

A photograph of a mother rabbit and her three kits in a field of dry leaves. The mother rabbit is a light brown color with long, upright ears, looking towards the left. She is surrounded by three smaller kits of the same color. They are all sitting on a bed of dry, yellowish-brown leaves. The background is a soft, out-of-focus field of similar leaves, with a warm, golden light filtering through, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting.

February 13, 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**



Affirming Congregation
United Church of Canada

Family Love Forever

by **.PD. is Here**

Have u ever thought actually
What it would be like,
without a family.

Family is the only one,
Where one experiences
best of fun.

Family is an elegant necklace,
Whose bond may appear
broken

But deep inside,
their hearts are still one.

When the unwanted sorrows
seem longer than a mile,
Your dear old family
makes you smile.

When because of a mistake
no event

Works out for your sake.

When life refuses to mend
There comes a sharp bend,
Family gives necessary amends,
To the family all worries
can be sent.

In a fraction of time,
Your sorrows will leave
It may sound absurd
But you've got to believe.

Wherever you may be,
You belong to the pack.
And to them you can always
go back.



"Rabbit Family"
photo by StockCake



The Seven Steps of Morning

From *Out of the Ordinary* by Joyce Rupp

This is a morning prayer to get your day started. Be in touch with your own emotional and spiritual space when you begin this. You may find that there are days when all seven words are the same, e.g., "patience" would be said and repeated for all of the seven steps. One small step is taken for each of the seven words. After the word is said, stay for one or two minutes with the word. Then the next step is taken and the word is said, etc.

My first step is that of gratitude...for the gift of another fresh day of life.

My second step is that of love...for the Holy One and for all of my dear ones.

My third step is that of hope...for the possibility of growth in each moment.

My fourth step is that of compassion...for all of creation and our deep connection.

My fifth step is that of generosity...for all that shall be asked of me this day.

My sixth step is that of laughter...for the joys that will refresh my heart.

My seventh step is that of patience...for the difficult challenges that may arise.

Some other qualities that might be inserted in place of these seven: trust, non-judgment, recovery, strength, kindness, faith, hope, healing, etc.

Giver of Life, awaken my entire being so that I can enter this day with the eagerness of one who sees beauty and truth strewn through every part of life. Deepen my bond with you and strengthen my peace.

Amen.

Rev Lorrie Daly-Price

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY

Exodus chapter 24: verses 12 ~ 18

Matthew chapter 17: verses 1 ~ 9

"Mountaintop Experiences?"

This week in Matthew's Gospel we're given quite a scene - dazzling light, radiant clothing, a voice from the cloud, and even Moses and Elijah showing up. It's dramatic and overwhelming - exactly the kind of moment people imagined when they thought about the Messiah finally arriving. No wonder Peter wants to stay right there on the mountaintop. His instinct is basically, "Let's put up some tents and settle in - this must be it!"



And honestly, who can blame him? Faced with something holy and beyond explanation, Peter responds in a very human way. He tries to organize it, contain it, make it manageable. He works with what he knows and what he expects. In that sense, Peter feels very familiar - he reacts the way most of us probably would.

Even though Peter has been walking closely with Jesus and witnessing incredible things, he's still trying to understand where all this is heading and how it will unfold. He has a picture in his mind of what the Messiah should be - but God's plan looks different. We may have the benefit of scripture and hindsight, yet we still fall into the same pattern at times - expecting God to work within our assumptions rather than being surprised by something bigger.

Rev Lorrie Daly-Price



*Because we can
always try harder!
(listen to the lyrics)*

A Song for Valentine's Day

You Were Always On My Mind,
by Michael Buble

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50OjsrZlsmE&list=RD50OjsrZlsmE&start_radio=1

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



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 Daly-Price



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

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



SERVICES for the SEASON of EPIPHANY

Feb 15 Transfiguration Sunday
10:30 am



**Join us for Worship
in our Sanctuary**

The Worship Committee



The Church Office

will be closed from end of day Thursday, **February 5th** and re-open on **February 17th** -after Family Day! The boys and I are off to Italy with my parents!

