

St. Paul's SPIRIT



Easter Season at St. Paul's

March 25 Lenten Lunch on Wednesday at 12 noon
hosted by the Association of Dundas Churches. Everyone is welcome.

March 29 Palm Sunday at 10 am

April 2 Maundy Thursday Service and Lunch
11:30 am in the Reception Hall

The short Service/Hot Lunch focuses on getting those who are "Shut-in's" out to church. Everyone is welcome to attend. Freewill Offering will be gratefully accepted.

April 3 Good Friday Downtown Dundas Ecumenical Walk

Hosted by the Association of Dundas Churches, This walk begins at King and Sydenham in the Square at **10:00 am** and proceeds down King St. to York Rd. stopping at stations of the cross along the way. Everyone is welcome.

April 3 Good Friday Service at 11 am

Worship service will begin at 11 am so that congregants can participate in the annual ADC Ecumenical Walk through Dundas at 10 am. Join us for in person worship in the Sanctuary. The service will also be livestreamed and recorded to be viewed on the St. Paul's website and Facebook.

April 5 Easter Sunday Service at 10 am

This service will include Communion and the Hallelujah Chorus.

On Sunday, April 12th, the immediate past Moderator of the United Church, the Very Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, will be our guest preacher.



Carmen was the first Indigenous woman to lead a religious denomination in Canada. The August 2025 edition of Broadview carried an article on her work, speaking with her about the Indigenous Church, the ups and downs of her role and how far the denomination still has to go to welcome all. Her 2025 book, 'Wearing a Broken Indigene Heart on the Sleeve of Christian Mission', is a ground breaking work seeking to reframe many of the (often unspoken) assumptions about the field of Christian mission. She joined the faculty at Emmanuel College, Toronto, in December 2025 in the newly created role of Assistant Professor of United Church of Canada Studies.

Come and join us as we welcome Carmen to St. Paul's on April 12th.

Message from the Chair of the Board, Jenny Blake

Spring is arriving — any day now we will believe it!



Spring is arriving — any day now we will believe it!

The Board took advantage of the quiet days of winter to hold our semi-annual half-day retreat, giving ourselves more time to plan ahead and to look carefully at some of the larger issues facing our church. We will have more to report when we present to the congregation at the AGM on April 25.

Among these concerns, none is more important than the service of our volunteers to the work we do—and to who we are. Service is central to our identity. We welcome volunteers from within our membership, but also from the wider community. Working shoulder to shoulder, we serve, learn from one another, and open our doors a little wider. To paraphrase the old Dofasco slogan, “Our strength is people.”

But invoking that slogan invites the question: what is our product? (For those who do not remember, the full line was, “Our product is steel; our strength is people.”) I am not sure there is a single word that captures our “product.” Perhaps it is something different for each of us: welcome, faith, hope, peace, fellowship, comfort, care, meaning—or perhaps all of these. I appreciated Reverend Winger’s reflection that the opposite of faith is not doubt; it is control.

Liz Bucar¹, writing in her *Substack Religion Reimagined*, discusses a conversation between Trevor Noah (broadcast journalist) and Zohran Mamdani (Mayor of New York). Noah observes that “faith gives you the capacity to believe ‘this current state isn’t the end’ without needing a peer-reviewed study proving the future will be better. It’s not irrationality. It’s a different kind of rationality altogether—one that can juggle complexity and ambiguity and hope all at once without dropping any of them.” Bucar concludes: “If we strip away religious frameworks entirely, what’s left to train people in costly, sustained trust? What teaches you to hold hope through disappointment? What gives you practice believing transformation is possible when every piece of evidence says otherwise?”

At St. Paul’s United Church we have created a space where doubt can be spoken safely and without fear. We seek to welcome people wherever they are on their faith journey. We are a diverse, spirited, and courageous church—one where faith and trust can be exercised in community. And that enables us to go out and do our small part to make the possibility of a better world—even if only in small ways—a reality.

Spring is a good time to be planting those kinds of seeds.

