

NEWSLETTER

March 20th, 2023



WORSHIP DATES

- 26th March 2023

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.

Choir Practice

Choir rehearsals take place on **Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.** and **Sundays from 9:50 to 10:30 a.m.**

Newcomers are always welcome to join us or to drop by and check things out!

Ages 16 and up.

Lay-leaders Needed for Summer Services

This summer we are going to need to cover 12 weeks of services as Rev. Sonia takes a study leave and her vacation for June, July, and August.

The Worship Committee is looking for volunteers to lead some of these services and for your creative ideas on how best to meet your needs, especially in July and August. We have lots of resources to assist you.

Please contact Libby, Jan, or the Melrose Office with your ideas and when you would like to do this.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

- Sunday April 9 (Easter Sunday)



905-522-1323



melrose@melroseunited.ca

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FOR EVERYONE



Matt Xagoraris is currently in El Salvador with Shelter. He is part of a group of 30 Canadians who have travelled outside of San Salvador with the purpose of assisting in the building of homes for 23 families. The families themselves are also participating in the building process, including the preparation of the land.

On his third day two houses were completed amidst scorching temperatures ranging from 34 to 36 degrees. The first house was built for a woman who recently lost her husband to an unexpected demise. Despite the devastating loss, her late husband had provided her with the necessary \$100 for the payment of the house. It was his final act of love, ensuring that she had a roof over her head.

On a Thursday of last week in El Salvador, the team went to a local store to purchase food and collected supplies donated by Melrose supporters. They then brought these items to the children's compassion centre, which caters to 200 children of different ages. This centre has recently made a significant accomplishment by providing a safe and clean source of drinking water for the community. However, the centre faces a challenge of inadequate large water holders to meet the demand.

REMINDERS

JAM JARS

Our intrepid Jammers of Melrose are needing jam jars! We prefer 250ml size. If you have jars that are now empty of jam please drop off your jars to the church office or place in the church kitchen. We are happy to re use these for further jamming.

STAMPS

Melrose is still collecting postage stamps (old , very old and new) We send them to Effect Hope to assist them raising funds for their outreach. Bring in your stamps and drop them off at the church office

LOOKING AHEAD

		TUE 28	WED. 29	THU 30	FRI 31	SAT Apr 1
		10am Duet Club Rehearsal 2pm Chapel Booking 6pm Soccer Practice 2 more	5:15pm Physical Therapy 6pm Soccer Practice 6:45pm Scottish Country Danc	10am Sunday Prep 12:30pm Carpet Bowling 1pm Chapel Booking 3 more		9am Knitting & Crochet 12:30pm Christine Baby Sho
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:45am Melrose Choir Practic	12:30pm Carpet Bowling 5:30pm Brownies 6pm Guides	10am Duet Club Rehearsal 2pm Chapel Booking 6pm Soccer Practice 2 more	5:15pm Physical Therapy 6pm Soccer Practice 6:45pm Scottish Country Danc	10am Sunday Prep 12:30pm Carpet Bowling 1pm Chapel Booking 2 more	Good Friday Service 9:45am Good Friday Choir Pra	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9am Easter Breakfast 9:45am Melrose Choir Practic	12:30pm Carpet Bowling 5:30pm Brownies	10am Duet Club Rehearsal 2pm Chapel Booking 6pm Soccer Practice 7:30pm Bach Elgar	5:15pm Physical Therapy 6pm Soccer Practice 6:30pm Women in Touch 6:45pm Scottish Country Danc	10am Sunday Prep 12:30pm Carpet Bowling 1pm Chapel Booking 3 more	6pm Family Movie Night	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:45am Melrose Choir Practic	10am MONTHLY FIRE DRILL 12:30pm Carpet Bowling 5:30pm Brownies 6pm Guides	10am Duet Club Rehearsal 2pm Chapel Booking 6pm Soccer Practice 7:30pm Bach Elgar	5:15pm Physical Therapy 6:45pm Scottish Country Danc 7:30pm Melrose Official Board	10am Sunday Prep 12:30pm Carpet Bowling 1pm Chapel Booking 2 more		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:45am Melrose Choir Practic 1pm Chris Palmer	12:30pm Carpet Bowling 5:30pm Brownies 6pm Guides	10am Duet Club Rehearsal 2pm Chapel Booking 7:30pm Bach Elgar 7:30pm Bach Elgar Rehearsal	5:15pm Physical Therapy 6:30pm Women in Touch TBA 6:45pm Scottish Country Danc	10am Sunday Prep 12:30pm Carpet Bowling 1pm Chapel Booking 3 more	6:30pm Family Euchre Night	
30	May 1	2	3	4	5	6
9:45am Melrose Choir Practic 2:30pm Duet Club (TBH)	12:30pm Carpet Bowling 5:30pm Brownies 6pm Guides	10am Duet Club Rehearsal 2pm Chapel Booking 7:30pm Bach Elgar 7:30pm Bach Elgar Rehearsal	5:15pm Physical Therapy 7:30pm Bach Elgar Rehearsal	10am Sunday Prep 12:30pm Carpet Bowling 1pm Chapel Booking 2 more	7:30pm Bach Elgar Rehearsal	9am Knitting & Crochet 6:15pm Bach Elgar Concert