Emily



I will be taking a study leave from Monday, **February 9th** to Friday, **February 13th**, preparing for the **Lenten Season**. (I will be at both Sunday services, February 8th and 15th)

Then I am on holiday and heading south on Monday, **February 23**, returning to the office on Tuesday, **March 3**.

Lorrie



WANT TO STAY UP TO DATE?

Follow us and Like us on

Facebook

Donway Covenant United Church



Join Us for

Thursday, February 26th

from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Lunch with Marian

Join us for *Lunch with Marian* on Thursday, January 22, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Church living room.

Please bring your lunch and I will provide beverages and dessert.

Bring your knitting, crocheting, your craft, or just You. Enjoy a relaxing few hours with friends.

If you can join us, please RSVP to the church office. It sure helps us in our planning! (416) 444 - 8444

Marian



"Love is that condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own."

Robert A. Heinlein
A Stranger in a Strange Land

DCUC Knitting Group

Our meetings are on the second and fourth Mondays of the month, from 2:30 ~ 3:30 pm in our Living Room. This season we are knitting scarves, mitts and hats for the unhoused or, you are welcome to bring any project you are working on!

Andrea Sloan

Our next meeting is Monday, February 23rd



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, February 26, 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

Norma's Special Window

As we struggle through the cold of February wouldn't you love to feel the warmth of the sun pouring through the window, and be surrounded by flowering plants?

Our friend Norma Cowan has just such a special place. A bay window built many years ago, filled with geraniums and orchids that have been lovingly cared for over the years..... what a joy!

thanks to Linda Cowan
for sharing





Join us this Lent for *Kitchen Conversations* with the Moderator



Featuring guests from across the church, the six-part video series exploring food, faith, and community debuts Shrove Tuesday, February 17

Food is never just food. In cooking a beloved recipe for a friend or a stranger, we're inviting them to share in our culture and traditions - and telling them that they belong. Around a table, barriers fall and stories flow, reminding us that God meets us in ordinary moments of sharing bread and conversation.

In this spirit, coming this Lent we're excited to announce *Kitchen Conversations with the Moderator*, a new six-part video series exploring food, faith, and the power of invitation, hosted by the Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath.

Drawing inspiration and recipes from the United Church's Lenten devotional, *Bless Break Share: Recipes for Faithful Living*, we'll be cooking with guests from across the church, including book contributors, United Church youth, and the Moderator's own family.

The series debuts with a Shrove Tuesday pancake feast in the Moderator's home kitchen on February 17, with new episodes following each Sunday throughout Lent, and concludes with a special Easter message from the Moderator.



CLICK on the arrow for an introduction

These spirit-filled conversations will invite you each week to reflect on how food can nourish both body and soul, and how in joining around the table, we connect to something deeper than ourselves.

Along with the videos, we'll be sharing

downloadable recipe cards for the dishes featured, pulled from *Bless Break Share*. Have a story to share? Send your reflections on food and faith, or a photo of your take on one of our *Kitchen Conversations* dishes, to

kitchenconversations@united-church.ca.

Order *Bless Break Share* and a matching mug and apron online today, and stay tuned for the first episode coming to our website and YouTube channel on February 17.

Want to dig deeper into *Bless Break Share*? You can also join Rev. Dr. Christine Jerrett for a six-week online Lenten study of the devotional on **CHURCHx**, beginning February 24. Signing up gets you a discount code for 15% off your purchase of *Bless Break Share*. 20% discounts are also available on bulk orders of the book.

Join us as we embody the gospel of welcome, and continue to create *A Place at the Table* for all.

