

NEWSLETTER

May 10, 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..

Message from the Board

Monday, May 13 ~ Official Board Meeting @7:30 pm. All are welcome at any board meeting!

Joint Pentecost Service With Westdale

Sunday, May 19 at Melrose! ~ This is the first of three joint services that we are planning with Westdale United Church. This service will be a collaboration between our ministers and our music directors. An opportunity to explore worship together and to get to know each other. It is the long weekend and we realize that many people will already have plans. If you are in town, please strongly consider coming to meet and welcome Westdale's minister Rev Evan (who uses he/she/they pronouns) and congregation. On Sunday June 2, we will all worship at Westdale, followed by lunch, and those of us who are walking will on to to Case for Kids afterwards. There is much to celebrate in fellowship together and much to learn from each other!

May is P.A.R. Month!

P.A.R. is pre-authorized remittance, a method of giving that allows you to set up a monthly contribution that will continue to fund amazing work all year. The consistency of this type of donation helps both Melrose and Mission & Service to plan and reduces overhead costs so that your donation has more impact, and reduces volunteer time and effort. Please consider donating in this way. If you already donate, please consider a 3% increase in your monthly donation to keep in line with inflation. Go to <https://shorturl.at/nwSWZ> to learn more. Speak to Sue, Michael or Catherine, or just ask Sue for the one page form. Thank you for all of your generous support of all our work

National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

To honour the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) this past May 5th, consider reading resources by Kairos Canada and doing some of the actions suggested on the page. <https://www.kairosCanada.org/missing-murdered-indigenous-women-girls>. The links on this page are outdated, but please contact Sue if you would like a link to a petition and a draft letter to consider modifying and sending.

WORSHIP DATES

- 12th May, 2024
- 19th May, 2024
- 26th May, 2024
- 2nd June, 2024

Connect With Us



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Wesley's Case For Kids Walk

Sunday, June 2 ~ Melrose will be supporting Wesley's Case for Kids Walk this year! You may donate online to our team Melrose Movers M.U.C. by following the links on Wesley's website <https://wesley.ca/caseforkids/>. Tax receipts will be available. T-shirts will be provided for walkers and donation envelopes will be on hand for canvassing outside of our congregation. Please speak to Libby for more information.

Statement of Welcome and Inclusion, God Is Love

This statement was finalized at the Congregational Meeting on May 6th.

We welcome everyone without exception. God gives gracious love to all, and you are welcome regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, family configuration, ancestry, ethnicity, age, faith history, abilities, or socio-economic status.

We value the strength that comes from diversity. We strive to live our faith in Jesus Christ by providing a nurturing, inclusive and welcoming environment that encourages all people to care for and accept one another.

Even if you did not feel welcome at church in the past, know that you are welcome here always. Whoever you are, however you identify, whomever you love, or whatever your life circumstances, you are loved by God; you are welcome here.

Final May 6, 2024

Looking Ahead!

Sunday, May 12 ~ Marvellous Music Sunday! The Choir will be performing Mozart's Missa Brevis in B Flat. There will be children's programming and cake during coffee hour!

Saturday, May 18: Community Knitting and Crochet. Bring your current project and materials, beginners welcome! Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided.

Sunday, May 19 ~ Pentecost Shared Service. A shared service with our sisters and brothers from Westdale United Church.

Friday, May 24 ~ Progressive Euchre. Doors open @7pm. Games start @7:30pm sharp! Beginners welcome, you do not need a partner!

Sunday, June 2 ~ Pride Sunday Service. We will be worshipping at Westdale United Church followed by a BBQ. All are welcome!

Sunday, June 2 ~ Wesley's Case For Kid's Walk. Melrose will be supporting Wesley's Case for Kids Walk again this year! You can donate to our team Melrose Movers M.U.C. at <https://wesley.ca/casforkids/>. Speak with Libby for more information.



Minister's Corner

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When I left to go down east for Carolin's graduation the trees were still bare. On my drive back 7 days later I couldn't get over the difference in the greenery. What accounted for the growth. Sunshine, warmth, and rain accomplished this miracle. The period of annual rest was over.

How much our seasonal changes match our life cycles. There is a time for rest, a period of "being" and there is a time for "doing." We provide the nurture and growth with our choices of input. Rest allows renewal. Then reading, researching, consulting with others, and action opens us up to new growth. One without the other does not keep us in balance. Too much rest causes us to stagnate. Too much busyness overtaxes us.

Life is continually a bout learning and

growing, always striving to become a better version of oneself.

We need an appropriate mix of spiritual, emotional, and physical stimulation in order to fulfill our days.

It is helpful to reflect frequently on whether we are providing the necessary stimulation to enhance our growth, as opposed to blindly sliding through our days without giving a thought to where we would like to be a year from now.

Without a plan we waste a lot of our life - our money, our talents, our potential. We have been created for greatness.

Think and become. Are you headed where you want to go or are you just putting in time? We are works in progress destined for greater things. As long as we have breath, we can be alive to the possibilities that exist. Let us not waste a day of this precious gift.