Important Dates

April 9th : Easter Breakfast : 9am: Please. RSVP ahead of time to Gwyn.
ABSOLUTELY NO DOOR DROP INS. LIMITED SEATING CAPACITY

April 22: Gardening at Melrose 10-1pm Bring your shovels, shears, paper waste bags, and gloves. We are taking down the remainder of the thorny hedge that surrounds Melrose! - New date will be set if it is raining! Refreshments will be provided

May 10th : Congregational Pot luck Supper with guest speaker Yuriria Perez (from Mexico) Please RSVP ahead of time. Limited Seating Capacity

For more information on all listed events please contact Gwyn at gwynxag@gmail.com

Has your contact information changed?
Have you moved?
Want us to celebrate your birthday?
Would you like to be taken off the email list?

Please contact Lorraine at melrose@melroseunited.ca

A new member directory will be releasing shortly

Friendly Reminder from the Board...

Easter Memorial Donations

Once again, we are accepting donations in memory of loved ones. All memorial donations will be acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletin. We have sufficient funds in our Easter Flower fund to buy all the flowers needed for a beautiful display, so this year memorial donations will be used to fund the operations of Melrose Church. After the Easter Sunday service, flowers will be delivered to people who are not able to attend church in person, or to Aberdeen Gardens.

Minister's Corner

Happy St. Patrick's Day – today, March 17. I wonder how many of you will be eating a traditional Irish supper. In PEI, I grew up on corned beef and cabbage as our meal of celebration. One of my favourite places to enjoy this traditional meal is at the Innsville in Grimsby. Now I usually cook it myself – Boiled corned beef, carrots, parsnips, turnips, potatoes, and cabbage, with lots of mustard.

The day is celebrated on the anniversary of the death of St. Patrick. He was a fifth century apostle. The story is told about his capture at the age of 16 from Roman Britain and taken to Ireland as a slave. When his imprisonment was over and he was returned to Britain, he made the choice to go back to Ireland where he converted many of the Irish to Christianity. St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach the Celts about the Holy Trinity. The Irish held the number three in high regard and he used this to speak about the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. There are also exaggerated stories about him driving the snakes out of Ireland. This is a legend and never happened. It is said that Ireland has been too cold for snakes to exist and have not since the Ice Age. – Whatever your custom is, may you enjoy a day to be Irish!



Affirming Ministry Team

Food for thought from "Open Hearts: Resources for Affirming Ministries in The United Church of Canada" by Alyson Huntly, 2020

Offering More than Just a Welcome

Being an Affirming Ministry is not merely about welcoming people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Words like welcoming or inclusion suggest those on the inside have the power to choose to accept those on the outside. This makes it sound like an act of charity to welcome those who are different or marginalized. However, it is not our place to welcome anyone because church is not a private club and we are not the gatekeepers. As soon as one new person comes through the doors, the community becomes a new community."

Weekly note from the Affirming Ministry Team. Contact any of our members with comments, ideas, and questions (Dianne Coons, Imogen Clase, Jan Landeen, Sally Luke, and Marilyn Wright).

Connect With Us



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<http://melroseunited.ca/>

86 Homewood Avenue
Hamilton, ON
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If you have any additional updates, news or celebrations please have them into the office by Wednesday of each week.

Minister: Rev. Sonia Ireson
Music Director: Alexander Cann
Family Ministries Coordinator:
Meg Chalmers

Custodian: Kevin Geluch
Office Administrator: Lorraine Lowry



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