

# NEWSLETTER

July 12, 2024



## WORSHIP DATES

- 14th July, 2024
- 21st July, 2024
- 28th July, 2024
- 4th August, 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..

### Connect With Us



[melroseuc](#)



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<http://melroseunited.ca>

86 Homewood Avenue  
Hamilton, ON  
L8P 2M4

### Message from the Board

**Monday, September 9 ~ Official Board Meeting @7:30 pm.**

All are welcome at any board meeting!

### Mark Your Calendar!

The Mistletoe Bazaar is right around the corner! This year's bazaar will be held on **Saturday, November 23rd** from 9am to noon. Start stocking up on sugar and butter for baking! Donations of 250ml jam jars can be dropped off in the kitchen. If you wish to be a vendor or if you know of a great vendor, please Get ready for the upcoming Mistletoe Bazaar! Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 23rd, from 9am to noon. Start preparing by stocking up on sugar and butter for baking treats! We're also accepting donations of jam jars in the kitchen. If you're interested in becoming a vendor or know someone who would be a great fit, please contact Gwyn at [gwynxag@gmail.com](mailto:gwynxag@gmail.com) to apply.

### Clothing for Helping Hands



Thank you for your generous donations of clothing for Helping Hands! We were happy to take in a large load last week. Your continued support is invaluable—let's keep those donations coming!



### Summer Worship

Summer Worship will take place in our beautiful air conditioned chapel!

Enjoy fellowship on the patio afterwards!



## Circles of Care

We are very grateful to Rev Sonia for volunteering to continue to visit our members who are homebound, after her retirement. We also want to be sure that we are taking care of each other. As discussed in the congregational meeting, we will be creating circles of care. We are looking for people, young and older, who are prepared to be responsible for keeping in touch with between one and six other families. Duties include calling every couple of months to ensure all is well; to help connect with a minister for pastoral care if ever needed; to help arrange lay pastoral care, such as meals, rides or visits, in the event of illness; and to keep people informed about what is happening at Melrose if they aren't able to get to church often on Sundays. We don't know what to call this 'role formerly known as elder'. We are debating between 'elder' and 'friendly visitor' and would welcome your feedback, or alternative suggestions, through Sue. Whatever we call it, please strongly consider doing this so that we can grow stronger and increase our connectedness. Contact Sue and let her know how many families you would like in your circle.

## Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

To honour the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) this past May, consider joining our letter writing campaign! Just click on <https://melroseunited.ca/actions>. Letters and envelopes will also be available from the office.



## From the Church Office

Starting in July, our summer office hours will be Wednesday Thursday and Friday from 9:00am until 2:00pm. If you have any news items or announcements for the bulletin or newsletter, please be sure to submit them to Sue in the office by Wednesday of each week, Just send your items to [melrose@melroseunited.ca](mailto:melrose@melroseunited.ca). Thank you!

## Looking Ahead!

**Saturday July 20 & August 17 : Community Knitting and Crochet.** Bring your current project and materials, beginners welcome! Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided.

**Friday, June 28 ~ Progressive Euchre.** Doors open @7pm. Games start @7:30pm sharp! Beginners welcome, you do not need a partner!



## Minister's Corner



REV.  
SONIA  
IRESON

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cell 226-203-4674



I refer you to a July 2 Hamilton Spectator article "We don't need posters, we need action." By Rev. Michael Coren. The Louisiana governor, Jeff Landry has passed a bill to require classrooms to display a large poster of The Ten Commandments on their walls. Given the current climate in the U.S. this is singularly hypocritical. Clearly a case of speak one way and do something else entirely. If people were following the Ten Commandments, there would be a lot less conflict in the world. Rev Coren makes the point that the "central teachings of Christ is

that we love God with all of our heart, mind, and strength, and love others as ourselves. "He says we don't need words or posters, we need witness and action by people who follow Jesus, helping those in need. Kindness is something that we are all capable of spreading and it has such a profound impact. A poster of the Ten Commandments on the wall of a classroom will not change human behaviour overnight. Living as though the Ten Commandments mean something to our lives will.

