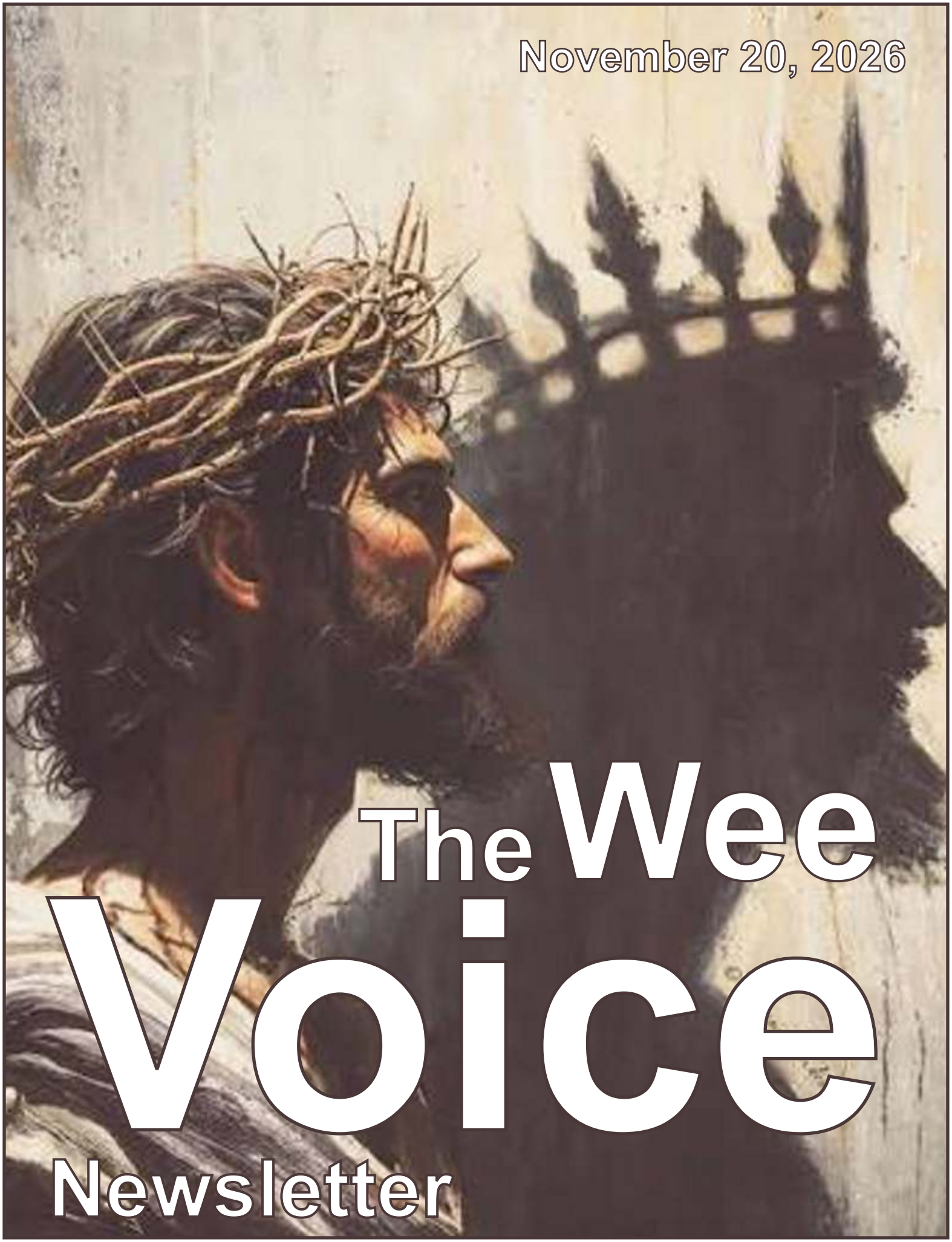
November 20, 2026



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



Behold Your King
painting by
Kevin Carden

Reign of Christ Sunday

is a Christian observance held on the final Sunday of the liturgical year, the week before Advent begins.

