

April 3, 2026



The Wee Voice

Newsletter



The
**Donway Covenant
United Church**



Our Mission

“To follow Jesus by sharing God’s unconditional love as the Spirit empowers us.”

Our Vision

We will follow Jesus...

- **By being a local Christian church within the United Church of Canada; a community anchor for spiritual exploration and growth where life, worship, knowledge, service and song all contribute to our larger story.**
- **By welcoming and involving people of diverse faith, ethnicities, abilities, ages and stages of life, economic situations, sexual orientation and gender identities.**
- **By caring for all members with compassion, empathy and joy.**
- **By acts of service, reaching out to engage and support our community, the country and the world.**
- **By building bridges within our community, as a congregation recognizing the variety of religions and spiritualities in the most diverse city in the world.**
- **By using our facilities for religious, social, cultural, educational, or other programs that reflect our values.**

**We are an AFFIRMING
Congregation**



**“Easter Cross with Lillies”
stock photo**

Risen As He Said

by **Debbie Sawczak**

He’s gone;

the Friend we loved has died.
The pain and love sting deep inside.
Our lives will still go on,

but never be the same again.
We wish we were a little more brave;
We steal down early to the grave...
The stone is rolled away!

We can’t believe it, but they say:

He is risen as he said,
He is risen as he said!
He is no longer here
among the dead -
He is risen as he said!

The air of earth with angels thrills,
The Silent Planet finally fills
With music pure and bold,
too strong for human ears to hold.
They watch the Son
come from his fight,
The winner over death and night;
They hallow Jesus’ name,
they hail his beauty,
shout his fame.

Alive! Our Christ is now alive!
He lives, never again to die!
His triumph now is ours -
we live by resurrection power.
Lord Jesus Christ, to you we kneel;
Your victory is sure and real,
Your sacrifice complete.

We fall and worship at your feet.

He is risen as he said,
He is risen as he said!
He is no longer here
among the dead -
He is risen as he said!

Debbie Sawczak is a writer, editor
and lexicographer in Georgetown, ON

Poetry Month



From Heartbreak to Hope: An Easter Message from The United Church of Canada "But we had hoped..."

In a world filled with dashed expectations, war, and "fake news," the Easter story can feel more like an idle tale than a reality. This year, we explore the walk to Emmaus and how the earliest followers of Jesus navigated their own skepticism to find a hope that transforms the world.

The **Good News** isn't a headline or an official report - it's a lived experience. Join us as we celebrate the **Risen Christ** and the community that continues to share that light today.



CLICK on the arrow to listen to the Easter message from our moderator, **Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath**

God of Easter glory, the One who lifts us into new life, be a gentle and steady presence among us.

Give us energy for the days ahead, and open our hearts to notice and care for one another in simple, faithful ways. Strengthen us to reach out to those who are weary, lonely, sick, or grieving, and hold especially in our prayers all who are most in need of your comfort this Easter weekend.

Surround them with your love and peace, and keep us grounded in hope, and connected to one another in love.

Amen.

Rev Lorrie Daly-Price

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY

Acts chapter 10: verses 34 ~ 43

John chapter 20: verses 1 ~ 8

"Now For the Dawning"

Jesus Christ is risen today! And the tomb where he lay is empty.

On that first Easter morning, Mary comes to the tomb while it is still dark. Not just the darkness of the early hour - but the heaviness of grief, of loss, of everything that no longer makes sense. She sees the stone rolled away and, like any of us might, she assumes the worst: they have taken him.



So she runs. She runs to Peter and the beloved disciple, breathless with worry, trying to make sense of what she has seen. And when she returns... Jesus is there. But she doesn't recognize him. She thinks he is the gardener. And really - can we blame her? Because resurrection is not something we expect. New life, when we have already settled into grief, can be hard to see. Hope, when it stands right in front of us, can still feel out of reach.

It's not any easier for the others, either. The risen Christ doesn't arrive in a way that removes all doubt or answers every question. The appearances are quiet, surprising, even unsettling. And yet, what is so tender in this story is this: there is no judgment. No one is scolded for not understanding right away. No one is turned away for their confusion or their fear. Instead, each one is met where they are.

And in their own time, in their own way, they come to believe. And maybe that is part of the good news for us this morning too - that resurrection doesn't demand instant certainty. It simply meets us in the dark. ..and calls our name.