CLICK HERE to order *Bless Break Share*

<https://ucrdstore.ca/collections/bless-break-share>



United Church of Canada website

<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/organization-and-governance/moderator/right-rev-dr-kimberly-heath-45th-moderator/kitchen-conversations>

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Fairclough Dismantles Discriminatory Policy

During her term as Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Ellen Fairclough oversaw improvements to the Canadian Immigration Service, but her most significant accomplishment was the radical reform of the government's "White Canada" immigration policy. Regulations tabled in 1962 helped to eliminate racial discrimination in Canada's immigration policy.

West Indian Immigration

Following the Immigration Act of 1962 and 1967 reforms, about 64,000 West Indians came to Canada. Canadians of Caribbean origin belong to one of the largest non-European ethnic groups in Canada. In the 2021 census,

774,500 Canadians reported that they originated from the Caribbean, and the overwhelming majority of these people have immigrated to Canada since the 1970s.

Toronto's Caribana Festival Founded, July 28, 1967

Approximately two-thirds of Canada's West Indian population resides in the greater Toronto area. On 28 July 1967, ten Torontonians with a common West Indian heritage founded the Caribana cultural festival to display their rich cultural traditions. The Caribana festival continues to promote cultural pride, mutual respect and social unity.



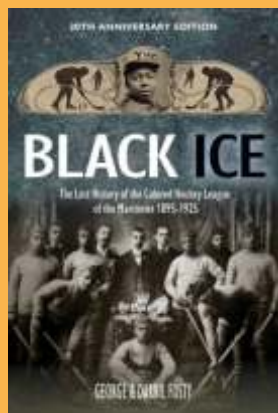
As the Earth Dreams Black Canadian Speculative Stories

An anthology featuring ten speculative stories by contemporary Black Canadian writers that explore identity, growth, futurity, and joy, imagining

the Black experiences through science fiction, and magical realism.



Black History Month Books for Adults



A Darker Shade of Blue a Police Officer's Memoir

In his memoir, Keith Merith, a retired Black Canadian superintendent, shares his thirty-one year career, offering a look at systemic racism and microaggressions he faced while working to achieve reform within the police force and advocating for immediate, equitable police reform.



George & Darril Fosty's Black Ice the Lost History of the Coloured Hockey League of the Maritimes, 1895-1925

Learn about the lost history of the of the Coloured Hockey League of the Maritimes (1895–1925), a Black-led organization that pre-dated the NHL and pioneered major innovations like the slapshot.





LENTEN MUSIC

St. Matthew Passion

Bach's **St. Matthew Passion** is a monumental work of drama, devotion, and unparalleled musical genius. With its soul-stirring arias, intricately woven chorales, and emotionally charged narrative, this spiritual masterpiece remains one of the greatest choral works ever written. Under the baton of Jean-Sébastien Vallée, the **Toronto Mendelssohn Choir**, along with exceptional soloists and instrumentalists, brings Bach's timeless music to life in a profoundly iconic performance.



March 24 at 7:00 pm
and March 25 at 7:00 pm



Toronto
Mendelssohn
Choir

I have spent many hours on this profound choral work, just this week. Three and a half hours of German for non-German speakers is quite a challenge, and Bach's music is never simple. I am getting there, believe it or not! Now what we will need is an audience to enjoy it. I must say, even though I have heard the Passion of Jesus story a zillion times in my church-going life, hearing it sung with the passion and

profundity that only Bach can add, was a very moving experience. I invite you to join us. Koerner Hall, with its fabulous acoustics and dramatic design, is the ideal place in Toronto for the performance. The story I am sharing has the link to our website. Oh, and do not worry - English translation will be in the program. Get there early enough to read it.