To Bless The Space Between Us
End of Year Blessing

by John O'Donohue

As this year draws to its end,
We give thanks for the gifts it brought
And how they became inlaid within
Where neither time nor tide can touch them.

The days when the veil lifted
And the soul could see delight;
When a quiver caressed the heart
In the sheer exuberance of being here.

Surprises that came awake
In forgotten corners of old fields
Where expectation seemed to have quenched.

The slow, brooding times
When all was awkward
And the wave in the mind
Pierced every sore with salt.

The darkened days that stopped
The confidence of the dawn.

Days when beloved faces shone brighter
With light from beyond themselves;
And from the granite of some secret sorrow
A stream of buried tears loosened.

We bless this year for all we learned,
For all we loved and lost
And for the quiet way it brought us
Nearer to our invisible destination.

ARE YOU STRESSED OUT AT THIS TIME OF YEAR?



If you often feel overwhelmed during the Christmas season, remember ***"it is NOT realistic to think that you can do all the things you KNOW you'd like to do!"***

If your life is too busy, ***GIVE THANKS!*** It is a good thing! Don't stress over what you are "missing". Bask in the joy of what you can do.

Make sure you plan time for simply relaxing. Make sure you get enough sleep so you aren't too tired to enjoy the activities you engage in. And don't be pressured by someone else's agenda!

And remember, if you can't keep smiling you need a break!





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/

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY

Ezekiel chapter 34: verses 11 ~ 16 and 20 ~ 24

Matthew chapter 25: verses 31 ~ 46

"Love You Can See"

Jesus reminds us that love isn't just something we talk about. It's something we show in the way we care for one another.

And often, it's the little things that mean the most. A phone call to check in on a friend, a ride to an appointment, a meal shared, or simply taking the time to listen when someone needs to talk. These may seem like small gestures, but they can make someone's day a little brighter.



And of course, there are times when we're the ones who need that kindness. That's what makes being part of a caring community so special. We look out for one another, sharing both the joys and challenges of life.

As we look toward Advent and Christmas, it's a lovely reminder that the love we celebrate in Jesus is something we can share every day, in ways both big and small. Because people may not always remember what we say about love, but they will remember what it felt like to be loved. And that's love you can see.

Rev Lorrie Daly-Price

WANT TO STAY UP TO DATE?

Follow us and Like us on

Facebook

Donway Covenant United Church

Sorry
for the inconvenience!

Stewardship Church Repair



We're almost there!

Repairs to leaks (we were wasting an awful lot of water!), in the valves and pipes have taken place to make it a better place for all! Systems are being re-pressurized, and monitored. The holes in the floors are being refilled, and retiled.

Fingers crossed that all the faulty (rusted and leaking) pipes and valves that needed replacing. have been identified and replaced.

The heat is coming back up to "comfort levels" while everything is being checked. Hope that it will be warm on Sunday, but bring a sweater "just in case"!

And remember, there is nothing like good conversation at ***Coffee Time***, together with a hot tea or coffee to warm the soul!

SERVICES for OCTOBER and NOVEMBER

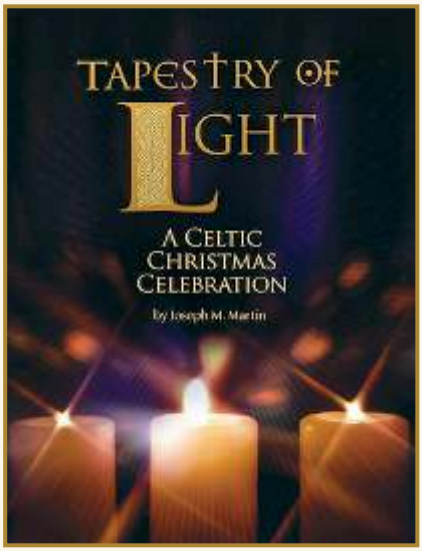


Nov 22
10:30 am

"Love You Can See"
Reign of Christ Sunday

Join us for Worship in our Sanctuary

The Worship Committee



Sunday,
December 20th.

