



ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH

150 Colborne St. S., Simcoe, ON N3Y 4H6

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STAFF:

Minister: Rev. Barrie Bain, BA, M.Div.

Volunteer Associate Minister: Rev. Michael Beacom, BA, BD

Music Director: Diane Stewart (226) 567-5875

Office Administrator/Treasurer: Ann McNall 519-428-2611

Janitor: John McNall (519) 428-2611

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday (9 to noon)

March 1st 2026 - SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Friday March 6th "World Day of Prayer"

10:30 am. St. James United Church Family in Worship

Worship Focus – **"Letting Go and Moving On!"**

"Spiritual Growth, Compassionate Living"

WITH A SENSE OF WONDER - WE GATHER

Prelude Music:

GOOD MORNING! Words of Welcome, Greetings and Announcements. Persons wishing to remain seated during the service are invited to do so with our blessing. Your presence and spirit of waiting will bless our journey of faith with companionship. You are invited to join together for a time of visiting and refreshments in the Muriel Bridge Room following the benediction and postlude music.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Call to Worship:

Leader: We gather here in this Sacred Space, ready for worship, to share fellowship and to offer our faith-style and action-responses in the Spirit of Welcome!

ALL: We are thankful for the joys and lessons that we have shared. There are opportunities and blessings to be more fully explored!

Leader: Searching for the way ahead is the new challenge that we accept with faith, prayer and determination.

ALL Our focus is on Jesus, who brings us closer together. We join as a gathering family – in praise, listening for God's voice, and offering ourselves in service to others.

Hymn of Praise: VU #218 "We Praise You, O God"

Prayer of Approach (unison)

God of all our journeys, You call us out from our places of bondage. We travel through a wilderness where old things will become new and where we will be restored and refreshed. During this Season of Lent, we pray that You will give us: strength for the journey, new hearts to discover Your promises, and a renewed calling to follow Jesus. Amen.

Lenten Candle Un-Lighting:

Leader: Even as the days grow longer,

ALL: Jesus' time grows shorter.

Leader: Even as the Christ-light shines,

ALL: The world works to hide it: to hide Christ's Hope, to hide Christ's understanding, to hide Christ's love.

Leader: But we will NOT let the Christ-Light, or the Christ-Love be hidden.

ALL: Even on our way to the cross, in the best, in the worst, Christ's Light will shine for us!

DESIRING CHRISTIAN GROWTH - WE LISTEN

Psalm 121 (VU# 844) "I lift my eyes to the hills"

Family Focus: Storyteller – Rev. Barrie

Scripture Lesson:

Genesis 12:1-4a God calls Abram to be a blessing

John 3:1-17 Nicodemus learns that "God so loved the world"

Lay Reader: March House

Choir Anthem: "Hear Thou My Prayer, O Lord" - K Bissel

Message: "LETTING GO OF THE PAST - - - -
MEANS RISK AND CHANGE!"
Reverend Barrie Bain Preaching

Hymn VU# 634 "To Abraham and Sarah"

COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS - WE RESPOND

Presentation and Dedication of the Offering

Offertory Response: VU #542 "We Give You But Your Own"

Offertory Prayer (unison)

Gracious God, we offer You today all that we are and all that we have. We offer You the labor of our hands, the work of our minds, the love of our hearts, and hope for a better world. Bless these gifts and bless us, as we seek to follow your ways of faithful living. This prayer we offer in Jesus' name. Amen

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn VU# 639 "One More Step Along the World I Go"

Benediction & Commissioning

Postlude Music:

VOLUNTEERS FROM THE MARCH HOUSE INVITE YOU to The Muriel Bridge Room for refreshments and fellowship following the service.