Rev Lorrie Daly-Price

Annual General Meeting

Sunday, April 19th
Immediately after Worship



The
Donway Covenant
United Church



HOT CROSS BUN BRUNCH



Apr 3 Hot Cross Bun Brunch
following the Worship service.



Join us
in our Auditorium
The Fellowship Committee

HOLY WEEK



Apr 3 Good Friday
10:30 am **"Sharing the Weight of the Cross"**

Apr 5 Easter Sunday
10:30 am **"Now for the Dawning"**



Join us for Worship
in our Sanctuary

The Worship Committee

PLEASE NOTE
CANCELLED TODAY
"FRIDAY
COFFEE  **SEE YOU**
DROP BY" **APRIL 10th**



Emily will be taking
three vacation days -

Wednesday April 8, Thursday April 9th
and Monday April 13th.

The church office will re-open at 9:00 am
Tuesday, April 14th



My Door Is
Always Open

Drop by anytime
during the day,
Monday to Thursday

You should be able to catch me every
morning and some afternoons. Call
ahead to ensure I am at the church.

Lorrie

The Church Office
(regular hours)

is open four days a week

Monday to Thursday,
9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Closed Fridays

If you plan on visiting it is best to 'phone
ahead so Emily knows you are coming.
If you leave a voice message Emily will get
back to you as soon
as she is free. **(416) 444 - 8444**



Want to know what's going on?
What's coming up?
Go to our web site and find out!!!

<https://www.donwaycovenant.com/>

WANT TO STAY UP TO DATE?

Follow us and Like us on

Facebook

Donway Covenant United Church



Getting To Know You Getting To Know (All) About You



A new feature (and we hope a regular feature) by Anneke Allan

Have you met Heidi? Let me tell you a little bit about her.

Heidi Attenborough is one of The Donway Covenants' newest members. She officially became a member in an affirmation ceremony this past December.



Heidi was born in Switzerland where she lived with her parents, sister and brother, who went to church and Sunday school. At the age of nineteen, Heidi travelled to Montreal

to take up a post with a family as their nanny, taking night classes at McGill to improve her English.

When her year in Canada was complete she went back to Switzerland. Heidi decided that she wanted to return to Canada and filled out the appropriate paperwork. Three months later she arrived back to Canada. Heidi lived in a shared apartment in Dorval and found work

in Montreal with a shipping company working in their office. A few months later she met Gerry. They had a whirlwind courtship and flew to Switzerland to be married.

After living in Dorval for several months, they moved to Toronto, Heidi found a job with SOCAN, a Performing Rights Company where she worked for 37 years. Heidi and Gerry were happily married for 43 years before he passed away after a lengthy illness in 2023.

Hiking and the outdoors are among the favourite hobbies of Heidi. She plays the tuba, loves knitting, and going to concerts. Heidi enjoys visiting her sister and family in Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

Heidi is also involved with church activities, including the knitting club, assisting with various tasks, and looks forward to the dinners and other church gatherings.

When Heidi started attending The Donway Covenant Church in 2023, she felt welcomed with the fellowship and companionship. She felt at peace within herself, giving her life a purpose.

Heidi feels honoured to be a part of our church community.

**as told to Anneke Allan
photo by Victoria Martinez**

Thomas Alfred Milburn

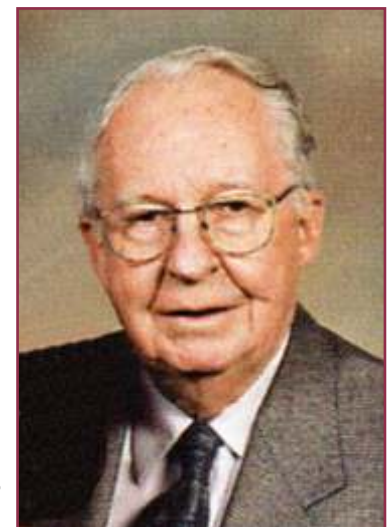
February 19, 1927 ~ December 1, 2025

Memorial Service - Saturday, April 11 at 11:00 am

A memorial service celebrating the life of Tom Milburn will be held at the church on **Saturday, April 11th at 11:00 am.**

There will be a reception following the service.

