

May 15, 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**



*“Jesus in the open sky with
 human hands trying”*

art by VectorStock



Ascension Day

by **Christina Georgina Rossetti**

When Christ went up to Heaven
 the Apostles stayed
 Gazing at Heaven with souls
 and wills on fire,
 Their hearts on flight
 along the track He made,
 Winged by desire.

Their silence spake:
*“Lord, why not follow Thee?
 Home is not home
 without Thy Blessed Face,
 Life is not life.
 Remember, Lord, and see,
 Look back, embrace.*

*“Earth is one desert waste
 of banishment,
 Life is one long-drawn anguish
 of decay.
 Where Thou wert wont to go
 we also went:
 Why not today?”*

Nevertheless a cloud cut off
 their gaze:
 They tarry to build up Jerusalem,
 Watching for Him,
 while thro' the appointed days
 He watches them.

They do His Will,
 and doing it rejoice,
 Patiently glad to spend
 and to be spent:
 Still He speaks to them,
 still they hear His Voice
 And are content.

For as a cloud received Him
 from their sight,
 So with a cloud
 will He return ere long:
 Therefore they stand on guard
 by day, by night,
 Strenuous and strong.

They do, they dare, they beyond
 seven times seven
 Forgive, they cry God’s
 mighty word aloud:
 Yet sometimes haply lift
 tired eyes to Heaven-
“Is that His cloud?”

A Prayer for Ascension

by Sarah Hall

The Lord goes up with shouts of joy
(Psalm 47:5)

God, greater than all our ideas of you,
we praise you.

We know of kings and presidents,
we know bosses and bossy people,
but you are greater than any of them.

The universe is your realm,
the human heart is your throne,
and we praise you.

Jesus, crucified, risen and ascended,
we praise you.

We walked alongside you.

We saw you die.

We found your empty tomb.

Now we know God has welcomed you
home, and we praise you.

Spirit of God, go-between God,
we praise you.

You show us God's wisdom.

You show us God's will.

You give us hope of God's kingdom
here on earth, and we praise you.

God, greater than we can imagine,
Holy dance of new life,
of transformation,

Lifting humanity into heaven,
we praise you.

We praise you, yet your ascension seems
so far removed from anything we know,
that it's easy to put it,
to put you, to one side.

The world we know is one of struggle
and hardship,
of error and failure, of sickness and death.
What has your heaven to do with that?
What have you to do with the
hopelessness we find in human life?

We are tempted to put you into a box
marked 'heaven',
and to take you out on Sundays
for an hour.

We are tempted to forget the way
you always work:

bringing light out of darkness;
joy out of sorrow;
life out of death.

Amen



JOIN US THIS SUNDAY

Acts chapter 1: verses 1 ~ 11

Luke chapter 24: verses 44 ~ 53

"So...He Went Where?"

This Ascension Sunday, we turn to the closing verses of the Gospel of Luke, where the risen Jesus gathers with his disciples near Bethany after forty days of appearing among them following the resurrection. In this mysterious and awe-filled moment, Jesus blesses them and is taken up into heaven, leaving the disciples standing together in wonder, uncertainty, and hope.



As they prepare to continue the work Jesus began, they are reminded that they are not being sent with all the answers, but with the memory of his love, compassion, justice, and care for others. This reading invites us to consider what it means to live faithfully in changing and uncertain times - both as individuals and as a community of faith.

Through questions, openness, shared hope, and the guidance of God's Spirit, we are reminded that faith is often less about certainty and more about continuing to show up, love the world, and trust that we are not walking alone.

Rev Lorrie Daly-Price



**I'm off on a
wee turas**
*(that's journey
in English!)*
**to bonnie,
scenic
Scotland.**

**While I'm away there won't be a
Wee VOICE. (no edition on
May 29th, nor on June 5th)
nor will there be a
FridayCoffee Drop By
(not on May 29th, nor on June 5th)**

**I'll tell you all about it when I'm
back both in the June 12th edition
of the Wee VOICE , or
at the June 12th gathering at
Friday Coffee Drop By.**



Scotland the Brave

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/>

SERVICES for the EASTER SEASON



May 17 7th Sunday of Easter
10:30 am "So...He Went Where?"



**Join us for Worship
in our Sanctuary**

The Worship Committee

SUMMER IS COMING!

**Planning has started - we will gather in
the Auditorium for Fellowship Time after
Worship throughout the summer, so no
need to worry about outdoor set up, heat,
rain, insects, nor being unsteady on the
lawn!**

**Would you be willing to host one Sunday?
No coffee nor tea to prepare as we serve
lemonade and iced tea (we will provide).**

**If you can, please talk to Elda McDowell.
We all will greatly appreciate it!**



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

WANT TO STAY UP TO DATE?