A Special Choral Presentation by our choir
(with some special guests)

Join us in our auditorium following the service for fellowship, coffee, tea, hot apple cider and some special Christmas treats!

ADVENT BEGINS NEXT WEEK



Light Up the Tree



Friday,
November 27th
1:00 to 3:00 pm

Hope you can join us in the Sanctuary as we decorate our 2026 Christmas Tree.
Our gathering will be capped off with the lighting of the tree! Christmas treats will be served!!

Hope you can join us!

What's Going On..



DCUC Knitting Group

Our knitting/crochet group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 2:30 in the living room. Our next gathering is on November 23rd.

Look forward to seeing everyone and new members always welcome!



Thank you,
Andrea Sloan

Caregivers & Tots

Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:00 am to 10:30 am



A welcoming time for caregivers and little ones to play, connect, and share.

All are welcome!

Ladies' Fellowship

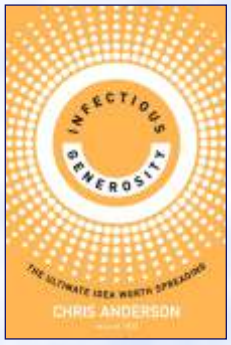
Are you finding it a bit harder to "get out of the house" these days? Do you find yourself wishing you could just chat with friends from your favourite chair?

Our *Ladies' Fellowship* on **ZOOM** might be just the thing for you! Lead by Maureen Smith, our group meets twice a month - on the second and fourth Thursdays at 10:30 am. Our next meeting is on **Thursday, November 26th.**

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

(416) 444 - 8444

Tuesday Book Study Group



Our Tuesday Book Study Group meets weekly from 10:00 am to 11:30 am every Tuesday on Zoom. All are welcome.

Contact the office if interested in joining us and Emily will forward the link.

Eileen Russell
and Shirley McNaughton

We ARE Still Collecting!



MILK BAGS

We are still requesting clean, dry and folded outer Milk bags for the Sleeping mat project at St. Gabriel's Church

PLASTIC BREAD & MILK TAGS

They are given to the *Lions Club* and are melted down and used in 3D printers.





ALUMINUM TABS

PRESCRIPTION EYEGLASSES



Eyeglasses for the Lions club;

Please leave the donations in a basket in the Church Narthex or in the wicker picnic basket outside of Emily's office.

Thanks for caring.
Marian Childerhose

Busy, busy, busy!

HENS: Home Essential Newcomer Support

An Important Update About H.E.N.S

The **HENS** program is under the **Outreach Committee** here at our church and we have been very proud to be a formal partner with **HENS** over the past two years. We have made a huge impact in the lives of over 700 newcomers families. It is something we can all feel very good about.

In addition to the **Outreach Committee**, there has also been a **HENS Board** overseeing the **HENS** program with Rev. Lorrie and Cathy Paterson as members of that Board.

Recently, Amina (the CEO and Executive Director of **HENS**), sent a letter to the **HENS Board** indicating they wished to fundraise and find other space outside of our church premises. We have been very clear that we cannot sponsor a program that is not located on our church premises. Accountability and liability issues are a concern for us.

After much discussion that included Cathy Paterson, the **Outreach Committee** sent a motion to **Council** seeking **Council's** agreement to dissolve the partnership between **HENS** and **DCUC**. This motion was approved by **Council** last Thursday. As we wind down, a few more families will be coming to receive goods, with a **HENS** closing date of December, 14th.

A very good meeting was held with 21 **HENS** volunteers from **DCUC** and surrounding community on November 17 to hear this news, ask questions and share their feelings.



There is much positive to ***CELEBRATE:***

- over 700 families have been served during the program's operation, a wonderful accomplishment
- two cultures, two faiths working side by side
- tons of goods were kept out of the landfill
- tons of goods were given to newcomers to Canada
- relationships formed by working together at **HENS** (church, community and newcomers)
- some newcomer volunteers received a good reference from **HENS** and secured a job
- many goods were passed on to other organizations
- good PR for our church in the community that sees us living out our mission

The volunteers are passionate about wanting to meet the needs of our community and several ideas were forthcoming. In January the **Outreach Committee** will begin discussing next steps as we pivot and recalculate!