In 1958, Tom and Allison moved to Don Mills, and bought a house two doors away from Mary (Tom's sister) and her husband, Cam Beaton. Here Tom and Allison raised their girls, Susan, Margaret and Ann with their nieces, Cathy and Barbara Beaton nearby. The families did many activities together and created wonderful memories. Tom was a long-time member of **The Donway Covenant United Church**, the **Don Mills Kiwanis Club** and curled at the **Avonlea Curling Club.**



Rev. Lorrie Daly-Price



Minutes for Mission

ROOTED AND RISING



Credit: Michelle H. | Adobe Stock

The stone was rolled away in a small, overlooked place. Not in the centre of power, or a crowded city. Across Canada, in small towns and rural communities, churches continue to be places of discovery and renewed life.

In Fort Nelson, British Columbia, **Hillcrest United Church** has stood on the northern landscape for more than 60 years. In a place shaped by distance and long winters, the church gathers neighbours in prayer, in song, and in everyday acts of care. Traditions are honoured, new life is welcomed, and everyone is invited in.

In Chipman, New Brunswick, volunteers at **Chipman United Church** prepare meals for neighbours who need them. Young people help lead worship. When some members could no longer attend in person, the church carried worship online - and discovered thousands of

people joining to be part of that circle of prayer.

At **Tobermory United Church**, the building hums with life throughout the week. Community groups gather and space is shared with neighbouring congregations. Down the road, their thrift shop offers affordable goods - and when someone needs help, those items are tenderly given.

This is rural ministry. Creative, determined, and deeply rooted in community. These churches are not fading away. They are adapting, experimenting, and opening their doors in new ways so faith and community can continue to flourish.

At Easter, we proclaim that new life can break through even when the future feels uncertain.

Through **Mission and Service**, we help make that possible. Together, we strengthen communities that continue to serve, welcome, and care in places across this country.

This Easter, please give generously to **Mission and Service**. We are helping to ensure that hope continues to rise - in rural communities across Canada, and around the world.

From the United Church of Canada website

<https://united-church.ca/stories/rooted-and-rising>



Nigeria

"Rest for the Weary" by Gift Amarachi Ottah

World Day of Prayer



I will give you rest: Come

Thursday, April 23, 2026
at 11:00 am

Hosted this year by

Church of the Ascension
33 Overland Drive, Don Mills, ON, M3C 2C3
Wheelchair Access

In Celebration of EARTH DAY

**The Outreach Committee
invites you to join us for:**

**Lunch, Films and Discussion on the topic
of the Water Crisis on Canada's First Nations**

April 18th: 11:30 -1:30

**There is no cost for this event, but
please RSVP to Emily by April 13th**



**Access to safe water is a
fundamental human right, yet
currently 37 First Nations are
under a boil water alert. What
does this mean for daily life on
reserves without
clean water? How
has this been
allowed to
continue? What
can we do?**



**We will see short films about
two First Nations, Grassy
Narrows and Neskantaga who
have been battling this crisis
too long.**

**Come and
explore this
issue with us.**



DCUC Knitting Group

**As the cold weather is now abating
we are beginning to knit baby and
children's items for donation to the
Abiona Centre (Formerly Massey Centre),
as well as a women's shelter, and
various other organizations assisting
mothers and their children.**

**If you are aware of any other institutions
in need, please let us know.**

Andrea Sloan



**The last of our cold weather items were
delivered to a very appreciative Eva's Place
Youth Shelter.**

**Our meetings are on the second and
fourth Mondays of the month, from
2:30 ~ 3:30 pm in our Living Room.**

Our next meeting is Monday, April 13th

Jubilee United Church

Spring Lecture Series

**Be Informed, Be Entertained,
Be Inspired**

Monday, April 13

Ms. Whitney Hilts from Delmanor returns to talk about “gut health”. Learn how your eating habits enhance or destroy your precious gut flora. What are probiotics and prebiotics?

Monday, April 20

Constable Joel Roberts from 33 Division of Toronto Police Services will give a refresher course on safety and security, with a focus on AI (Artificial Intelligence) and distraction thefts.

Monday, April 27

Ms. Arlene Chan, author of several books on the history of the Chinese in Canada, will share her knowledge, with pictures, of the history of the people and places of Toronto’s Chinese community.

Join us for one, two, or three presentations. There is no registration or fee. Come to the Garden Room at 1:00 pm to pick up tea/coffee and cookies, and enjoy them in the sanctuary. Presentations will be given from 1:15 to 2:30 pm.