Annie Griffin

To buy tickets **CLICK HERE**

<https://www.tmchoir.org/event/st-matthew-passion/>

This Tuesday

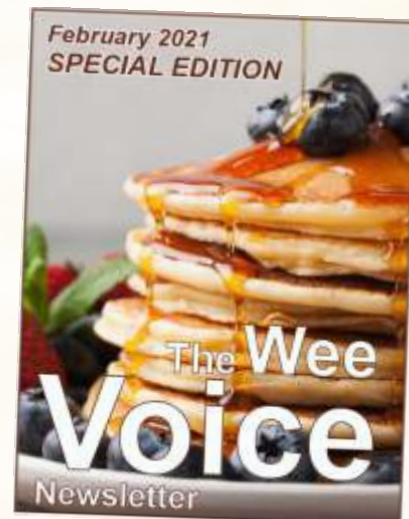
You may call it **Shrove Tuesday** but in our house its.....

PANCAKE DAY!

.....Misplaced your **2021 Special Edition** containing 15 yummy pancake recipes, 3 waffle recipes, 4 crepe recipes plus assorted other goodies submitted by YOU, our readers? Send me an email and I will be happy to email you a copy.

Tom Joyce

tsjoyce@yahoo.ca





Minutes for Mission

SUPPORT THAT GROWS WITH FAMILIES



Becoming a parent or guardian is a life-changing, complex experience that doesn't have a one-size-fits-all answer. As kids, we looked to adults for guidance as we navigated the world with fresh eyes. Now, as adults, we recognize that we're still figuring things out as we go, and there's always an opportunity to grow our skills and minds.

In London, Ontario, **Mission and Service** partners with the **London Community Chaplaincy** as they respond to parents and guardians who want to build a network of support, share the parenting journey, and develop new skills as they navigate raising children in a low-income setting. Together, these parents are working hard to build a positive future for their children and families.



Credit: London Community Chaplaincy

Each week, **London Community Chaplaincy** provides a welcoming and safe social setting for adults to connect and grow as parents. Not only do they learn how to guide a child through critical stages of development, but also how to navigate being a parent or guardian while managing financial stress, food insecurity, housing complications, and more. Gathering with other adults in a similar situation allows participants to share their struggles and triumphs, further building a sense of community.

Your gifts to **Mission and Service** support partnerships like the **London Community Chaplaincy** as they help empower parents along the parenting journey. Thank you.

From the United Church of Canada website

<https://united-church.ca/stories/support-grows-families>

Free Admission
\$2 suggested donation

GET THE JUMP ON SPRING

February 21, 2026
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

TORONTO BOTANICAL GARDEN

Where the Plant People Meet

Edwards Gardens

Lawrence Ave East at Leslie St

Shake off the winter blues and start the countdown to spring at Toronto Botanical Garden's much-loved Get the Jump on Spring one-day garden extravaganza. Whether you're a seasoned gardener, a curious beginner, or simply dreaming of

warmer days, this annual event brings together plant lovers, expert growers, and local makers for a joyful, inspiration-packed kickoff to spring.

CLICK HERE to see the full listing of exhibitors

<https://torontobotanicalgarden.ca/event/get-the-jump-on-spring-2026/>

Family Day

By Rajasree Datta

Family Day is a special occasion celebrated in many countries, including Canada, to honour the importance of family and close relationships. It's a day dedicated to spending quality time with loved ones, reflecting on the significance of familial bonds, and recognizing the role family plays in our lives. Celebrated on different dates in different regions, **Family Day** serves as a reminder to appreciate and nurture the connections that give us support, love, and a sense of belonging.

Aside from the emotional connections, **Family Day** also highlights the value of traditions and cultural heritage. Families often pass down customs, stories, and values from generation to generation, preserving family history and ensuring that future generations understand their roots.

This creates a deep sense of continuity, helping individuals feel connected to something larger than themselves.

While some people may celebrate **Family Day** with big gatherings, others may prefer a quiet day spent in their own homes. No matter how it is observed, the core message remains the same: family is an irreplaceable source of love, care, and support. **Family Day** is a time to reflect on and celebrate the love and unity within families. It reminds us to appreciate the people who have shaped our lives and to foster stronger connections with those we care about. In a world that often prioritizes individual success, it's not just about the nuclear family - on **Family Day**, extended family members such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins also play an important role in the celebrations. **Family Day** serves as a beautiful reminder that our families are the foundation on which we build our lives.



