

# NEWSLETTER

April 26, 2024



## WORSHIP DATES

- 28th April, 202
- 5th May, 2024
- 12th May, 2024
- 19th May, 2024

## GREETINGS!

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

Melrose worship services blend contemporary and traditional elements, with a focus on thoughtful sermons and appealing music. Our Choir warms us up and provides wonderful punctuation to the liturgy and scripture readings.

From September-June services are held in the magnificent sanctuary, surrounded by a colourful array of stained glass windows. In the summer we worship in our air conditioned chapel located beside the sanctuary.

### Message from the Board

**Monday, May 13 ~ Official Board Meeting @7:30 pm.** All are welcome at any board meeting!

**Monday, May 6 ~ Congregational Meeting on Zoom @7:30pm.** The purpose of this meeting will be to adopt the 2023 Annual Report, to share more information about future collaborative arrangements, and to discuss a draft statement of Welcome and Inclusion. An email will be sent out a few days before with the Zoom invitation.

### Wesley's Case For Kids Walk

Melrose will be supporting Wesley's Case for Kids Walk this year! You may donate online to our team Melrose Movers M.U.C. by following the links on Wesley's website <https://wesley.ca/caseforkids/>. Tax receipts will available. T-shirts will be provided for walkers and donation envelopes will be on hand for canvassing outside of our congregation. Please speak to Libby for more information.

### Connect With Us



[melroseuc](#)



[melroseunitedchurch](#)



<http://melroseunited.ca>

86 Homewood Avenue  
Hamilton, ON  
L8P 2M4

### Concerts at Melrose!

The Duet Club presents  
Harmony in the Hammer  
135th Anniversary Concert  
April 28th @2:30pm  
Tickets \$15/\$20 @ [duetclub.ca](http://duetclub.ca)



905-522-1323



[melrose@melroseunited.ca](mailto:melrose@melroseunited.ca)



## Volunteers Needed!

The Afro-Caribbean Caribbean Association is holding a Mother's Day Brunch on May 8th. They could use help to set up, serve and take down. If you are interested, please contact our office [melrose@melroseunited.ca](mailto:melrose@melroseunited.ca) to be put in touch with their senior's coordinator.

## Jam Jars Needed!

Don't forget to drop off your empty 250ml jam jars. Jamming season is right around the corner! Our keen group will be jamming in the kitchen soon. Please drop off your jars in the kitchen.

## Looking Ahead!

**Sunday, April 28 @2:30: The Duet Club Presents ~ Harmony in the Hammer.** The Duet Club of Hamilton's 135th Anniversary Concert showcasing Women of Song with guests The Rosewood Consort. Tickets \$15/\$20 at the door.

**Saturday, May 4 & 18: Community Knitting and Crochet.** Bring your current project and materials, beginners welcome! Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided.

**Monday, May 6: Congregational Meeting on Zoom @7:30pm:** To adopt the 2023 Annual Report, to share more information about the future of Melrose and to discuss a draft statement of Welcome and Inclusion. An email will be sent out with the Zoom invitation.

**Friday, May 24: Progressive Euchre.** Doors open @7pm. Games start @7:30pm sharp! Beginners welcome, you do not need a partner!



## Minister's Corner



I have belonged to a Prayer Group with four other women for many years that meets on the last Wednesday of the month, usually in Burlington. This week we were praying for one of our own members who is seriously ill in the ICU on a respirator, with multiple infections involving several areas of her body.

After the prayer directed at her healing, another member asked – but what if it is not God's will that she recover? This is such a difficult question. On the one hand, we see the example of Jesus the night before he was crucified, where he asked that "this cup be taken from him, but that it was not his will, but the will of the Father."

We pray most earnestly for healing and recovery to occur, and it is important that we voice what it is that we are asking of God. (Jesus asked the blind man, what did he want, and the blind man replied, "to see.") Jesus tells us to "ask and it shall be given unto you." However, in the case of healing, there can be something larger at play than we can see.

And the second question that arises leads us to ask, Is it God's will that someone should die at a specific time and thus God does not choose to intervene? We

experience miracles in many ways. Why should I receive a miracle and not you? Would that mean I was more favoured? The mysteries of the Divine abound. Does prayer work? It certainly seems to. But not all the time, at least not the answer that we sincerely hope will occur.

I had a special moment during an airplane flight just before our son Andrew died, when I was given the warmest and most intense feeling that "all would be well." It was a peace beyond explanation. Yet, our 22-year-old son, Andrew, died from cancer a few days later. I have since learned to accept that "all would be well" had nothing to do with the physical world I was experiencing, and more to do with the world we enter beyond. It was not a promise that he would be cured and live, rather a promise that he would be cared for and still go on, outside of my line of vision.

We develop our relationship and trust in God because God, in wisdom, knows what is best and we experience that love again and again. May you continue to pray in trust and gratitude even when you do not get the answer in the way you asked. One day we will see more clearly.

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