**Jubilee United Church,
40 Underhill Drive, North York, ON M3A 2J5
416 - 447 - 6846**

Ladies' Fellowship

Our *Ladies' Fellowship* will meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 10:30 am on ZOOM under the leadership of Maureen Smith.

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 9th, 2026, at 10:30 am.** on ZOOM.

All are welcome to attend. Please contact Emily at the church office for the **Zoom** link.

(416) 444 - 8444

“To the Women Who Shine”

by Tina Rapp

In the tapestry of life,
you are the thread,
Woven with grace, where
dreams are spread.
With hearts so pure and
spirits so bright,
You light up the world,
a beacon of light.
Through trials and
triumphs, you stand tall,
In every whisper,
in every call.
Your strength is
boundless,
your courage true,
In every challenge,
you see it through.
Together we rise,
hand in hand,
Building a sisterhood,
across the land.
With love and support,
we lift each other high,
Under the same vast,
endless sky.
Celebrate each victory,
no matter how small,
For in unity,
we conquer all.
With kindness and joy,
let's pave the way,
For a brighter,
more beautiful day.
So smile, dear sister,
let your heart sing,
For you are a queen,
a wondrous thing.
In the garden of life,
you are the bloom,
Filling the world with
your radiant perfume.
Let's cherish each
moment, embrace
every part,
With love and
compassion, from the
depths of our heart.
For in lifting each other,
we find our own grace,
And together, we create
a more beautiful place.

Spring, Two Haikus

by Victoria Martinez

*listen to the sound
of the quiet song of spring
joy filling the air.*



*rising from cold chaos
a clump of purple crocus
the promise of spring!*

Poetry Month

The 2nd Season

by Billy R. Warner

*Fresh spring morning time.
That's the sound of solitude,
the presence of peace.*

Spring

by Shannon Schofield

*Rise from winter's nap
Stretch to feel the sun's
warm rays
Spring is among us*



70
ANNIVERSARY

**Church of the Ascension
70th Anniversary
Fundraiser
Concert**



Saturday, May 9th at 2:00 pm

**“Rhythms of the Decades”
with Singer/Saxophonist**

**Kristen
Prince**

Tickets \$30.00

\$35.00 At Door

Come and Celebrate With Us!

Call 416 - 444 - 8881
or email ascension@ca.inter.net

Church of the Ascension
33 Overland Drive, Don Mills, ON, M3C 2C3
Wheelchair Access

Celebrate Spring
with
**Brookbanks for African Grannies
Songs and Sweets**



Featuring

Emerging Voices of Amadeus Choir
Performing with other Choir Members

*Enjoy the concert
and a cup of tea
with sweet treats*



Saturday April 25 at 2 pm

Jubilee United Church,
40 Underhill Drive

**Tickets: \$35 before April 1,
\$40 after April 1**

Purchase tickets from
Celia Ball at (416) 605 - 2881

Visit our Marketplace for gifts and trinkets



Grandmothers to
Grandmothers



Special Thanks

To Jubilee United for being very generous to us by giving us space to do the concert.

We donate all of our proceeds to the Stephen Lewis Foundation by having a couple of fund raisers a year and send our money directly to the Stephen Lewis Foundation under the heading for African Grannies.

Times are tough for Africa Grannies right now as financial support has been cut and suspended.

The money is to support the Grandmothers whose children have died from Aids and therefore support those children left without a mother.

Brookbanks for African Grannies



amadeus
choir

*The Emerging
Canadian Voices*

(ECV) is a high level ensemble-based professional choral singing incubator for emerging singers and conductors. The program is aimed at developing the skills to build a vibrant career that includes collaboration, innovation, solo and ensemble performance, community engagement and leadership. 8 singers work together as a stand-alone ensemble while also forming an integral part of the full 80-voice Amadeus Choir.

Stephen Lewis Foundation

The **Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign** was launched in 2006, as an initiative of the **Stephen Lewis Foundation**, in response to the emerging crisis faced by grandmothers in Africa. Since 2006, more than \$40 million has been raised in support of grandmothers and the community-led organizations that support them across 14 countries in Africa. In the face of discrimination based on gender, age, and HIV status, they are courageous advocates for their families and communities.

Starting with just a few groups in Canada, the **Grandmothers Campaign** now includes 10,000 grandmothers and grandmothers in Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Grandmothers groups organize fundraising events and activities and act in solidarity with the grandmothers and the **SLF's**

community-led partners in 14 countries across Africa.