YOU'RE *join us!* WELCOME TO

Presentation: Winter Olympic Games by Bill Anderson

Tuesday February 24th at 2:15 pm
(In-person event)

Join Bill Anderson as he explore the fascinating history of the Winter Olympics! Discover the stories, sports, and unforgettable moments that have shaped the Games over the years. Let's celebrate and cheer on our favourites during the 25th Winter Olympics in Italy.

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

Please let us know if you are coming.

Performance: Year of the Fire Horse

Friday February 27th at 2:15 pm
(In-person event)

The Lunar New Year falls on February 17th and marks the start of the Year of the Fire Horse. The Fire Horse is considered rare, occurring once every 60 years. The Fire Horse symbolizes passion, energy, and independence. Join Santha Tsang an accomplished singer and celebrity in the Chinese community as she delights us with a dynamic and captivating performance. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy a memorable afternoon of music, culture, and community!

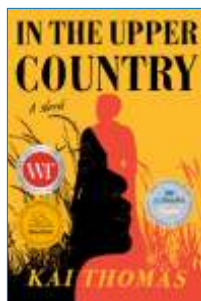
RSVP REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS

Programs you might find of interest!



BOOK CLUB

February's Book
"In The Upper
Country"
by Kai Thomas



Tuesday, February 17th
from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

or

Thursday, February 19th
from 2:00 to 3:00 pm

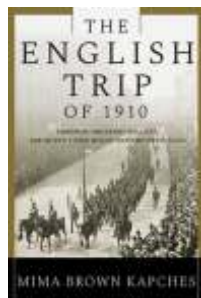


The Starving Artist Myth: Practical Career Strategies for Creatives

Wednesday February 18th
from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Join Mark Jones, the author of "*The Starving Artist Myth: bust the*

stereotype and find success in creative careers" for an interactive talk that challenges the 'starving artist' stereotype and explores actionable career strategies for students and pros in creative fields. Participants will reflect on their skills, career aspirations, and income opportunities, leaving with a clearer path to success in the creative economy.



Dr. Mima Brown Kapch: Sir Henry Pellatt and the English Trip of 1910

Wednesday February 25th
from 6:30 to 7:30 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.



Author Talk: Susan Goldenberg - Will Power

Monday March 2nd
from 2:00 to 3:00 pm

From a one-page will fought over for two decades by three generations to a will that left a mansion and its grounds to a parrot (developers could do nothing until it died – and parrots have long lives) author Susan Goldenberg shares these stories and more in her book, **Will Power** (2026).

Will Power looks at some of the most astonishing and extraordinary bequests and last requests in people's wills, recent and past, highlighting unusually unique, eccentric, vindictive, family conflicts.



Wednesday Night Movie "Dream Scenario" 2023

Wednesday March 4th
from 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Aspiring actor Edward undergoes a radical medical procedure to drastically transform his appearance. But his new dream face quickly turns into a nightmare, as he loses out on the role he was born to play and becomes obsessed with reclaiming what was lost.

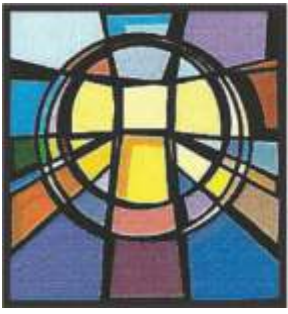


Tea & Movies: "Mildred Pierce" 1945

Monday March 9th
from 2:00 to 4:00 pm

When Mildred Pierce's out-of-work husband leaves her for another woman, Mildred decides to raise her two daughters on her own. Despite Mildred's financial successes in the restaurant business, her oldest daughter, Veda, resents her mother for degrading their social status. In the midst of a police investigation after the death of her second husband, Mildred must evaluate her own freedom and her complicated relationship with her daughter.

**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