Thank you members and volunteers of DCUC and community for your grace and generosity in helping families in need. We have shown newcomers a Canadian welcome with the warmth and compassion that Jesus modelled.

Vivian Yarwood,
Outreach Committee

Lunch and Film Event

Saturday November 21, 11am – 1:30 pm

Hosted by the Outreach Committee



In recent years, the **Outreach Committee** has focused on a theme for education and fundraising initiatives. Some of these have included climate change, refugees and newcomers to Canada, and Food and Water insecurity of Indigenous communities in Canada.

This fall and through Advent, the **Outreach Committee** is focusing on ***YOUTH HOMELESSNESS***.



Therefore, the **Outreach Committee** would like to invite you to join us for a learning event and lunch on Saturday, November 21st, from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm in the Living Room.

We will have a speaker from **Eva's Place**, (a local youth shelter at Leslie St and the 401), who will outline some of the reasons youth become homeless as well as the programs they offer to help youth.

We will also see a short documentary film entitled ***"No Place to Call Home"***. It is filmed in Toronto, narrated by a youth, with several interviews. It also suggests ways we can get involved in helping youth. And it encourages young people to get involved.

The Outreach Committee

HOPE YOU PLAN ON COMING!



Annual Fellowship Christmas Potluck Luncheon

Wednesday, December 2nd ~ in the Auditorium

Gathering at Noon ~ Luncheon at 12:30 pm

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS.....
INVITE YOUR NEIGHBOURS
ALL ARE WELCOME !!!!

We ask that you sign up either at Coffee Time following Worship, or through the church office so that we can plan according!

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Can you help in the kitchen before or after the luncheon?
Can you help set the tables before? PLEASE LET US KNOW.

Minutes for Mission

A PLACE TO TURN



House of Lazarus in eastern Ontario supports people facing homelessness, food insecurity, and financial hardship. Through practical services and a welcoming community, it helps individuals and families find stability and hope.

"Coming here feels like coming home."

That's how one visitor described the ***Warming Centre*** at **House of Lazarus** in eastern Ontario, after spending two years living on the streets.

It's a simple statement, but it speaks to something we all need: a place where we feel safe, where we're treated with dignity, and where we know we don't have to face everything alone.

For people experiencing homelessness, families struggling to afford groceries, or individuals trying to make ends meet, **House of Lazarus** offers practical support and a welcoming community. The work is guided by the mission: *Building Community, Sharing Hope*.

At the ***Community Hub*** and ***Warming Centre***, people find a warm place to rest, access to showers and laundry facilities, opportunities to share a meal, and connection with resources in the community. In 2025, the ***Warming Centre*** welcomed visitors over 900 times. Some people also received personalized support that helped them find housing and take steps toward stronger stability.

For families with children, the challenges look a bit different, but the need for support is just as prominent. Through ***Operation Backpack***, **House of Lazarus** sends food home with students every Friday during the school year. Each bag contains food for two breakfasts, two lunches, and four snacks. In the 2025 - 2026 school year, over 12,500 bags were distributed to 295 students across 16 local schools.

Sometimes, the help that makes the biggest difference is financial. **House of Lazarus** offers a free income tax program so people can access the benefits and credits they're entitled to. Last year, volunteers filed 580 tax returns, helping community members receive more than $1.4 million in refunds, credits, and benefits.

One single mother received more than $20,000 in backdated benefits and refunds. For her and her children, that support was life-changing in creating greater financial stability and a more secure path forward.

Each of these services responds to a different need, but the heart behind them is the same: meeting people where they are and helping them take their next step.

Through **Mission and Service**, we help support **House of Lazarus** and its work alongside people facing difficult circumstances. Thank you for helping make these essential services possible.

Together, we can help ensure that when someone needs support, there is a place to turn.

