grandfather knew what the possibilities were."

"I wish God wouldn't let wars happen," Maddie sighed.

"God doesn't," her mother replied. "Not really. God lets us make our own decisions, and we let wars happen. I'm sure God isn't very pleased about it. Jesus taught us that we should love everyone, even our enemies. But we can't always seem to do it. If others seek to harm us or take away our freedoms, we have to stand up to them. Sometimes this can lead to war."

"And people die," Maddie said glumly.

"And that's tragic. But those like my great uncle John did so for a reason—to protect us from people with evil purposes who could have made our world a very bad place. So, we should remember that."

"But you didn't know him," Maddie said. "How can you remember somebody you never knew?"

"It's what we do on Remembrance Day, Maddie. We remember that many, many people we never knew gave their lives so that we could live a better life."

"Didn't Jesus once say something like that?" Maddie asked.

"He did," her mother replied. "He was talking about himself, but its meaning fits Remembrance Day: 'No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.'"

Looking Ahead!

Community Knitting and Crochet (and needlework too!)



Saturday, November 7th & 21st ~ 9:30am - 11:30am ~ Bring your current project and materials, beginners welcome! Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided. Please enter through the doors off of the Stanley Ave parking lot.



Board Games

Sunday, November 8th @ 1:00pm ~ Come and play your favourite board game or bring your own! You do not need a partner. Entry fee is $5, children under grade 1 are free!

Mistletoe Bazaar



Saturday, November 21st @ 9:00am to noon ~ Enjoy new and returning vendors, Bake Table, Cookie Walk aand Tea Room!



Progressive Euchre

Friday, November 27th ~ @7pm ~ Doors open at 7pm, games start at 7:30pm. You do not need a partner! Entry fee $5, coffee, tea and snacks available all night!

Women of Song Concert ~ Let It Snow!



Sunday, November 29th @ 2:30pm ~ Women of Song will be presenting our Annual Holiday Concert, "Let It Snow!" at Melrose United Church from 2:30 to 4:00 PM. Women of Song have been busy rehearsing and will be joined by other local talent for your listening enjoyment. Tickets will go on sale soon and will also be available at the door. For more information, contact the Church Office, melrose@melroseunited.ca.

Social Media at Melrose

Did you know? Melrose has an active social media presence on Facebook and Instagram! Check out our pages for information on Melrose events and for messages of inspiration! Please like and share our posts!

A Message From the Church Office

Please be sure to submit your church related items for the bulletin or newsletter by Wednesday of each week. Kindly email melrose@melroseunited.ca.

The Church Office hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 2pm.

This week's cover photo was taken at Lambton Centre by Sue.