

# **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.

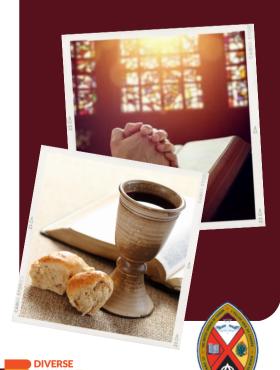
Please contact Libby, Jan, or the Melrose Office with your ideas and when you would like to do this.

# **WORSHIP** DATES

- 5th March 2023
- 12th March 2023
- 19th March 2023
- 26th March 2023

#### Sacrament of Holy Communion

- Sunday, March 19
- Sunday April 9 (Easter Sunday)





# ORDER NOW

#### **Social Justice & Outreach**

Melrose is once again participating in purchasing Fresh Food from Fiddes Wholesale Produce

#### March 3rd-16th

This year we are partnerning with St.Johns Anglican Church in hopes that by collaborating we can exceed 2500 lbs of fresh food donations.

If you have any questions please contact Gwyn at (905) 628-0516

#### **Donate Now**

We are accepting donations to help people impacted by the earthquake in Turkey and Northern Syria.

When emergencies strike, people need help right away. First with the basics—shelter, food, clothing—and then with rebuilding. United Church partners and ecumenical relationships in over 120 countries are on the ground and able to assess what's needed. The United Church is part of a worldwide network that can make a difference in the lives of those most at risk.

Please make a donation today to support our worldwide network of Mission & Service partners and their critical and lifesaving work.

#### **Jam Jars Wanted**

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.



A COLLABORATIVE VENTURE WITH ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN

## IFIRIESIH IFOOD IDIRIIVIE

March 3-16th

Order your Fresh Food items from Fiddes WholeSale Produce 60 Ewen Rd, Hamilton 905-570-7900 Tuesday- Saturday 10am-3pm

Place phone order from food selection below and pay by e-transfer, cash or debit

Your donations will be delivered to the following by Fiddes WholeSale Produce on March 17:

- St Matthews House- St. John's Anglican Church
- Mission Services- Melrose United Church

Please contact Gwyn at (905) 628-0516 for help in placing orders.



Phone **416-231-5931** or toll-free **1-800-268-3781** ext. **2738** and use your Visa or MasterCard.

Send a cheque or money order to:

The United Church of Canada Philanthropy Unit - Emergency Response 3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200

Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

#### **Stamp Collecting**

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

### **Minister's Corner**

Everyone needs a confidante, someone with. The road of life is not easy and its many twists and turns find us straddling many potholes. Almost no family is untouched by heartache. In one group in to the provisions this benevolent being which I belong, grandparents are aching over a grandchild that has twice attempted suicide and suffers from severe anxiety. Another has a son in extreme depression, that has shut his family all out after his separation and pending divorce.

We say goodbye to children who move across the country to begin studies or a new job; we receive bad news about an aggressive illness that leaves one living on borrowed time. There seems to be no end to heart break.

Having a grasp on faith does not eliminate our problems or even make them easier to bear. We believe in God and we trust in God, but we still hurt, God neither causes our turmoil nor allows it to happen. If, I as a parent would not stand by waiting for something bad to disrupt my child's life, I cannot conceive of how a loving God would either.

We do not have all the answers; we do not they can share their innermost concerns even know which of the questions to ask in some cases. I do know that believing that there is a divine being that loves me and all those around me, opens my eyes places in my path. I cannot go it alone, nor was I ever intended to. There are many that care and uphold me because they are the face of God that reminds me that life is precious and a gift to be shared.

> Do not try to go it alone. Find someone you can trust and watch them help you find ways to withstand the buffering that life sends your way. And pray. Pray like your life depends on it.

- It does!





#### **Special Event**

Join us for a night of music from the musicians who dutifully got out on their porches every Wednesday evening and played music to bring a little bit of joy to their neighbours.

We have decided to make this event a fundraiser for Wesley Resettlement Assistance for Refugees.

Admission is a suggested cash donation of \$10, with all proceeds going to Wesley.

Refreshments & snacks will be available for cash donation.

Please tell your friends and family about this event and join us for an evening of music and community

https://www.facebook.com/events/s/kirkendall-neighbourhood-noctu/718321126402490/



#### Connect With Us



<u>melroseuc</u>



melroseunitedchurch



86 Homewood Avenue Hamilton, ON L8P 2M4

If you have any additional updates, news or celebrations please have them into the office by Wednesday of each

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

Meg Chalmers

Custodian: Kevin Geluch Office Administrator: Lorraine Lowry