

NEWSLETTER

November 30, 2024

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.

Message from the Board

Wednesday, December 11th ~ Official Board Meeting @7:30 pm.

Please note the change of day! All are welcome at any board meeting! If you would like to attend, please contact the office for more information.

Future Directions

At our most recent Board Meeting, a decision was made to wait to take any further action on the proposal which was presented on November 10th until our next meeting on December 11th at 7:30 p.m. At the December 11th Board Meeting, we will be re-examining the the proposal, along with any concrete revisions or alternative options that are submitted by Wednesday December 4th. If you wish to submit concrete revisions or alternative options, please do so by email to the church office and/or to Margaret Duff. melrose@melroseunited.ca

THANK YOU to all our Mistletoe Bazaar Volunteers!

A heartfelt thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who contributed to this year's Mistletoe Bazaar! Whether you were cooking, baking, assisting with tables, or greeting guests, your time and energy have been invaluable. A special thanks to Gwyn, our fabulous coordinator, whose dedication and hard work helped make everything run smoothly. Your collective generosity has played a key role in making the Bazaar a resounding success once again!

SUNDAY WORSHIP DATES AT MELROSE

- 1st Dec, 2024
- 8th Dec, 2024
- 15th Dec, 2024
- 22nd Dec, 2024

Connect With Us



[melroseuc](https://www.melroseuc.ca)



[melroseunitedchurch](https://www.melroseunitedchurch.ca)



<http://melroseunited.ca>

86 Homewood Avenue
Hamilton, ON
L8P 2M4

Advent & Christmas
Melrose United Church

Services

December 1	10:30am	Advent 1 at Westdale United
December 8	10:30am	Advent 2
December 8	7:00pm	Carol Service
December 15	10:30am	Advent 3
December 18	7:00pm	Light in December Darkness
December 22	10:30am	Advent 4
December 24	4:00pm	Family Christmas Eve at Westdale United
December 24	10:30pm	Candlelight Service

Events

November 23	9:00am - Noon	Mistletoe Bazaar
December 20	6:30pm - 9:30pm	Euchre Christmas Party
December 21	9:30am - 11:30am	Knitting Christmas Party
December 22	2:00pm - 5:00pm	Board Game Christmas Party

Melrose United Church
86 Homewood Ave.
www.melroseunited.ca
Enter off parking lot on Stanley Ave



905-522-1323



melrose@melroseunited.ca



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT MELROSE!



Sunday, December 1st ~ Advent I at Westdale United at 10:30am with free catered lunch!

Sunday, December 8th ~ Advent II at Melrose with Meg Chalmers at 10:30am

Sunday, December 8th ~ Candlelight Carol Service at 7:00pm at Melrose

Sunday, December 15th ~ Advent III at Melrose with Rev Margot Feyerer at 10:30am

Wednesday, December 18th ~ Light in December Darkness Service at 7:00pm at Melrose

Sunday, December 22nd ~ Advent IV at Melrose. The Christmas Story, a family service with Meg Chalmers at 10:30am

Tuesday, December 24th ~ Family Christmas Eve at Westdale United at 4:00pm

Tuesday, December 24th ~ Candlelight Service at 10:30pm



Advent I at Westdale United

Sunday, December 1st @10:30am Join Melrose at Westdale United for our shared Advent I Communion service at Westdale United followed by a free catered lunch! All are welcome, 99 North Oval.



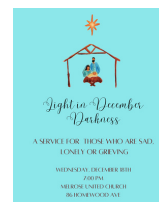
Candlelight Carol Service

Sunday, December 8th @ 7:00pm ~ A Joyous Evening of Lessons and Carols! Come celebrate the season with a special Candlelight Carol Service at Melrose, featuring the beautiful voices of our Chancel Choir. We're delighted to welcome our friends from Westdale United Church. Everyone is welcome!

- Cookies and squares are need for the reception after the Candlelight Carol Service If you can help, please email Kathy, kathy.ros1946@yahoo.com.
- Greeters are needed for this service too. Please email Libby, cook_feenstra@hotmail.com if you can help! Thank you!

Light in December Darkness Service

Wednesday, December 18th @ 7:00pm ~ A quiet contemplative service in our cozy parlour for those who are lonely, sad and/or grieving. All are warmly welcome!



Family Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00pm ~ A Joint Family Service at Westdale United The ABC's of Christmas led by Reverend Evan Swance-Smith, 99 North Oval.

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 24th at 10:30pm ~ A beautiful Communion service led by Reverend Philip Gardner with music provided by our wonderful chancel choir!



Wesley Holiday Drive

**Wesley
Holiday Drive**
A 60+ year tradition



467 Main Street East, Hamilton, ON L8N 1K1
(905) 526-5629 x 285
giving@wesley.ca

DONATE TODAY!

The most needed items are:

- Financial donations to Wesley to support programs & services: Cash, cheque, credit card, or gifts of securities are greatly appreciated.
- \$25 gift cards: Walmart, grocery stores (Food Basics, No Frills, PC Stores), Dollarama, Giant Tiger.
- Clothing: New gloves, underwear, socks, robes and slippers for adults and children.
- Linens: New sheets and blankets for queen and double, towels.
- Kitchen: New microwaves, toasters, toaster ovens, blenders, air fryers.
- Boxes of chocolates.