This international grandmothers movement amplifies the voices and expertise of grandmother in Africa and shows the world that grandmothers have a critical role to play in reclaiming hope and rebuilding resilience.

CLICK HERE to read more about the work of the **Stephen Lewis Foundation**

<https://stephenlewisfoundation.org/>

and

<https://grandmotherscampaign.org/>



Grandmothers to
Grandmothers



Stephen Lewis
Foundation

YOU'RE WELCOME TO

join us!

Presentation: Take Me Out To the Ball Game - Bill Anderson

Monday April 13th at 2:15 pm
(In-person event)

Join us for a nostalgic baseball celebration with Bill Anderson! "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" invites you to share your favourite memories of cheering on the teams you love. We'll explore the stories behind several Major League Baseball team logos and revisit highlights from the most recent World Baseball Classic, featuring all twenty national teams. Come out, reminisce, and cheer for your favourite team!

Entertainment with the Nostalgics

Friday April 17th at 2:15 pm
(In-person event)

Join us for a delightful afternoon filled with favourite music from The Nostalgics! Eddy, Dan, and Jason - better known as The Nostalgics - are back to entertain us with their beloved mix of classics from the 1920s through the 1970s. Get ready to sing along, tap your toes, and clap your hands to the songs that bring back wonderful memories.

**These events are *FREE*.
Space is limited!**

RSVP REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS

187 WYNFORD DRIVE
TORONTO
416-331-9797
DELMANOR.COM

RSVP at (416) 331 - 9797

DELMANOR
Wynford
Inspired Retirement Living™

Please let us know if you are coming.

Lecture: Impressionism: Sketches of Beauty - Paul Dias

Tuesday April 21st at 2:15 pm
(In-person event)

Discover how a small group of struggling, often-mocked artists reshaped the art world forever. In this captivating session, Paul Dias explores the bold vision of the Impressionists - painters who defied convention, challenged cultural norms, and ultimately achieved artistic immortality (Monet, Manet, Renoir & Degas). Experience the stories, the brushstrokes, and the revolutionary spirit that transformed skepticism into one of the most beloved movements in art history.

Musican Performance: Flutist Laura Nashman

Friday April 24th at 2:15 pm
(In-person event)

Enjoy the enchanting flute artistry of Laura Nashman as she performs a beautiful mix of favourites - from Broadway classics like The Sound of Music and Phantom of the Opera, to Celtic gems such as Greensleeves and Skyboat Song, to beloved Beatles hits like Hey Jude. She'll also share light classical, light jazz, and more, all played with her warm, expressive style.

A Little Prayer

Let us be thankful, Lord, for little things -
The song of birds, the rapture of the rose;
Cloud-dappled skies, the laugh of limpid springs,
Drowned sunbeams and the perfume
April blows;
Bronze wheat a-shimmer, purple shade
of trees -
Let us be thankful, Lord of Life, for these!

Let us be praiseful, Sire, for simple sights; -
The blue smoke curling from a fire of peat;
Keen stars a-frolicking on frosty nights,

by **Robert William Service**

Prismatic pigeons strutting in a street;
Daisies dew-diamonded in smiling sward -
For simple sights let us be praiseful, Lord!

Let us be grateful, God, for health serene,
The hope to do a kindly deed each day;
The faith of fellowship, a conscience clean,
The will to worship and the gift to pray;
For all of worth in us, of You a part,
Let us be grateful, God, with humble heart.

Poetry Month





Thursday, April 9th, 2026
12 to 2 pm

\$20

Lunch (noon) & Entertainment

“Oldies But Goodies”

Songs We Love to Hear Again!

with

2B1 Singing Duo,

Ester and Rudy



Bring your Friends & Enjoy the Afternoon!
Food, Fellowship and Fun for Seniors!



Entertainment generously sponsored by **Mosaic Home Care Services**

Reservations requested by noon
Tuesday, April 7th

Email cafe65connections@gmail.com
or call 416 - 444 - 8881

A Community Outreach Program of
Church of the Ascension
33 Overland Drive, Don Mills, ON, M3C 2C3
Wheelchair Access

Every Library T.O. by Marci Stepak

About the walk

My mother held a Toronto Public Library card for 50 years before she died this past April. A few days before she passed - literally in the same conversation we had about her funeral - she reminded me to return her library books so that “other people can enjoy them too.” Growing up, my mom brought me to story hour most weeks and let me check out far too many books. Those visits taught me that libraries are more than buildings - they're proof that access, curiosity, and community matter more than what's in your wallet.