1. <https://lizbucar.substack.com/p/what-if-trevor-noah-is-right-about> accessed march 11, 2026



MUSIC MINISTRY



OVERCOMING

Back in those dark days of the Covid lockdown I came across a song, “The Storm is Passing Over” on YouTube. It was sung by a Black

Gospel Choir from Detroit, and even though it was a recording from 2010, for me, THE STORM was passing over and would be gone, Praise God!

It was only recently that I learned who had written that song. As I was researching the song “We Shall Overcome,” an American Civil Rights theme song written by Rev. Charles Tindley, I learned that he had also written “The Storm is Passing Over.” The man called the Prince of Preachers and the Father of Black Gospel Music.

Charles Albert Tindley was born on July 7, 1851 in Berlin, Maryland, a few years prior to the Civil War. Although Charles was a free man, because his mother was a free black woman, his father was enslaved. His mother died when he was five, and he was raised by her sister and his own father. Living in a border slave state just before and through the Civil War was a tenuous situation for the Tindley’s. And being very poor, Charles was sent out to work as a child to bring in money for the family.

At the end of the War the Tindleys, like many former slaves from the border states, moved to Philadelphia. He worked as a hod, a brick carrier for a building company.

As a child, Charles was determined to learn to read, but since African Americans were not allowed to be educated, he taught himself to read with scraps of printed words he found in the garbage. His goal was to be able to read the Bible. As a child he slipped into a white church and hid in the balcony. The minister called for any child who could read to come forward and read a Bible verse. Charles bravely came forward out of his hiding place, as the congregation scowled at him. But the preacher invited him to read which he proudly did, and that started a sense of ministry for him.

And he was drawn to the Bainbridge Street Methodist Church in Philadelphia, where he worked as sexton/caretaker for free.

He later married his wife Daisy at the church.

He then began his informal education to get his preaching license. With the help of the Reform Congregation Keneseth Synagogue, he learned Hebrew. And he studied Greek by correspondence at the Boston School of Theology.

In 1887 he was ordained an Elder, and over the next years served in Methodist Episcopal churches in Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania.

In 1906 he became minister back at Bainbridge Street Methodist Church. At that time it had a congregation of 130, but through the powerful ministry of Tindley, the church grew and moved to a bigger building to fit the congregation of 900. It eventual grew to a membership of 10,000 and became known as Tindley Temple Methodist Church.



Tindley Temple Methodist Church, Philadelphia

In his ministry he was a leader in promoting the dignity and worth of Black Americans. With the help of Philadelphia businessman John Wanamaker, he established a mortgage company to finance Black Americans in buying their own home or starting a business.

He established soup kitchens for the indigent.

But it is probably because of his hymns that we remember him, especially in Black History Month.

Charles Tindley wrote many of these hymns and used them in his sermons. And just the titles of these songs are a sermon in themselves.

“We Shall Overcome,” which was taken in the 1960’s as a Civil Rights anthem, started as “I....Shall Overcome.” In Charle’s life, I think it often was a matter of him standing alone to reach his goal. And while some of our battles are indeed solo battles, Martin Luther King would preach, WE...are strong when we are together.

Another of his hymns, "Stand By Me" along with "The Storm is Passing Over," speak very graphically about the hardships that Tindley's people faced in the slavery years and the Jim Crow society.

It is interesting to compare Tindley's words to those of a well loved white Christian hymn, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," written around that same time. "Have we trials and temptations, is the trouble anywhere?"

It touches the heart, yes, but in a milder way than what Africans had been experiencing.

The words of "Stand By Me" paint the picture of the black experience—and maybe also the experience of our times too.

*When the storms of life are raging, stand by me;
when the world is tossing me
like a ship upon the sea,
Thou who rulest the wind and water,
stand by me.*

*In the midst of tribulation, stand by me;
when the host of hell assail,
and my strength begins to fail,
Thou who never lost a battle, stand by me.
In the midst of faults and failures, stand by me;
when I've done the best I can,
and my friends misunderstand,
Thou who knowest all about me, stand by me.
In the midst of persecution, stand by me;
when my foes in war array,
undertake to stop my way,
Thou who rescued Paul and Silas, stand by me.
When I'm growing old and feeble, stand by me;
when my life becomes a burden,
and I'm nearing chilly Jordan,
O Thou Lily of the Valley, stand by me.*

There was a sermon in every hymn he wrote, and they are still singing his hymns all over the world.