From the United Church of Canada website
https://unitedchurchfoundation.ca/mission-and-service-story-place-turn/



Toronto Firefighters Toy Drive

Cadillac Fairview
Shops at Don Mills

December 10th, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Come to the Town Square in the Shops at Don Mills for the Annual Toronto Firefighters Toy Drive Bring new, unwrapped toys to place under the tree for local kids in need.

Join Us for Lunch with Lorrie

Thursday, November 26th
from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

YOU'RE INVITED!

The Architectural Styles That Shaped Toronto

A fascinating journey through history, architecture, and our city! Join us for a delicious lunch and an entertaining presentation with our special guest speaker, Edward Nicolucci, Urban Designer with the City of Mississauga.

Have you ever wondered about the stories behind Toronto's beautiful historic buildings? We'll travel back over 4,000 years to discover the remarkable architectural styles of ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance. Then we'll return home to explore some of Toronto's best-known buildings, uncovering their fascinating histories and the architectural influences that shaped our city.

Come for the lunch, stay for the stories, and discover Toronto in a whole new way!

Edward Nicolucci, B.Tech., B.Arch., OAA, LEED AP, brings extensive experience in architecture, urban design, and city planning. He has held several senior roles with the City of Mississauga, including serving as an advisor in the City Manager's Office during former Mayor Hazel McCallion's tenure.

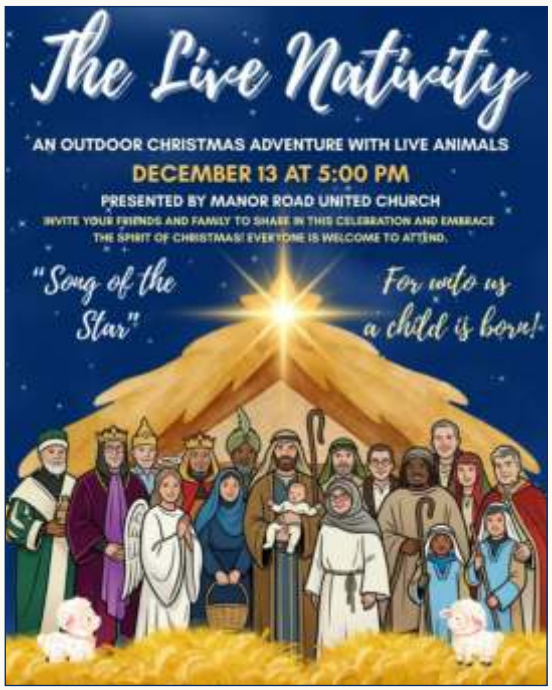
Suggested donation: $5 per person. All donations will support our church's outreach projects, helping us make a difference in the wider community.

Kindly let Emily in the church office know by Monday, November 23 if you plan to attend so we can plan accordingly.

(416) 444 - 8444

Everyone is welcome!

Rev. Lorrie Daly-Price,
The Donway Covenant United Church



December 13

November 20





Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea

Join Us!!

Manor Road United Church

240 Manor Road East

Broadview

SPIRITUALITY, JUSTICE AND ETHICAL LIVING

Did you know that… ***Broadview*** is the ONLY publication in Canada dedicated to sharing progressive Christian perspectives and news?

Unlike most other magazines, it's also a charity.

Broadview aims to share stories that:

- → inspire people to live with compassion
- → expand awareness and learning
- → connect those of like-minded values

Broadview is the biggest progressive Christian network outside the church and in our country today. That's why your subscription makes an enormous difference!

Broadview is 194 years old this year. Thanks to supporters, it is the oldest continuously published magazine in North America.

Broadview reaches subscribers in over 42 countries. What an impact!

You can help inspired journalism by subscribing, giving a gift subscription to a friend or loved one. Together, through ***Broadview***, we are doing great ministry. And together we can do even more!

THANK YOU!

It's Easy to Subscribe!

