

# NEWSLETTER

January 19, 2024



## WORSHIP DATES

- 21st January, 2024
- 28th January, 2024
- 4th February, 2024
- 11th February, 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

**January 29:** Official Board Meeting @7:30pm

Always a Monday evening at 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend each and every official board meeting!

**February 4th:** Congregational Meeting after the 10:30am service to continue discussions regarding the future of Melrose. All are welcome! You are vital to the future of Melrose!

## Melrose Lecture Series

**Wednesday, February 14th** @12:30 to 2:00pm with Dr. Ellen Badone. Dr. Badone will explore the transitions encountered when older adults move to congregate care institutions, viewed from the perspective of family caregivers.

## Annual Meeting

**Sunday, February 25:** Join us after the Worship Service for our Annual Meeting. Please bring a bag lunch.

The deadline to have your reports submitted to the office is **Friday, January 19th:** Please email your reports to [melrose@melroseunited.ca](mailto:melrose@melroseunited.ca) or drop them off at the office. Thank you!

## Connect With Us



[melroseuc](https://www.instagram.com/melroseuc)



[melroseunitedchurch](https://www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch)

[http://](http://melroseunited.ca)



[melroseunited.ca](http://melroseunited.ca)

86 Homewood Avenue  
Hamilton, ON  
L8P 2M4



## Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 25  
after the 10:30am  
Sunday Worship Service



905-522-1323



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



# Your Help is Needed!

This is a call for physical helpers! I am looking for people, three in total, to commit to decorating our church for three occasions, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. This entails six days in a calendar year of your time, three set ups and three take downs. If you are able to assist me the weeks of March 25th, October 7th and November 25th for setup, take downs vary, please contact Jeff. If we receive more offers, it will ease the work! Many thanks! Contact Jeff at [jeffricho55@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffricho55@hotmail.com).

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## Looking Ahead!

**Friday, January 19:** Family Movie Night, Sleeping Beauty! Free admission! Doors open @5:30.

**Saturday, January 20:** Community Knitting and Crochet Circle @9:30 - 11:30. All are welcome! Bring your current project. Tea, coffee and snacks will be provided.

**Friday, January 26:** Progressive Euchre. Doors open @7:00pm, games start @7:30 sharp!

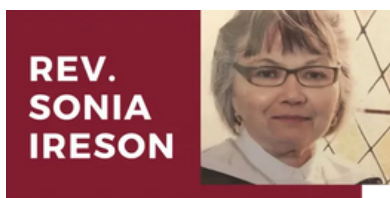
**Sunday, February 4:** Congregational Meeting after the 10:30 am service.

**Wednesday, February 14:** Melrose Lecture Series with Dr. Ellen Badone.

**Sunday, February 25:** Annual Meeting after the 10:30 am service. Bring a bag lunch!



## Minister's Corner



REV.  
SONIA  
IRESON

[sonia.ireson@gmail.com](mailto:sonia.ireson@gmail.com)  
cell 226-203-4674

We have come so far in four years since the beginning of the Pandemic. We have struggled with conflicts over proper care for one another and we have seen friends and loved ones succumb to aggressive illness.

This time has taken its toll, and it has changed us irreversibly. We have developed new habits, taken new pathways, in some cases become more introverted and less likely to blend into large crowds.

We never know from day to day how our lives will change, what new struggles will bring us to our knees. We build our foundation in faith, one brick at a time. We cannot rest at any point thinking we have done enough. Our spiritual growth helps to sustain us when storm clouds gather. We fortify ourselves with prayer and

biblical study, and inspirational reading and companionship of like-minded people.

Because we are fallible people that make up our churches, we make mistakes, we form judgments and strong opinions, sometimes ones we regret. We come from different perspectives and differing life experiences, and we may remain entrenched in our own way of thinking.

I see much hurt in our communities in all forms of relationships and unintentional ways we hurt one another even in our Christian churches. May we try to live into the love that Jesus models for the sake of others, even when they are not the top of our list of choice friends. Blessings in the spirit of unity and the fellowship of peace and wellbeing.