Don't take my word for it. Judge for yourself from Tindley's own pen.

*I am the Rose of Sharon...
And the Lily of the Valley.*

"My friends, we have come this morning to give audience to the eloquence of the rose and the lily and to all the tribes of blade and leaf. We have heard him speak in the thunder ...Are you looking for a spring morning some time when all the snow and storms and clouds shall be gone ...And the sky of peace and the winds of a gentle friendship shall welcome you to a joy you never knew before?"

...Are you expecting to see the flight of the beautiful butterfly and the landscape waving with the beauty of flower and leaf and blade? ...Are you listening now? Are you listening now for the voice of the turtle? Oh, yes.

...Oh, yes, you may have one or two or three more snowstorms. You may have to button your coat and run for shelter...Before the doors of your spring shall be open....

But be of good cheer. The flowers tell me that they waited until the rain was over and gone. The time of the singing of the birds had come, and the voice of the turtle was heard in the land...I am the Rose of Sharon and the Lily of the Valley."

Charles Albert Tindley 1851-1933



Charles Albert Tindley grave
Eden, Pennsylvania

You Are Invited! Come and Be Part of the St. Paul's Tradition

We sing the Hallelujah Chorus with brass, organ and bells at the close of our Easter Worship, April 5. Rehearsals are in the Parlour at 6:30 pm on Thursdays, March 26 and April 2. Contact Fredric for more information

MUSIC NEWS

NEWS FLASH: Listening to music is good for your health. Making music by singing or playing instruments is better for your health. Singing or playing instruments together is **THE BEST** thing for your health.

I heard that on an online lecture last month...It's my story and I'm sticking with it.

These are the weeks at St. Paul's when you can improve your health in all three of those ways.

Sunday, March 1 there was a concert in our sanctuary. Arika Abe and Yoko Nakamoto from Japan presented **Four Hands Piano Recital**, with appearances from flautist, Hiromi Tabata, and also our own Dundas Baroque Ensemble with Seiichi Ariga, Andrea Bandlow, and Kate Lynn Robles.

On Friday, March 6 **St. Paul's Musical Showcase XV**, took place featuring all our music ministry groups, along with friends in our community.

On March 22 we honoured the Samick Piano in the Sanctuary before it moves to another chapter in its ministry, in the Reception Hall. We will be dedicating the new Yamaha C7X Grand Piano in our Sanctuary on March 29. This piano is a cherished gift from the Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin to St. Paul's United Church.

And for the opportunity to make music in a group...we have our annual **Hallelujah Choir** singing the **Hallelujah Chorus** on Easter Sunday, April 5. Rehearsals take place on March 26 and April 2 at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us.

So get in the pink of health this spring as you become part of St. Paul's Music Ministry.

St. Paul's Musical SHOWCASE 2026



Afternoon Handbells



Ian
Alsop



Joyful
Voices



Andrew Smart



Chancel Choir

AFTERNOON SINGERS

"Everything that happens in life can happen in a show—you can make 'em laugh, you can make 'em cry, anything, anything can go...the world is a stage, the stage is a world of entertainment."

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT Arthur Schwartz & Howard Dietz

That's Entertainment, a song published in 1952 was written especially for the film, "The Band Wagon" the following year. I confess I have not seen the film but will hopefully soon. How often do we use this term in our day to day lives? Most often it is used in sports when teams we cheer for are successfully winning in their leagues. The Band Wagon refers to a popular growing movement, a trend, or a cause, and used in the idiom "Jump on the Band Wagon" the term actually originated in the 19th century and refers to a decorated wagon that carried the musicians used in the circus parades at the time.

Within the next four weeks, the Afternoon Singers will be engaged in entertainment in our surrounding community and perhaps here at St. Paul's too...plans are in the making and we will begin again, "Jumping on the Band Wagon" and making our way to past venues and new as well, as we branch out with our music program to entertain once more. Thankfully we are able to hop into our vehicles and not board a wagon, but that sounds like fun too.