Now, one year after losing her, I'm walking to all 100 Toronto Public Library branches to say the thank you that's long overdue (please don't tell my knees).

This walk is my thank you to her, to the Toronto Public Libraries and to everyone who believes public spaces still matter.

In April 2026, I will walk to all 100 Toronto Public Library branches to honour my late mother and raise funds for the TPL.

Send Band-Aids!

Marci's campaign has caught the hearts of many, not only for her memories of her mother, but also for her advocacy of libraries, and reading!

She has been interviewed on **CP24**, and her exploits feature in Toronto Life magazine.

CLICK HERE to go to Marci's website and read more about her campaign.

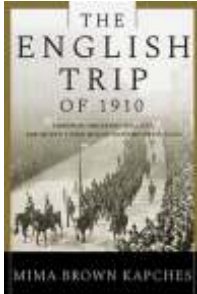
<https://www.beingmarci.ca/>

I just love to share “feel good” stories like this one!

Tom Joyce



Programs you might find of interest!



Dr. Mima Brown Kapch: Sir Henry Pellatt and the English Trip of 1910 *(New Date)*

**Wednesday April 8th
from 7:00 to 8:00 pm**

Dr. Mima Brown Kapches presents and discusses her Canadian historical non-fiction book, *"The English Trip of 1910"*. Sir Henry Pellatt (of Casa Loma fame) was the Commanding Officer of the Queen's Own Rifles of Toronto in 1910, on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. Pellatt organized for over 600 young men from Toronto in the QOR to travel to England on a fully paid trip. This is the story of that adventure.



Tea & Movies: "To Kill A Mockingbird" 1962

**Monday April 13th
from 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

Based on Harper Lee's semi-autobiographical novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird* is the story of six-year old Jean Louise Finch, growing up in the Depression era of the early 1930s in a small southern town and how her father, Atticus Finch decided to defend a poor black man falsely accused of rape.



Connecting with Nature: A Pathway to Joy - How to Create a Pollinator

**Wednesday April 15th
from 6:30 to 8:00 pm**

Establishing a pollinator garden composed of native plants provides considerable advantages for fostering beneficial insects and birds in residential settings. By thoughtfully selecting and positioning appropriate native species, one can create a robust habitat that attracts bees, butterflies, birds, and other essential pollinators. You will find more enjoyment in your yard and advance both biodiversity visual appeal of the property.



From Balconies to Backyards: Planning a Successful Vegetable Garden

Monday April 20th from 2:00 to 3:00 pm

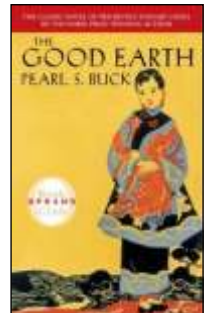
Want to enjoy vegetables you've grown yourself in your own backyard or on your balcony? A Toronto Master Gardener will lead a demonstration and show how to get started to grow your own vegetables. Get some tips and learn techniques for successful growing. At the end of the program, vegetable seeds or seedlings will be shared with attendees, while supplies last.



April's Book "The Good Earth" by Pearl S. Buck

or

**Tuesday, April 21st
from 7:00 to 8:00 pm**
**Thursday, April 23rd
from 2:00 to 3:00 pm**



Fashion for the Planet: Conscious Consumption

**Wednesday April 22nd
from 6:30 to 8:00 pm**

With the rise of fast fashion brands and social media fueled consumption habits, the fashion industry ranks as the 3rd most environmentally damaging industry. Everyone participates in this in some way, so it is important that people are given the information and tools to consume clothing responsibly. Join Sabrina Rose Capista as she guides us through the fashion industry's impacts & ethics. Presented on Earth Day

**Please call 416-395-5710
for further details
and to reserve your spot!**



The Donway Covenant United Church



Need pastoral care?

Call the church office and
Emily will direct your call.

Minister: Rev. Lorrie Daly-Price

Music Director: Scott Pietrangelo

Church Administrator: Emily McLean

Custodian: Kim Morgan

Celebrating 11 years of being an Affirming Congregation



230 The Donway West, Toronto, ON M3B 2V8
' phone (416) 444 - 8444 e-mail: donwaycovenant@msn.com
website: www.donwaycovenant.com