We need your help!

Your support could be a family's greatest gift this year at our programs in Hamilton, Halton, and Brantford. Please help us offer shelter & care to those in need by making a cash donation to Wesley and/or purchasing a new item from our clients' wish list of most-needed items.

Items can be dropped off:

Sun Dec 8 & 15,
from 12 noon – 3pm
Mon Dec 9 to Fri Dec 13,
from 10am – 12 noon

wesley.ca/holidays

Wesley's Holiday Drive is collecting donations for adults, children, families, and newcomers struggling with poverty and homelessness. Donations received during the holiday drive will be used to support Wesley clients during the holiday season and throughout the year.

We will be collecting **White Gifts** for this drive on **Sunday December 15th**.

Most-needed items are:

- Financial donations to Wesley to support programs & services: Cash, cheque, credit card, or gifts of securities are greatly appreciated.
- \$25 gift cards: Walmart, grocery stores (Food Basics, No Frills, PC Stores), Dollarama, Giant Tiger.
- Clothing: New gloves, underwear, socks, robes and slippers for adults and children. Linens: New sheets and blankets for queen and double, towels.
- Kitchen: New microwaves, toasters, toaster ovens, blenders, air fryers.
- Boxes of chocolates.

Advent Hymn Festival

To begin the Advent season, the Diocesan Choir is pleased to announce an Advent Hymn Festival at St. Joseph Parish, 260 Herkimer Street, Hamilton, on **Sunday, December 1, 2024, at 7 p.m.** Registration is not required, and there is no charge — however, a goodwill offering will go to St. Joseph's Parish charity of choice. All are welcome!

Women of Song

Sunday, December 1st @2:30pm. The Duet Club of Hamilton presents their annual Holiday Concert featuring Women of Song and guest Baritone John Fanning here at Melrose. Tickets \$15-\$20. <https://www.duetclub.ca/event/holiday-concert/>

Hamilton Truth & Reconciliation Learning Circle

Cultural Competency with Brenda Jacobs from Hamilton Regional Indigenous Centre. **Monday December 2nd, 1:30 to 3:30pm** 10-310 Limeridge Road West.



Sleighing It!

Friday December 6th @8pm and Saturday December 7th @ 3pm at Westdale United Church, 99 North Oval. Tickets \$20. To order tickets please visit www.volcalpointchoir.com

The Synch!

December 6, 7, 8, & 13, 14, 15, at Melrose! Showtimes are 7:30pm and 2:00pm. Tickets are \$30, please click www.emersonarts.ca to order! Fun for the whole family!



Bach Elgar Choir Presents Handel's Messiah

December 13 and 15, 2024, 7:30 PM & 3 PM

Their annual holiday tradition, co-presented by The Bach Elgar Choir and the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra. Conducted by HPO Music Director James Kahane, and with soloists Sydney Baedke, Hillary Tufford, Bud Roach and Alex Dobson. St. Catherine of Siena Roman Catholic Church 620 Rymal Road E. Tickets available at <https://bachelgar.ca/events/>



Photos of Rev Sonia's Retirement Celebration

The photos from Reverend Sonia's Retirement Celebration are now available on our website! Please click <https://melroseunited.ca/rev-sonias-retirement> to enjoy them!



Looking Ahead!

Friday, November 29th ~ Progressive Euchre. Doors open @7pm. Games start @7:30pm sharp! Beginners welcome, you do not need a partner!

Sunday, December 1st ~ Advent I at Westdale United Church ~ Join Melrose and Westdale United for our shared Advent I service at Westdale followed by a free catered lunch! All are welcome, 99 North Oval.

Saturday, December 7th ~ Community Knitting and Crochet @9:30 Bring your current project and materials, beginners welcome! Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided.

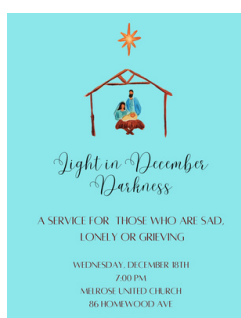
Sunday, December 8th ~ Candlelight Carol Service @ 7pm ~ Join us for our beautiful Carol Service featuring our wonderful Chancel Choir!

Wednesday, December 18th ~ Light in December Darkness Service @ 7pm ~ A quite contemplative service in the parlour for those who are lonely, sad or grieving.

Sunday, December 22nd ~ Board Game Christmas Party! ~ 2:00pm to 5:00pm Join us for a fun afternoon of Board Games and Christmas Cheer!

Tuesday, December 24th ~ Family Christmas Eve @ 4pm ~ A joint service at Westdale United Church. The ABC's of Christmas. All are welcome!

Tuesday, December 24th ~ @ 10:30pm ~ Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
A beautiful communion service led by Reverend Philip Gardner with music provided by our wonderful chancel choir.



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