The Afternoon Singers presented a Christmas program to four venues each week up until Christmas Day. Following our lunch social to welcome in 2026, we got back to practising to prepare for St. Paul's Musical Showcase XV on March 6th. We all experienced an amazing evening of entertainment and for that we owe a great deal of thanks to our Minister of Music, Fredric for making these events possible.

Spring is peeking around the corner and a fresh season of song and music is in the air.

On the Band Wagon we are jumping "to make 'em laugh, make 'em cry...anything, anything can go, the world is a stage, the stage is a world of entertainment."

Anyone is welcome to join in the fun and become an 'Afternoon Singer'.

Mary Margaret



PASTORAL CARE MINISTER'S REPORT

World Day of Prayer (WDP)

Dundas Baptist Church (March 6, 2026)

A couple of members from St. Paul's United Church, including myself, participated in the World Day of Prayer program held at Dundas Baptist Church on March 6, 2026. I was specifically invited to participate in the worship service since the bulletin was prepared by the WDP Committee of Nigeria. The program was very successful and beautifully demonstrated the principle of being a church without walls. Participants came from various churches and the wider community.



Sit To Be Fit

Our Sit To Be Fit program is now being held every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. in the Moss Davidson Hill Room and every Thursday at 11:00 a.m at the same venue. Attendance has continued to increase.

Café 55+

The Thursday Sit To Be Fit program has significantly increased participation in the Café 55+ program, as many participants stay to enjoy lunch together after the exercise session.

St. Joseph's Villa Program

St. Paul's United Church continues to lead worship services at St. Joseph's Villa on the first and last Fridays of each month. Our most recent visit was on Friday, March 6, 2026. I would like to thank the members of the Pastoral Care Team and our volunteer music coordinator, Evelyn Hambly for their continued support. Please note that we will not be leading the service on the first Friday in April because it falls on Good Friday, and I will be participating in a joint service with several churches in Puslinch, near Guelph.

Wentworth Lodge Program

The next worship service at Wentworth Lodge will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026. The April service is scheduled for April 14, 2026. I would like to thank Mary Margaret and Bruce for their faithful musical support at Wentworth Lodge.

Visitation to Hospitals and Long-Term Care Homes

Members in hospitals and long-term care homes were visited and also received telephone calls. Some members also called to request visits. Members of the Pastoral Care Team continue to use visitation cards to help maintain a record and ensure consistency in our visitation ministry.

Passing on to Glory

Malcolm Nuzum passed away in January 14, 2026 at the age of 88. A memorial visitation was held at Marlatt Funeral Home on Saturday, January 31, 2026. The memorial service took place on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. in the church sanctuary, followed by a reception in the Reception Hall. Interment followed at the graveside in Burlington.

Finally, I wish to say thank you to all members of St. Paul's United Church for your support and encouragement.

Sincerely yours,
Rev. John Adeyemi

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

- Rev. John Adeyemi and members of the Pastoral Care team are available through the Church office.
- Prayer Chain - If you or someone you know wishes to be placed on the Prayer Chain because of a death, illness, or other life changing event please contact Judy Kleven or fill out one of the cards in the pews.
- We have people who will provide transportation to church for those who need a ride. Contact the church office. If you wish to be a volunteer driver please call the office or speak with Bill Poole.
- The Alzheimer Society continues the 'SIT TO BE FIT' program free of charge at St. Paul's.

All are welcome!

When—Tuesday's 12.30pm and Thursday's 11.00am **Where**—Third floor, Moss Davidson Hill Room
Exercise is part of Self Care and has been shown to improve muscle strength and balance. It improves emotional and mental well-being, lowers the risk of cognitive decline and improves socialization. Exercise also reduces the risk of falls and fractures.

- **MAUNDY THURSDAY April 2nd at 11.30am in the Reception Hall**

Worship and Communion led by the Ministerial team followed by a Hot Chicken Lunch

We ask that you sign up at Sunday coffee time to give us an idea of numbers.

- We are looking for people to be part of the Pastoral Care team.
Contact Win Czum if you would like to be part of this ministry at St. Paul's.

Win Czum, Chair of Pastoral Care



UCW GARAGE SALE

Saturday, May 9th in the Gym from 8am - 1pm

Time to clear out your 'I might need that some day Stuff!'

