

NEWSLETTER

July 5, 2024



WORSHIP DATES

- 7th July, 2024
- 14th July, 2024
- 21st July, 2024
- 28th July, 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..

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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!

Indigenous Education and Reconciliation

On Monday, June 24th, Catherine Clase, Libby Cook and Dianne Coons joined a group of 30 others at the Neighbour to Neighbour Community centre to participate in a vibrant conversation in Indigenous education and reconciliation. The event was truly inspiring as each person there shared their interest and passion for learning and connecting more fully with Indigenous people in Hamilton. Awareness was deepened, ideas were shared, connections were made in a learning, friendship circle. We came away with new resources and information about a speaker to share with Melrose in the fall. We met others who are committed to furthering educational opportunities and sharing information of local events. We hope others at Melrose will join in similar future events and that we will deepen our commitment to learning and working on the challenges facing Indigenous people in Hamilton. We appreciated the chance to start on a more intentional journey.



Summer Worship

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

Enjoy fellowship on the patio afterwards!



905-522-1323



melrose@melroseunited.ca



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. 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.

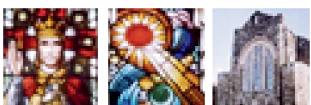
Friday, June 28 ~ Progressive Euchre. Doors open @7pm. Games start @7:30pm sharp! Beginners welcome, you do not need a partner!



Minister's Corner



sonia.ireson@gmail.com
cell 226-203-4674



The Political scene in both our countries, U.S. and Canada is worrisome. There is a great divide and unhappiness with current parties and leaders. But what is happening throughout the world is more than a political concern. It is really a spiritual concern. There is an immense need for a spiritual revival, a return to God and God's ways.

This is not to say that prayer needs to be returned to the classroom, or the ways of the extreme right need to take center stage. What is needed is a personal awareness of the importance of daily communication with God, then a willingness to base one's life on listening for the Holy Spirit's direction and guidance.

Psalm 23 tells us that God refreshes our souls. And in this day of challenging headlines, open hostility and flagrant disregard for others, our souls are truly in need of restoration.

Many are simply struggling to survive. Our faith requires that we trust in God to see us through. We each must do our part to bring about the change that is so desperately needed in our society. When we can't control our raging emotions, we can remember the reality of God's presence. We can change our attitude to one of prayerfully asking God to show us the way through. We can't control the world, but we can begin to make small changes, one by one with ourselves.