Follow us and Like us on

Facebook

Donway Covenant United Church



Easter/Earth Day Fundraiser: Responding to the Water Crisis on our First Nations

W A T E R
F I R S T

Access to safe water is a fundamental human right, yet 40 First Nations are under a Boil Water Alert. The Outreach Committee invites you to join our response to the water crisis on First Nations by contributing to our Fundraiser for Water First.

Water First helps to address local water challenges in Indigenous communities through education, training and meaningful collaboration. Water First partners with Indigenous communities to address both drinking water and environmental water concerns. The goal is real long-term solutions that increase knowledge and skills – benefitting both individuals and communities.



Graduates of the first water and resource-management Internship. This 15 month program trained 6 participants to manage water and fish resources as well as the impact of industry and climate change on their communities.

CLICK HERE to see a video about what Water First Does:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iIAvTRXJjvk>



There's Still Time to Donate!

You can donate in church any Sunday until May 17th or drop off a cheque or cash to Emily's office by May 19th marked Outreach Project. Cheques should be made out to The Donway Covenant United Church. Thank you for contributing to this important initiative!

The Outreach Committee

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, May 28th, 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



DCUC Knitting Group

We are currently knitting baby and children's items for the Abiona Centre (formerly Massey Centre) and other organizations assisting mothers and their children.

We have a huge quantity of yarn and needles to share and would love to have you join us.



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

Andrea Sloan

Our next meeting is Monday, May 25th



Abiona Centre
For Infant & Early Mental Health



"A knitter only appears to be knitting yarn. Also being knitted are winks, mischief, sighs, fragrant possibilities, wild dreams."

Dr SunWolf

Join Us for

Thursday, May 21st

from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Lunch with Lorrie **YOU'RE INVITED!**

Join us for *Lunch with Lorrie* on Thursday, May 21st, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm for conversation, learning and community.

This month we are pleased to welcome Jim Snowdon, a doctor of pharmacy, who will draw on his years of experience to share helpful insights on pharmaceuticals in a presentation titled "Healthy Living at Every Age - a conversation about our health and wellbeing", and about making small, consistent choices that help us feel stronger, more energetic, and more confident as we move through life.

Lunch will feature delicious ham, broccoli and noodle casseroles prepared by Tom Joyce, as well as a scrumptious Gluten free, vegetarian dish prepared by Anneke Allan, and a few other treats. Please advise Emily if you require a Gluten free, vegetarian meal when you RSVP.

We kindly ask for a \$5 donation, with all proceeds going to support



FOOTPRINTS
SUMMER DAY CAMP

Casseroles will be taken out of the freezer for those attending, so please RSVP to the church office by Monday, May 18 to reserve your portion. **We won't be able to accommodate anyone after the deadline, so be sure to let us know!**

This will be our last gathering of the "Spring", taking a summer break before we meet again in September.

(416) 444 - 8444

Marian Childerhose,
Pastoral Care

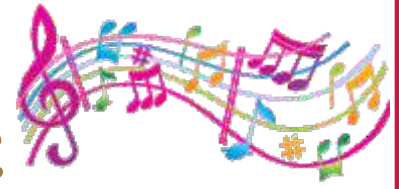
Rev. Lorrie Daly-Price,

The Donway Covenant United Church

All are welcome!

Getting To Know You

Getting To Know (All) About You



Let me introduce to you Jekkalin and Jazel who joined their parents, Jamir and Felinita in an affirmation ceremony this past December. This is the third of the family's three part story (Jamir's story was in the April 24th edition and Felinita's was in the May 1st edition of the Wee VOICE).

"All dreams are within reach. All you have to do is keep moving towards them" **Viola Davis**

Jekkalin dela Paz

Jekkalin dela Paz, 27, has been part of our church community for the past five months. She describes church as a chosen community - a place where people gather regularly to share in fellowship and worship - and has found it to be a welcoming and supportive environment from the very beginning.

With a background in art and design, Jekkalin studied at **Wexford Collegiate School for the Arts** and later pursued Illustration at **Seneca Polytechnic**. In 2024, she further explored her creative passions by studying Animation at **Seneca** for two semesters.

Jekkalin has a deep appreciation for beauty in all forms. She enjoys art, design, nature, flowers, music, and interior styling, and is an avid collector of beautiful objects and books. In her quieter moments, she likes reading, occasionally playing video games, and writing whimsical, nonsensical pieces. Since starting her current job, she has also developed a well-earned fondness for rest.