World Day of Prayer will be held at St. Paul's on Friday, March 6 at 1:30 pm

March 10 - Amicitia Unit will meet in the Muriel Bridge Room at 7 pm

Bible Reading - March 1, 2026
Reader: March House

Genesis 12:1-4a

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Bible Reading - March 1, 2026
Reader: March House

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

‘Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

March 2026

February '26

April '26

S M T W T F S
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
 8 9 10 11 12 13 14
 15 16 17 18 19 20 21
 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
 29 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BENEVOLENT SUNDAY	NMAF	NMAF	NMAF	NMAF		Tues/Sat Group NLR 8
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Women's Group MBR 7-9 pm	Tues/Fri Group NLR 9am Tues/Sat Group Probus MBR 9-11 Amicitia MBR 7pm	Heart & Soul 1-3 Sanctuary Bridge 1-4pm. MBR Rental - Panorama 9-May	Choir practice 7pm. Thurs Group NLR 8pm Bible Study 1:30-3pm	Tues/Fri Group 9 - 11:30 - NLR	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Women's Group MBR 7-9 pm	NLR 9am Tues/Fri Group Tues/Sat Group NLR 8pm	Heart & Soul 1-3 Sanctuary Bridge 1-4pm. MBR	Choir practice 7pm. Thurs Group NLR 8pm Bible Study 1:30-3pm	Tues/Fri Group 9 - 11:30 - NLR	Tues/Sat Group NLR 8
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Women's Group MBR 7-9 pm	Tues/Fri Group NLR 9am Tues/Sat Group NLR 8pm	Heart & Soul 1-3 Sanctuary Bridge 1-4pm. MBR	Choir practice 7pm. Thurs Group NLR 8pm Bible Study 1:30-3pm	Tues/Fri Group 9 - 11:30 - NLR	Tues/Sat Group NLR 8
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
ANNUAL MEETING 2024	Women's Group MBR 7-9 pm	Tues/Fri Group NLR 9am Tues/Sat Group NLR 8pm	Heart & Soul 1-3 Sanctuary Bridge 1-4pm. MBR	Choir practice 7pm. Thurs Group NLR 8pm Bible Study 1:30-3pm	Tues/Fri Group 9 - 11:30 - NLR	
5	6	Notes				
	Women's Group MBR 7-9 pm	Music Festival: Mar. 2-5 Schedule posted.				

NORFOLK MUSICAL ARTS FESTIVAL

<p>Sunday, March 1 40th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 129 Young Street 2 to 4 pm</p>	<p>Monday, March 2 COLBORNE VILLAGE UNITED CHURCH 30 Glendale Crescent ENGLISH SPEECH ARTS JUNIOR, INTERMEDIATE & SENIORS 9:00 to 3:45</p>	<p>Tuesday, March 3 ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH 150 Colborne Street South VOCAL INTERMEDIATE & SENIOR SOLOISTS 9:30 to 11:30 12:30 to 3:20 COMMUNITY & YOUTH CHOIRS, BARBERSHOP QUARTET 6:45 to 8:30</p>	<p>Wednesday, March 4 ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH 150 Colborne Street South ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHOIRS SENIOR VOCAL SOLOISTS 9:30 to 12 noon 1:45 TO 4:30</p>	<p>Thursday, March 5 ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH 150 Colborne Street South VOCAL JUNIOR SOLOISTS 9:00 TO 12:30 UKULELE SCHOOL GROUPS & SOLOISTS 1:00 to 2:30</p>
			<p>Wednesday, March 4 HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL 128 Evergreen Hill Road COMMUNITY BANDS & INSTRUMENTAL & PERCUSSION SOLOISTS 7:00 to 8:45</p>	<p>Thursday, March 5 HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL 128 Evergreen Hill Road ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY SCHOOL BANDS 9:30 to 3:00</p>
			<p>Wednesday, March 4 COLBORNE VILLAGE UNITED CHURCH 30 Glendale Crescent STRINGS SOLISTS & ENSEMBLES 12:30 TO 3:20 6:30 to 8:00</p>	<p>Thursday, March 5 COLBORNE VILLAGE UNITED CHURCH 30 Glendale Crescent FRENCH SPEECH ARTS SOLOISTS & SCHOOL GROUPS 9:00 TO 11:50 AM 1:00 TO 2:30 PM</p>
		<p>Tuesday, March 3 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 129 Young Street PIANO 9:30 to 12 noon 1:00 to 3:20</p>	<p>Wednesday, March 4 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 129 Young Street PIANO 9:30 to 11:45 1:00 to 3:30</p>	<p>Thursday, March 5 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 129 Young Street PIANO 9:30 to 11:40</p>
				<p>CUP COMPETITION ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH 150 Colborne Street South 7:00 PM</p>