Attention ***Broadview*** subscribers: It's time to renew your subscription! For just $30 (including tax), you'll receive 6 more issues of ***Broadview*** delivered straight to your mailbox. You won't want to miss out on a single issue of the magazine's award-winning coverage of spirituality, social justice and ethical living, as well as **United Church** news and perspectives.

Not a subscriber? It's never too late to join our ***Broadview*** subscription group! And remember - the discounted $30 rate is ONLY for group members.

To renew your subscription, or to start a new subscription please place a cheque on the offering plate, clearly marked ***Broadview*** or deliver it to the church office.

The deadline for subscriptions is ***Wednesday, December 16th***

Join the DCUC GROUP and SAVE! Our GROUP rate is $30.00 per year instead of the individual rate of $36.95!



Not Sure What Broadview Is All About?

Come and see us at Coffee Time following worship and leaf through the issues we have on display.

Or go to the ***Broadview*** website by **CLICKING**

https://broadview.org/

Or follow ***Broadview*** on **Facebook**

National Magazine Awards
Les prix du magazine canadien

Special Interest

"Delivering exceptional storytelling about social justice, ethics and spirituality, and setting high standards for creativity and design, Broadview should be considered one of Canada's best special interest magazines." ***NMA Jury***

JOIN US

CHRISTMAS CAROLING NIGHT

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

at 7:00 pm

DONWAY BAPTIST CHURCH

235 THE DONWAY EAST

Refreshments to follow

Our Annual Cookie Day Is Fast Approaching.



Hello good friends.

Christmas is just around the corner and the time is coming soon for our *Annual Christmas Cookie Day*. This is a time honoured tradition. We are hopefully requesting home baked Christmas cookies for our cookie tins.

On Tuesday morning December 15, 2025 we will gather in the Church living room to pack the cookie tins and prepare them for deliveries to our members and friends.

We are a *"caring"* congregation who willingly care and share our hospitality.

If you are willing and able to bake your favourite Christmas cookies, please take them to Emily's office on Monday, December 14 before 4 pm or please deliver them to the Church living room by 10am on Tuesday, December 15.

We also would really appreciate some folks who could deliver cookies and have a short visit with our recipients. Please consider this act of kindness during our Christmas season.

Pastoral Care

"Let's care and share".



A great Christmas concert is a signal that the Christmas season has begun.

I'd personally like to invite you to the ***Festival of Carols*** with the **Toronto Mendelssohn Choir**. This event is so popular that we added an additional performance two years ago, and if last year's audience was anything to go by, we will sell out all three again this year.

With holiday favourites such as ***Silent Night*** and ***O Come All Ye Faithful***, to the cheery ***Jingle Bells***, to new favourites such as ***Stick With Love***, and many many more, our audiences leave with smiles on their faces and peace in their hearts. We singers, too, enjoy giving you such a delicious musical taste of the holiday season.

Don't miss it!

Annie Griffin



Yorkminster Park Baptist Church
1585 Yonge St, Toronto, ON M4T 1Z9
(just north of St. Clair)

Three Performances
December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd
from 7:30 to 9:00 pm

CLICK HERE to buy your tickets

https://www.tmchoir.org/event/festival-of-carols-2026/

You are invited to join the East York Concert Band for our Holiday/Christmas Concert and cheer on your favourite flute player!

Please order your tickets from me at **vjyarwood@gmail.com**

Last day to order from me is Nov 29th, but tickets can also be purchased at the door. Your support is appreciated.

Vivian Yarwood

The East York Concert Band
is proud to present its Annual Holiday Concert

Passport to the Holidays

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

Sunday, December 13th @ 2:00 pm

St Clements of Ohrid Cathedral
76 Overlea Blvd, East York

Free Parking ● Cash Bar & Refreshments

Jubilee United Church
Fall Lecture Series

Be Informed, Be Entertained, Be Inspired

Monday, November 23rd

Dementia 101: A Brain Health Approach
Laura McGill (she/her) | Public Education Coordinator Alzheimer's Society
Learn about the risk factors associated with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. We will discuss strategies to improve and maintain the health of the brain and ways the Alzheimer Society of Toronto can help.