Please bring items for the sale to the church during the week of May 4th-8th

We welcome small appliances and electronics, kitchen items, jewelry, dishes, glassware, tools, toys, books, puzzles, art, sports items, plants & gardening supplies, etc.

No clothing (please consider donating to charity)

No infant car seats or cribs & No large furniture



MAUNDY
Thursday

Service followed by a delicious Hot Lunch

**Thursday, April 2 at 11:30 am
in the Reception Hall**

The short Service/Hot Lunch focuses on getting those who are "Shut-in's" out to church. The Pastoral Care team will be calling those members to arrange transportation as needed. Everyone is welcome to attend. Freewill Offering will be gratefully accepted.

If possible, to help with numbers, please sign up at Sunday Coffee Hour or call the office at 905-628-6396.



**EUCHRE
TOURNAMENT**

Saturday, April 18th at 7 pm

Cost is \$15 per person

All levels are welcome and you don't need to have a partner to attend. Light refreshments provided.

This event is a fundraiser for our Youth Group programs.

If you are interested in attending please RSVP to coordinatorYCC.stpauls@gmail.com

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS



SUICIDE PREVENTION PRESENTATION
Wednesday, April 29 from 4-5 pm and 7-8 pm
St. Paul's Parlour (3rd Floor)

Presentation by
Sidney Stacey, Chair, SPCCH MHScc FCCHL FACHE, Assistant Professor
and Kevin de Kock Director, SPCCH
Suicide Prevention Community Council of Hamilton



**Suicide Prevention
Community Council
of Hamilton**
HOPE, HELP & HEALING

This presentation will provide background information on suicide in Canada and review important elements in preventing suicide: 1) Look for invitations 2) Ask about suicide 3) Listen and 4) Keep Safe. We will also review the 5 major initiatives under the Hamilton Roots of Hope Suicide Prevention and Life Promotion Program and discuss key resources such as the Be Safe App for Hamilton, 988, and crisis and mental health supports - TIPS Card.

For more information and to register contact St. Paul's office
at 905-628-6396
or email: office@stpaulsdundas.com

On March 15th St. Paul's celebrated it's third PIE Day as a congregation working towards an affirming designation. That's a lot of pie! Members of the Affirming Committee were pleased to be able to share in the service with Rev. Mark this year. A big thank you to all who donated those delicious pies for us to share at coffee time!

PIE Day, in church circles actually has nothing to do with math. "PIE" is short for Public, Intentional and Explicit—the standards we hold ourselves to when we seek to live into being affirming, welcoming, and inclusive. PIE Day was co-founded by Affirm United and Affirming Connections. Every year the church is invited to celebrate the full inclusion of 2SLGBTQIA+ people in faith communities and beyond. PIE Day reminds us to embody love and celebrate gender and sexual diversity in all its forms.

The initiative aims to challenge communities to move beyond simply being "welcoming" to being actively affirming and inclusive.

Please continue to drop by the Affirming table at coffee hour for conversation. If you prefer, we can arrange for you to have a private chat with a committee member.



PIE Day, March 15, 2026



St. Paul's Tech Team needs you!

Our situation now is that we are often not able to provide a camera or sound person during the week for weddings, funerals or other events. And when this school year comes to an end the situation will likely worsen.

Our livestreaming services on Sunday regularly draw about 15 households and for concerts we have 25 - 50 households watching. We do not want to lose this service as some who cannot attend church services or concerts rely on us. Training is free and it is easy to learn what we do. Please speak to Susanne or Luke if you can help.

Thank You!



YOUTH AND YOUNG FAMILIES

YCC has continued exploring the church calendar as we moved from the season of Advent into Epiphany and now into Lent.

During the season of Epiphany, the children learned that Jesus' light continues to guide us each and every day. Through hands-on activities and creative play, they explored what it means to follow that light in their daily lives. Some of their favorite activities included creating "Light the Path" footprints and the game 'Choice Corners' where they were given a scenario and had to decide if it was the right or wrong choice. This game allowed for some deeper conversations about how making the right choice can be difficult at times and remembering the right choice is not always the easy choice.