She currently works at **One King West Hotel & Residence**, where she brings care and diligence to her role in housekeeping.

She aims to continue practising the art of self-care: good food, consistent rest and exercise, reaching out to a friend, lying in the grass, and to build a life more intentional and meaningful to her. She's interested in exploring dance, voice acting, floristry, and electric guitar in the future.



Being part of this congregation has been especially meaningful to Jekkalin, as she has received prayer and support during her father's medical challenges - something she deeply values.

A fun personal note: Jekkalin has been growing her hair since 2020, and it has now reached an impressive length - long enough to get wet while washing dishes! She is considering getting a buzz cut!

We're grateful to have Jekkalin as part of our church family and look forward to journeying together in faith.

"You are capable of more than you know." **E.O Wilson**

Jazel dela Paz

Jazel dela Paz, 24, has been part of our church community for the past five months. She shares that the congregation has been very warm and welcoming.

Jazel began her creative journey at a

young age, gaining recognition for her photography on **Instagram** at just 13. She later attended **Wexford Collegiate School for the Arts**, where she served as Yearbook Editor and led various initiatives. She went on to graduate from **Humber College** with a Bachelor in Digital Communications.

After graduation, she focused on developing a social venture - an app designed to help young adults navigate adulthood. Through this work, she received a **Peer Choice** award in her first competition and



continued

Getting To Know You

Jekkalin and Jazel dela Paz *continued*

First Place/Most Impressive in her second.

More recently, after running a small business with her sister and participating in local markets, Jazel independently organized not-for-profit markets without prior experience, funding, or a team. Within a few months, she hosted over 300 artists and small businesses and grew an online community of more than 4,000 people.

Jazel enjoys arts and crafts, travel, and anything adventurous - especially adrenaline-pumping activities. She has a wide range of interests she hopes to explore further, including marine biology, figure skating, healthcare, technology, and behavioural psychology.

Jazel's path has included creative work in photography, social media management, and content creation, along with participation in entrepreneurship programs and incubators. In recent years, she has navigated caregiving responsibilities, mental health challenges, travel, and early-stage business ventures, all of which have shaped her journey.



Currently, she works full-time at a photobooth company while continuing freelance photography and social media work. She returns to her app and community-based projects whenever she has the capacity.

Being part of the church feels especially meaningful, as it reconnects her to a place where she spent two to three summers volunteering with **Footprints Summer Day Camp**. Since joining, she has felt more connected and encouraged to engage more actively in the community.

Looking Ahead: Jazel hopes to continue developing her app and expanding her community

initiatives, while also exploring passions like filmmaking, teaching, art direction, and editorial work. She also dreams of creating meaningful spaces in the future - such as a foster home for youth or an ethical bunny café focused on rescue and care..

For now, she continues to build, create, and serve - one step at a time.

as told to Anneke Allan

Annual The Donway Covenant UC Fellowship Spring Potluck Luncheon

Wednesday, June 17th ~ in the Auditorium
Gathering at Noon ~ Luncheon at 12:30 pm

**ARE YOU COMING? IF YES, PLEASE SIGN UP
ALL ARE WELCOME**



**PLEASE
RSVP**

**CHURCH OFFICE
(416) 444 - 8444**

donwaycovenant@msn.com

EVERYONE'S WELCOME !!





Minutes for Mission

THE WORK OF WATER



In the villages of Am-am and Madalipey in the Philippines, Indigenous families depend on small-scale vegetable farming to support their households. The gardens they tend provide food and a modest income for daily needs.

But over time, the land has changed. As agriculture has expanded, parts of the surrounding forest have been cleared, reducing the land's ability to hold water. The impacts of climate change have made rainfall patterns less predictable, and dry seasons run longer. For much of the year, local creeks are dry, and water must be brought in from elsewhere. It's a constant challenge that affects both daily life and the ability to grow crops.

In response, the **Cordillera People's Alliance** is working alongside residents to install a solar-powered water pump and storage



Credit: Cordillera People's Alliance

tank. The system will be maintained locally, ensuring that the community has access to water and ownership of the solution.

With a more stable source of water for both household use and gardens, families can strengthen their livelihoods. Gardens can grow more reliably, daily needs become easier to meet, and pressure on households eases.

When we give through **Mission and Service**, our gifts are powering long-term support.

