NEWSLETTER May 5th, 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.

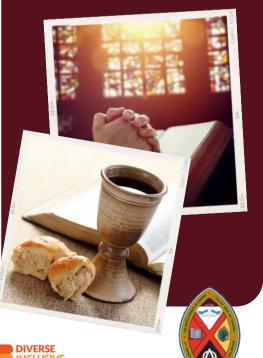
Please contact Libby, Jan, or the Melrose Office with your ideas and when you would like to do this.

WORSHIP DATES

- 7th May 2023 (Celebration of LGBTQIA+ Two Spirit People)
- 14th May 2023 (Mother's Day)
- 21st May 2023

Sacrament of Holy Communion

14th May 2023 (Mother's Day)



WELCOMING

📞 905-522-1323

LOOKING AHEAD

May 6th: Melrose United Garage Sale 9-12 PM

May 6th: Community Knitting & Crochet, 9:30-11:30

May 7th: PIE Potluck Luncheon! Following the service.

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

May 12th: Family Movie Night, 6:30

May 20th: Community Knitting & Crochet, 9:30-11:30 AM

May 26th: Progressive Euchre (No Partners necessary) Doors open at 7 PM Games at 7:30 PM

Please join us at Melrose for a great night of





THINGS WE NEED

VOLUNTEERS

Coffee hour people for may 14 and 21.

Please speak to Gwyn if you are able to prepare and serve coffee/tea on these Sundays. We need helpers for the Garage Sale that is May 6 9-noon

We need folk who can carry and lift and those who can sell.. Please reach out to Gwyn if you are available by **6 PM TONIGHT!**

Muscles would be appreciated for take down and clean up.

FIND YOUR NEXT TREASURE MELROSE UNITED CHURCH'S GARAGE SALE 2023

MAY 6, 2023 | 9 AM - 12 PM INSIDE & OUTSIDE RAIN & SHINE CASH ONLY MOST ITEMS \$5 OR UNDER

86 HOMEWOOD AVENUE, HAMILTON, ON WWW.MELROSEUNITED.CA

Minister's Corner

Why me Lord? Have you ever felt like that? What have I ever done? – Usually, it is voiced as a lament, a plea against God's selecting you for a time of harshness when you dwell in self-pity. Life can have challenging times when we feel like we are being smacked for no good reason. Tevye voiced this cry out to God in the movie, Fiddler on the Roof, when he said, "I know we are the chosen people, but just once, God, couldn't you choose someone else?"

However, it is also an unexpected moment of praise, when spoken in the song by Kris Kristofferson in 1972 – "Why me Lord? What have I ever done to deserve even one of the pleasures I've known? Tell me Lord, what did I ever do that was worth loving you for the kindness you've shown?"

Even in the midst of your most demanding times, being able to find it in your heart to express Gratitude can make the difference in how you get through your difficult and trying days. "Maybe Lord, I can show someone else what I've been through myself, on my way back to you!"

Affirming Ministry

Potluck PIE luncheon May 7

What is the meaning of a PIE luncheon? There are lots of meanings in PIE. PIE means Public, Intentional, and Explicit. We are working on increasing the symbols and ways in which we declare that we are affirming and open to all peoples. While we are on the beginning steps of our journey, we are building a path to engage in more discussions and reflections. And we are explicit about our focus.

Groups who are interested in welcoming and accepting all people celebrate Pi Day. That is π , as in the mathematical constant used to determine the circumference of a circle (π r2). And as we remember, π is infinite; there are endless possibilities. It is normally celebrated on March 14 (3.14...) We weren't ready to have pie on Pi Day in March this year, but better late than never.

We are thinking big, and we need to reflect and act on being affirming and welcoming across the spectrum of human possibilities. "We draw the circle wide." We are starting with LGBTQ2S+ issues.

Pie that we eat can be savory, it can be sweet, it can contain fruit, it can be vegetarian or not.... Join us for conversation and good eats after our May 7 service.



Connect With Us



L8P 2M4

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