As we entered the season of Lent, our lessons shifted to the theme of choosing love and learning how to pray. The children have been discovering that prayer can be a way to share their thoughts, hopes, and cares with God. One activity the children especially enjoyed was creating prayer jars. Each child decorated their own jar and wrote down things they wanted to pray for on popsicle sticks before placing them inside. The jars serve as a special reminder that we can always take time to pause, reflect, and pray.

Youth Group continues to enjoy meeting every other Friday. The youth have spent time connecting through movie nights, board game nights, and sharing meals they prepared together, including making pizza. These gatherings have been a wonderful opportunity for the youth to build friendships and enjoy time together.

Looking ahead, the group is excited to explore ways they can give back and serve the community.

Our educational program, Early Explorers, continues to be a wonderful success. During this 12 week program, caregivers and their children ages 18–36 months come together to explore and learn through themed activities. This season's themes have included insects, ocean animals, spring colors, and winter wonders. Activities are designed to support practical life skills, fine motor development, early literacy, early math skills, and more, all while allowing the children to explore, create, and have fun in a welcoming environment. Due to the success of the program, we are looking forward to adding a second session this spring.

Plans for our summer camp are also well underway, with registration currently just under halfway full. Thanks to the grants we were fortunate to receive, we are able to offer families a sliding scale registration fee. Parents can choose from three price options that best align with their current financial situation, helping keep camp accessible for all families. We have four exciting camp themes planned for the summer: Arts, Sports, Games of the World, and Classic Camp. We have also just completed interviews for the four camp counsellor positions we are looking to fill this summer and are very excited about the talent, experience, and energy our new hires will bring to the program.

If you know anyone who may be interested in registering for camp, they can find more information and register online at: <https://stpaulsdundas.sunergo.net>



July 6 to August 21 for ages 5 - 12

**For more information
scan our QR code
or visit**

www.stpaulsdundas.com



LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Have you visited our Library lately? If so you will see that our display shelves are now filled with items depicting some of the interests of our Church such as YCC creations, Indigenous items, music. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the displays and especially Susanne Crago who created and printed the signage.

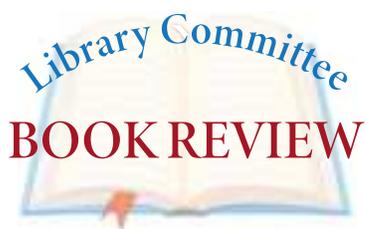
Thank you too to members of our congregation who, over the years, have donated books to the Library. They are very much appreciated because these books have made our Library so diverse and interesting.

We hope that you enjoy the monthly Book Reviews that the Library Committee contributes to our Sunday Bulletins. They are meant to help show the variety of books waiting for you to discover. We are pleased to report that since the book reviews began, many more books are being checked out. We do ask that you help us keep track of the books by using the "Check Out" binder on the counter before removing your book from the Library area. Please return your book as soon as possible to the "Return Basket" as others may be waiting to read it. Please do not reshelv the book yourself.

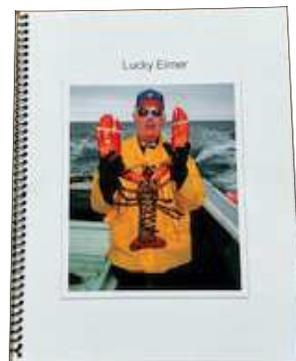
You may or may not know that the Library Committee is responsible to the Christian Development Committee. We are very pleased to have such a good working relationship and support from them.

Happy Spring!

Judy Kleven, Barbara Carson, Mary Unwin, Cathy Pengelly - The Library Committee



**NEW! A Biography of the fascinating life
of one of our own, Elmer Cantelo
written by one of our own, Winston Lindsay.
Available in April**



We are pleased to report that the Library has been given 2 copies of a spiral bound book written by St. Paul's member, Winston Lindsay on the fascinating life of Elmer Cantelo. He was known by many members of our congregation.

This is a biography, well written and an easy read of Elmer's early life in PEI, a province he loved, to a new life in Ontario. Although he had little formal education, Elmer experienced a most interesting life using his natural born skills, determination and compassion to maneuver through the tough times of his life...running away from an orphanage, settling in Ontario, his travels, and finding love.