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, Ontario M3A 2J5
416-447-6846

Who Speaks for You?

A Guide to Powers of Attorney & Decision Making



Join us for an informative and practical Lunch and Learn exploring Powers of Attorney, substitute decision making, and the importance of planning ahead.

Plan today for peace of mind tomorrow.

Tuesday, November 24, 2026 at 12 Noon

Northlea United Church
125 Brentcliffe Road

To Register:
Jo@northleaunited.ca
Or call:
416-425-5252 Ext 4.

Deadline to Register is Friday, November 20

Toronto Botanical Garden at Edwards Gardens

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





Weekend #1: November 20 to 22
Weekend #2: December 18 to 20

Hours: Friday, 2 to 6 p.m.
and Saturday and Sunday,10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Join us for a sustainable, nature-inspired, relaxed shopping experience and the perfect way to kick off the season with purpose.

Free Admission

Welcome to Café 65!



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

GREAT ENTERTAINERS singing GREAT HITS!

December 10th Filipa Sousa

Second Thursday each month
12 to 2 pm
Lunch (noon) & Entertainment

$20

Reservations by noon
Tuesdays prior to event
e-mail cafe65connections@gmail.com
or call 416 - 444 - 8881

Café 65
A Gathering Place for Seniors

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

tpl toronto public library

Don Mills Branch

888 Lawrence Ave E



Programs you might find of interest!

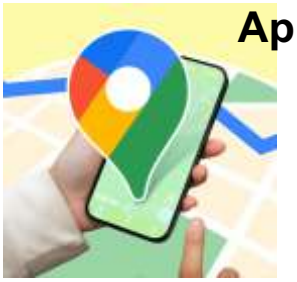


Chess For Life: Seniors Social

from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon
Friday, November 20th
Friday, November 27th
Friday, December 4th

The Chess Institute of Canada (CIC) invites you to join our Chess for Life program - a fun and engaging chess program designed for seniors of all skill levels. Whether you're a seasoned player or interested in learning the game -

Registration required



App-etizer: Google Maps and Transit Apps

Friday, November 20th
1:00 to 2:00 pm

In this program, you will learn how to use transit and navigation apps like Google Maps and Transit to better navigate your world. Build your confidence by building skills in trip planning, route navigation, and using real-time transit information. A smartphone is not required, but helpful in order to follow along with the demonstration.



Benefits and Credits for Adults 65 Years & Older

Monday, November 23rd
2:00 to 3:00 pm

This presentation by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) provides an overview of the income sources, benefits, credits, and tax measures available to seniors. It explains retirement income programs such as Old Age Security (OAS), the Canada Pension Plan (CPP), and private pensions, and highlights the importance of filing a tax return every year to receive benefit payments and maintain eligibility for programs.



Family History Research in Early Ontario

Wednesday, December 2nd
7:00 to 8:00 pm

This program provides an overview of the six key record groups for effective genealogical research, including the information you can expect to find in the records, and where you'll find them. Participants will come away from this program with an enhanced understanding of the major sources of information that are available for learning about their ancestors who lived in Ontario before 1867.

Registration required



Little Black Dress Holiday Concert

Monday, December 7th
2:00 to 3:00 pm

Swing into the holiday season with the sophisticated saxophonists of Little Black Dress! The ladies will perform our favourite festive tunes to celebrate the holiday season.

Please register online.

Holiday Saxophone Concert with Sidecar78

Wednesday, December 9th
7:00 to 8:00 pm

Swing into the holiday season with Sidecar78. Enjoy an evening of festive saxophone peppered with jazz and swing tunes to set your holiday mood. Sidecar78 is Norman Miller (soprano), Mike Lewis (alto), Jeff Densham (tenor) and Graziano Brescacin (baritone).

Registration required



Drop-in Tech Help

Every Monday
from 1:00 to 2:00 pm

Do you have questions about your tablet, phone, laptop, email or an app? Do you need help with eBooks or other online library services? Our staff are here to help.

Please call 416-395-5710 for further details.

The Donway Covenant United Church

Affirm UNITED

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