Our gifts to **Mission and Service** help provide stable access to water for Indigenous communities like Am-am and Madalipey. They help sustain life, strengthen food security, and support families as they work toward a more secure future.

From the United Church of Canada website
<https://united-church.ca/stories/work-water>

VICTORIA DAY

Did You Know?

Canada is the only country in the world that continues to celebrate Victoria Day. In 1845 the **Legislature of the Province of Canada** declared May 24th a public holiday. This was confirmed by an act of the **Parliament of Canada** in 1901 on Queen Victoria's death. An amendment to the **Statutes of Canada** in 1952 established the celebration of Victoria Day on the Monday preceding May 25 - this year on May 18th.

Not all provinces declare Victoria Day as a Statutory Holiday - Newfoundland, PEI, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec don't.

Many of us remember Victoria Day as the first holiday of Summer! Cottages were opened up, parties were had, and fireworks filled the evening sky.



You Might See *the Union Jack Flying!*

Victoria Day

Where physical arrangements allow, the Royal Union Flag, commonly known as the "Union Jack", is flown along with the Canadian flag at federal buildings, airports, military bases and other federal buildings and establishments within Canada, from sunrise to sunset, to mark this day.



Official declaration of Asian Heritage Month



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

Diversity represents one of Canada's greatest strengths, and we strive to ensure that all people in Canada have the opportunity to reach their full potential and participate in Canada's civic life.

Over the last two centuries, immigrants have journeyed to Canada from East Asia, Southern Asia, Western, Central and Southeast Asia, bringing our society a rich cultural heritage representing many languages, ethnicities and religious traditions.

The people of these diverse, vibrant and growing communities have contributed to every aspect of life in Canada - from the arts and science to sport, business and government.

Asian Heritage Month offers everyone in Canada an opportunity to learn more about the history of people of Asian origin in Canada and to celebrate their contributions to the growth and prosperity of our society.

Thereby, we declare May as Asian Heritage Month in Canada.

ASIAN
HERITAGE
MONTH



FOOTPRINTS SUMMER DAY CAMP Back for Another Summer!

CLICK HERE for more info

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



THE CAMP EXPERIENCE

Summer is one of the best times for a child. At **FOOTPRINTS SUMMER DAY CAMP** it is our goal to expose the campers to a broad and varied program of activities that will help to foster physical, social and spiritual development in each of them. We believe that each child has been given unique gifts and talents. Our plan is to encourage them to discover what theirs are.

CAMP LOCATION

The Donway Covenant United Church,
230 The Donway West, Don Mills, M3B 2V8

HOURS OF OPERATION

Regular Camp Hours: 9 am to 4:30 pm
After Care: 8 am to 9 am and 4:30 pm to 6 pm

Camp Administrator: Lorrie Daly-Price
(416) 527 - 2579
footprintssummerdaycamp@gmail.com

FOOTPRINTS SUMMER DAY CAMP Summer Fun Starts Here!



FOOTPRINTS SUMMER DAY CAMP 2026

9 CAMP WEEKS
Campers 6 - 13 years
Leaders In Training 14 +

JUNE 29-AUG. 28, 2026

ACTIVITIES

Arts and Crafts, Weekly
Field Trips, Outdoor
Activities, Drama, Bible
Stories Games...and so
much more!

YOU'RE WELCOME TO

Please let us know if you are coming.

join us!

**Presentation: Aging and
Emotional Well-Being**

Wednesday May 20th at 2:15 pm
(In-person event)

As we age it's important that we maintain a healthy lifestyle for both our mental and physical well-being. Key strategies for good health include maintaining social connections and regular physical activity. Join our very own LivingWell Coach, Krish, as she explores how to manage our mental health later in life.

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

RSVP REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS

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416-331-9797
DELMANOR.COM

RSVP at (416) 331 - 9797

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For more than 75 years, the **East York Concert Band** has brought the joy of music to audiences across the Greater Toronto Area. The band was founded in 1948 by local music teacher Norman Tuckwell, with its initial membership drawn from a night school music class at **East York Collegiate**. Over the years, the band has grown to include members of all ages and musical abilities from around the Greater Toronto Area.

Today's **East York Concert Band** features around 50 members ranging in age from their early 20s to their early 90s and representing a variety of musical abilities. Rehearsing weekly from September to June under the direction of conductor Joseph Resendes, the band performs numerous concerts each year featuring repertoire ranging from classical to contemporary.