To "Check Out" this book, please look on the counter under "Recommendations." The Library Committee



Happy Gang continues to be a popular afternoon program with people playing Dominoes and Rumi Kub, or Rummy Cube (same game, different spellings) and cards are also available for anyone who may wish to play them.

Our open invitation welcomes anyone from our church, any church in the area, including community members who would like to join us for an afternoon of

fun and fellowship. Refreshments are also available at break period.

Happy Gang hosted a Christmas Luncheon on December 10 for members as well as special refreshments to celebrate Valentines Day on February 11th this year.

We expect to continue with Happy Gang throughout the summer months, especially as the Parlour is air conditioned! If you are retired and feel that you would like an activity to keep you involved with our church, with little to no responsibility, please consider Happy Gang. See dates below for time and place.

All dates are on Wednesdays, playing time 2 to 4.30 pm in the Church Parlour.

March 25, April 8 and 22, May 13 and 27, June 10 and 24, July 8 and 22, August 12 and 26.

Happy Spring

Win Czum, Cathy Pengelly

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

On March 16th, St. Paul's new website was published. There are some small glitches that are being worked out but please visit the website at www.stpaulsdundas.com and see what you think. For the official launch, the Communications Committee is putting together a quiz and more info is coming soon. Answers can be found on the website and the prize for the winning entry is FREE Breakfast for your family on any Saturday, donated by the Valley Town Breakfast.

We are also working on a video of St. Paul's and Dundas to support the search for our new Lead Minister.

The Communications Committee is working with the Stewardship Committee to establish a new campaign and that will be presented to the congregation in April.

Barb Carpio has set up a book table at Coffee Time on Sundays and has a good selection of well-written and informative Indigenous books. Please speak to Barb and she can direct you to the most relevant book to help keep Indigenous relations top of mind.

Sarah French noted at our last meeting that the Social Media numbers are rising, meaning more people are visiting and liking our Facebook and Instagram pages. Good News! Thank you Sarah for your hard work.

The Communications Committee welcomes anyone interested in volunteering to help with the many projects we are working on. Please speak to one of us if you can help.

Sandi Stride, *Chair*; Fran Aird, Luke Alsop, Barb Carpio, Susanne Crago, Dave Davis and Sarah French



It's been a long, cold and brutal winter, but you wouldn't know it at warm and welcoming Café 55+. We've had growing attendance, new members from the Sit To Be Fit group at St. Paul's, terrific new volunteers, and a friendly greeting at each Thursday session marked by generosity, food and fun.

We've included a few photos from Christmas. We can also report record attendance in March when we reached 52 participants, an all-time high for a group that started less than two years ago and whose numbers have tripled (Yes, tripled!) over that time. We've also been able to return to alternating monthly between our two sites – St. Paul's Library and Parlour, and The Salvation Army on King Street. For April and June, we'll be at the Salvation Army. We plan on spending May and the summer at St. Paul's.

We owe it ALL to the spirit of friendship which permeates the Café – and to our volunteers who are awesome contributors and wonderful new friends.

A final word: our expanding numbers mean we need HELP in meal prep, cooking, playing games and befriending our guests. If you're interested and would like to volunteer, please let us know. Thanks!

Email: drdavedavis@gmail.com **Home phone:** 289 238 8989

Dave Davis, on behalf of the Café 55+ team – Amanda, Sheri-Lynn and Tina, Donna, Win, Ron and Bev, Brenda and David, Maureen, and many others!



OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Are you excited about all the great ministries St Paul's provides in the community? Just don't have time to commit to a big project? We're looking for a new Chair for the Outreach Committee - to hold the umbrella for all the Outreach activities and coordinate communication with other groups. It's a great opportunity to get to know more about what we do here and meet the super folks already involved. Below are some of the balls we have had in the air this winter:

1. Alarmed by learning that St. Paul's contributions to the United Church of Canada Mission and Service fund have been steadily shrinking, Outreach members set out to learn more about the fund. What is the Mission and Service fund about and where do the dollars collected go? Our research led to discovery of an amazing number of especially worthwhile projects supported by the fund. We determined to share some of what we learned by making short presentations over the Lenten series. Five Mission and Service stories have been shared, each reporting on unique projects supported by the fund.

