



◆ Melrose Vision ◆

To respond to God's call by being a people of faith who open our hearts and minds to the true power and love of Jesus Christ. To live our faith by providing within our changing community a welcoming environment which encourages all people to care for and accept one another.

◆ Worship Next Week ◆

Over three thousand years ago, the story is told of Moses' approach to have the Pharaoh release the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt. Nine plagues were visited upon the Egyptians and the pharaoh remained firm in his resolve to keep them as slaves, until the tenth brutal plague.

God told Moses to have his people sacrifice a one year old ram or goat without blemish and smear the blood on the doorposts or upper lintel of their houses. On the evening of the full moon, the angel would pass over their houses but strike everyone else with the death of the first born human and animal. This story about God's deliverance of the Israelite people was to be told from generation to generation. The passage lays out the preparation for the Passover meal, and the specifics of clothing to be worn in preparation for a hurried journey. The time was to become known as the first month of the Israelite nation and is celebrated in spring.

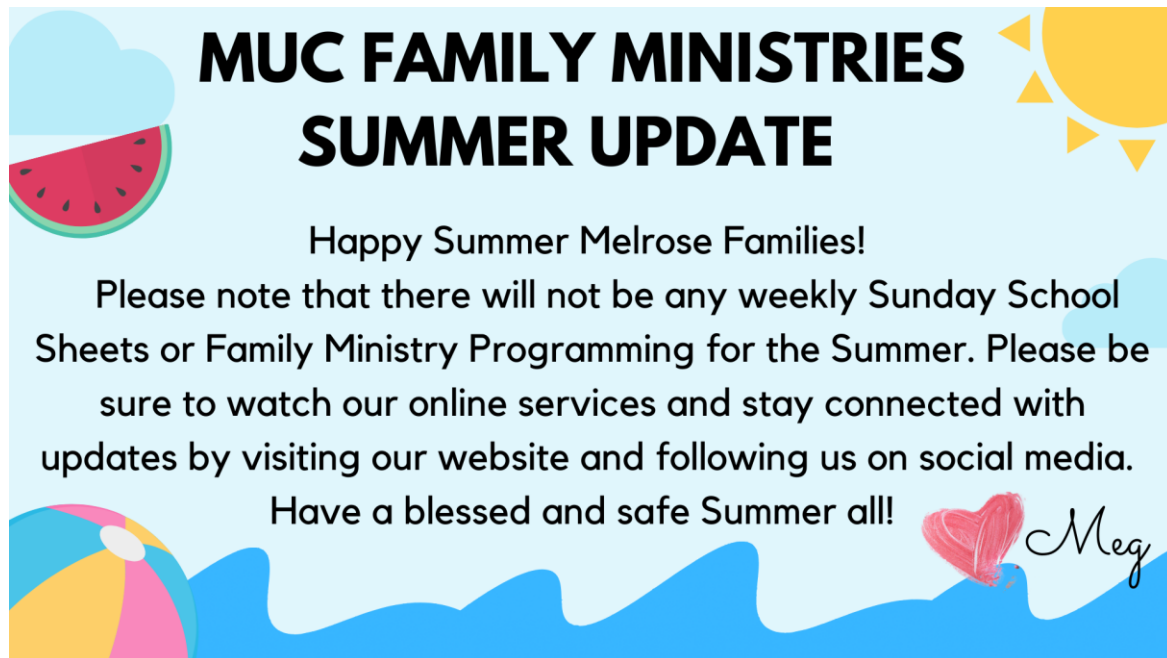
It is significant that we remember Jesus, as a devout Jew, celebrated Passover each year. His final Passover became the Last Supper, or Eucharist meal shared by Christians all over the world.

Matthew gives us Jesus' discourse concerning the power of gathering of two or three in Jesus' name. First, in resolution of sin by a member, approach them directly to try to work it out, if unsuccessful, gather two or three to point out the error, if it is still not resolved, take it to the higher court of the church. The point is to achieve confession, resolution and reconciliation so as not to harm the body of Christ.



The short passage culminates in the powerful message that where two or three are gathered in my name I am there among them. Where two or three gather to seek prayerfully to do the will of God, then God will respond.

◆ Summer Family Ministries Update ◆



◆ Donations ◆

The Melrose staff team (and volunteer base) continues to do work behind the scenes even though we cannot use the building to worship together. If you are looking to support the ongoing work of the church you can:

1. Sign up for P.A.R. (preauthorized remittance) through the office.
2. Make a one time or ongoing donation through Canada Helps.Org
3. Send a donation through e-transfer to donations@melroseunited.ca.