CLICK HERE <https://www.eastYorkconcertband.ca/>

East York Concert Band's Annual Spring Concert

From East to Western Sea

a musical trip across Canada

Sunday, May 24th, 2026 @ 2:00 pm
St. Clement of Ohrid
Cathedral Ballroom
76 Overlea Boulevard, East York

Free Parking
Cash Bar & Refreshments

***I hope you will plan to attend to support a great
community band, and your favourite flute player!
Please contact me by May 15th to order tickets.***

vjyarwood@gmail.com

Vivian Yarwood

Adults: \$15.00
Students: \$10.00
Children (12 & under): Free



Toronto Botanical Garden at Edwards Gardens

755 Lawrence Avenue East, North York
(Lawrence Avenue East at Leslie Street)



Join Us in the garden!



Plant Shows and Sales

Toronto Bonsai Society Plant Sale
Saturday and Sunday, May 16 & 17

Ontario Iris Society Flower Show
Sunday, June 7, 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Toronto Cactus and Succulent Club Annual Show & Sale
Sunday, June 14, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



**Saturday, May 23
and Sunday, May 24**
10 am ~ 4 pm

TBG Spring Plant Sale

Get ready to grow something beautiful this year. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, this is your chance to discover unique varieties, get expert tips, and bring home new botanical treasures to brighten your indoor and outdoor spaces. Come early for the best selection and let your spring planting begin.



Sunday June 7,
12 ~ 4 pm

Celebrate Pride at the Garden

Celebrate Pride surrounded by blooms, fresh air, and good company. Join us on the lawn for an afternoon of live music, plant swapping, and community connection in a space that welcomes everyone.



Four Tuesdays in June

**June 2, 9,
16 and 23**

**7:00 pm
to Dusk**

Live music by 'Scotch & Soda'
(Laird Brown and Warren Beesley)



**FREE
ADMISSION**

Spring Blooms

Thursday, May 28 2 ~ 7 pm
Toronto Botanical Garden

Join us to enjoy spectacular floral designs, award winning plants & flowers from our members' gardens and live demonstrations every hour.

www.thegardencluboftoronto.ca

Sponsored by
INTEGRACare
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Your Home Healthcare Provider of Choice





Programs you might find of interest!

Android Devices for Beginners



Friday May 15th
from 10:00 to 11:30 am

This class is for absolute beginners who are curious about buying an Android phone or tablet, or who have just acquired one and want to understand how it operates. Android phones include those manufactured by Samsung, Google, Motorola, and OnePlus.

BOOK CLUB

May's Book
"The Giver of Stars"
by Jo Jo Moyes

Tuesday, May 19th
from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

or

Thursday, May 21st
from 2:00 to 3:00 pm



Buying a Car? Know Your Rights!

Wednesday May 20th
from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Buying a vehicle can be a challenging experience with long-term financial implications. Join us for a presentation by the **Ontario Motor Vehicle Industry Council (OMVIC)**, the regulator of motor vehicle sales in Ontario. A representative from the **OMVIC** will provide you with resources and tips for buying new and used cars in Ontario.

Let's Talk About Grief and Caregiving

Monday May 25th
from 2:00 to 3:30 pm

Join us to learn how grief comes up when caring for an adult loved-one with health issues, such as a friend, partner, family member. Explore and discuss different types of losses and grief experiences that are common for caregivers. Learn some practical tips for managing grief and loss and have an opportunity to meet other caregivers.

Led by Susan Anstice and Lois Didyk.



Lola Reid Allin: Highway to the Sky: An Aviator's Journey

Wednesday May 27th
from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Air transport pilot, flight instructor, traveller and photographer, Lola Reid Allin, presents her memoir,

HIGHWAY TO THE SKY: An Aviator's Journey

In 1980, Lola earned her commercial pilot license and become one of a few women in Canada licensed to fly for hire and reward. Lola explains the rewards of an aviation career and the challenges faced by women, then and now.



Fraud Protection

Monday June 1st
from 2:00 to 3:00 pm

Financial fraud targeting older adults is at an all-time high in Canada. Come and learn how to identify the signs of fraud and what to do if you become a victim of fraud. Presented by a volunteer from Chartered Professional Accountants Canada.



Dystopian Fiction In a Dystopian Present

Wednesday June 3rd
from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Author Rachel A. Rosen (**Cascade**; **Blight**) will explore the intersection of politics with sci-fi and fantasy, and how authors of speculative fiction navigate writing dystopian and cautionary tales when the present threatens to eclipse fiction.



Drop-in Tech Help

Every Monday from 2:00 to 3:00 pm

Have questions about your tablet, phone, laptop, email or eBooks? A librarian will be available to help you.

**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 12 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