

# NEWSLETTER

November 22, 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.

### WORSHIP DATES AT MELROSE

- 24th Nov, 2024
- 1st Dec, 2024
- 8th Dec, 2024
- 15th Dec, 2024

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<http://melroseunited.ca>

86 Homewood Avenue  
Hamilton, ON  
L8P 2M4

## Message from the Board

**Wednesday, Dec ~ 11th Official Board Meeting @7:30 pm.**

Please note the change of day! All are welcome at any board meeting! If you would like to attend, please contact the office for more information.

## Future Directions

At our most recent Board Meeting, a decision was made to wait to take any further action on the proposal which was presented on November 10th until our next meeting on December 11th at 7:30 p.m. At the December 11th Board Meeting, we will be re-examining the the proposal, along with any concrete revisions or alternative options that are submitted by Wednesday December 4th. If you wish to submit concrete revisions or alternative options, please do so by email to the church office and/or to Margaret Duff. [melrose@melroseunited.ca](mailto:melrose@melroseunited.ca)

## Upcoming Worship Services

**Sunday, November 24th** ~ with Meg Chalmers at 10:30am



905-522-1323



[melrose@melroseunited.ca](mailto:melrose@melroseunited.ca)



# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT MELROSE!

**Sunday, December 1st** ~ Advent I at Westdale United at 10:30am with free catered lunch!

**Sunday, December 8th** ~ Advent II at Melrose with Meg Chalmers

**Sunday, December 8th** ~ Candlelight Carol Service at 7:00pm at Melrose

**Sunday, December 15th** ~ Advent III at Melrose with Rev Margot Feyerer

**Wednesday, December 18th** ~ Light in December Darkness Service at 7:00pm at Melrose

**Sunday, December 22nd** ~ Advent IV at Melrose. The Christmas Story, a family service with Meg Chalmers

**Tuesday, December 24th** ~ Family Christmas Eve at Westdale United at 4:00pm

**Tuesday, December 24th** ~ Candlelight Service at 10:30pm



## MISTLETOE BAZAAR! THIS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd!



It's here! Join us tomorrow, **Saturday, November 23rd from 9:00am until noon** for our fabulous Mistletoe Bazaar! Enjoy fantastic vendors, yummy Bake Table and Cookie Walk and of course our fabulous Tea Room! Come early to snag the best goodies!

### Advanced Ordering is Now Closed

Thanks to everyone who pre-ordered their goodies from our new online store! All orders must be picked up on the day of the Bazaar between 9:00am and noon. Please use the entrance off of the Stanley Ave parking lot.



## Bake Table and Cookie Walk

**A huge thank you** to all of our talented cooks and bakers who baked cookies for the Cookie Walk and prepared all the delicious jams, jellies, fruit pies, turkey pot pies, and so much more for the Bake Table! All these wonderful treats will be available for purchase at the Bazaar. If you didn't have a chance to pre-order, don't worry—there will still be plenty of goodies available for sale on Saturday. Be sure to arrive early so you don't miss out!

## Advent I at Westdale United

**Sunday, December 1st @10:30am** Join Melrose at Westdale United for our shared Advent I service at Westdale followed by a free catered lunch! All are welcome, 99 North Oval

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF  
CAROLS & READING



Melrose United Church  
Sunday December 8th-7pm  
86 Homewood Ave Hamilton

## Candlelight Carol Service

**Sunday, December 8th @ 7:00pm** ~ A Joyous Evening of Lessons and Carols! Come celebrate the season with a special Candlelight Carol Service at Melrose, featuring the beautiful voices of our Chancel Choir. We're delighted to welcome our friends from Westdale United Church. Everyone is welcome!



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# Wesley Holiday Drive

## Wesley Holiday Drive

A 60+ year tradition



467 Main Street East, Hamilton, ON L8N 1K1  
(905) 528-5629 x 285  
giving@wesley.ca



### DONATE TODAY!

The most needed items are:

- Financial donations to Wesley to support programs & services: Cash, cheque, credit card, or gifts of securities are greatly appreciated.
- \$25 gift cards: Walmart, grocery stores (Food Basics, No Frills, PC Stores), Dollarama, Giant Tiger.
- Clothing: New gloves, underwear, socks, robes and slippers for adults and children.
- Linens: New sheets and blankets for queen and double, towels.
- Kitchen: New microwaves, toasters, toaster ovens, blenders, air fryers.
- Boxes of chocolates.

#### We need your help!

Your support could be a family's greatest gift this year at our programs in Hamilton, Halton, and Brantford. Please help us offer shelter & care to those in need by making a cash donation to Wesley and/or purchasing a new item from our clients' wish list of most-needed items.

#### Items can be dropped off:

Sun Dec 8 & 15,  
from 12 noon – 3pm  
Mon Dec 9 to Fri Dec 13,  
from 10am – 12 noon

[wesley.ca/holidays](http://wesley.ca/holidays)

Wesley's Holiday Drive is collecting donations for adults, children, families, and newcomers struggling with poverty and homelessness. Donations received during the holiday drive will be used to support Wesley clients during the holiday season and throughout the year.

We will be collecting **White Gifts** for this drive on **Sunday December 15th**.

Most-needed items are:

- Financial donations to Wesley to support programs & services: Cash, cheque, credit card, or gifts of securities are greatly appreciated.
- \$25 gift cards: Walmart, grocery stores (Food Basics, No Frills, PC Stores), Dollarama, Giant Tiger.
- Clothing: New gloves, underwear, socks, robes and slippers for adults and children. Linens: New sheets and blankets for queen and double, towels.
- Kitchen: New microwaves, toasters, toaster ovens, blenders, air fryers.
- Boxes of chocolates.

## Donations for Mission to Seafarers

Did you know that the men and women who staff the ocean going ships you see in the Port of Hamilton are often away from their families, countries, and cultures for 4 to 9 months or more each year? The Mission to Seafarers' Centres in Hamilton and Oshawa provide a safe haven where seafarers can use free Wi-Fi to connect with their families after long periods of isolation. These centres also offer a comfortable lounge, books, periodicals, a meditation room, a pool table and a selection of new and gently used warm clothing - especially needed during the cold weather on the Great Lakes, St Lawrence River and Atlantic Ocean.

This November, we are asking for donations of adult socks and large chocolate bars. A large basket will be placed in the Sanctuary for your contributions.

Each year, the Mission assembles approximately 600 bags to be distributed in December to all seafarers on international ships.

The Mission to Seafarers' is grateful to Melrose United Church and the Knitting Circle for their generous donations of beautiful hand-knit hats and scarves!

For more information, please speak with Geoff Harrison.



## Looking Ahead!

**Saturday, November 16th ~ Community Knitting and Crochet @9:30** Bring your current project and materials, beginners welcome! Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided.

**Saturday, November 23rd ~ Mistletoe Bazaar 9am to noon.** Enjoy vendors, bake table, Cookie Walk and Tea room! Online ordering will be available later shortly! Stay tuned!

**Friday, November 29th ~ Progressive Euchre.** Doors open @7pm. Games start @7:30pm sharp! Beginners welcome, you do not need a partner!

**Sunday, December 1st ~ Advent I at Westdale United Church** ~ Join Melrose and Westdale United for our shared Advent I service at Westdale followed by a free catered lunch! All are welcome, 99 North Oval.

**Sunday, December 8th ~ Candlelight Carol Service @ 7pm** ~ Join us for our wonderful Carol Service!

**Wednesday, December 18th ~ Light in December Darkness Service @ 7pm** ~ A quite contemplative service in the parlour for those who are lonely, sad or grieving.



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