Donations to the fund have been used to support the Brunswick Street Mission established in the 1860's to meet the needs of those experiencing poverty in Halifax. The mission serves as an urban hub providing food security through a food bank and breakfast program; one-to-one social work counselling and other services including a free tax clinic for those with low annual incomes. The Mission advocates for those experiencing poverty and homelessness in the Halifax Regional Municipality. Fully supported by the congregation of the Brunswick Street United Church since 1929, the Mission became an independent entity supported by the Halifax Presbytery of The United Church of Canada in 2009.

The Brunswick Street Mission is but one of the many important projects supported by the United Church. It was a challenge for Outreach members to decide which stories to select for presentation. Those chosen illustrate daily, practical help for those in need due to wildfires, floods and drought, food insecurity and social isolation. Two of the stories referred to the provision of private showers to offer dignity, relief, and a fresh start to the day for those who are unhoused. A gathering at Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre in Manitoba provided a time of healing for United Church ministers serving in northern communities. Those attending carried back not only renewed strength but also the reminder that they are not alone in carrying the unique and often emotionally demanding work. In 2024, pastors, farmers, teachers, and organizers from 13 countries gathered to discuss questions about food security, climate change, and community resilience.

When we give to Mission and Service, we're not simply supporting good intentions. We're strengthening the steady, rooted, courageous work that is already underway. We hope that the stories we have selected have increased congregants general knowledge of the United Church of Canada's Mission & Service fund and that through your givings, St. Paul's contributions to the fund will increase.

2. Alongside the above, our committee wishes to sincerely thank the many members of the congregation who generously contributed to the Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters caring bags collection. Our overflowing containers of toiletries, mittens, hats and scarves were much appreciated when collected by the HATS representative.

3. Other news:

Café 55+ continues to thrive as a resource for socially isolated individuals seeking community, some of whom are in need of food.

Linda Evans has joined our committee. Her thoughtful contributions are highly valued. She is serving alongside Judy Kleven as St. Paul's second representative to the Association of Dundas Churches. Linda fills the gap left by Mary Anne Tangney who served as a stalwart representative for over a decade.

4. Re: Our opening paragraph - the committee continues to look for a new chair. For further information, or to say 'I think I'm being called to Outreach', contact Sharon McKay via the church office. (office@stpaulsdundas.com, phone: 905 628 6396).

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The walls between the Library and Parlour have been painted.

A new washroom privacy wall and feature wall are currently being built in the Reception/Dining Hall. A new P/A system has been installed in the Reception Hall. Special thanks to John McCloy who researched and provided the specification drawings for the installation. Also, thanks to Peter Ross who oversaw the final stages of Reception Hall renovations.

New carpeting will soon be installed in the Moss Davidson Hill Room, Library and the Parlour/YCC hallway.

Discussions continue regarding the best options for an accessible emergency route from the Sanctuary.

Yvan Raymond
Chair, Property Committee

Valley Town BREAKFAST

Breakfasts on Saturday mornings continue to be a hub for good food and socialization. We are enjoying young families who dine with us, as well as students who are volunteering their time and talent this spring.

Please note, there will be no breakfast on Saturday, April 4th so our hard-working volunteers can take a break and be with their families over the Easter weekend. Please join us again on Saturday, April 11th. for the best breakfast in Dundas.

Happy Easter everyone!

Yvan Raymond



Mark your calendars now. FIESTA 2026 will be held **Friday, Oct. 23 and Saturday, Oct. 24.**

This is our **50th Anniversary** and over these many years, Fiesta has contributed significant funds to the work of St. Paul's.

It is possible though that this might be our last Fiesta. We need people to help run the event.

We have a wonderful team, but we need your help. Call or send me an email, or talk with anyone on our team. We would love to have you join us.

Joan Williams
905-536-7462
ttjwilliamsbirch@hotmail.com

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

How did we get to be so lucky? Perhaps it's not luck. Perhaps we have just been guided to these most wonderful gifts of worship leadership.

Our services of worship continue to touch us every week. We are taught, comforted, commended, perhaps forced to look at difficult truths, and sometimes even pushed into big belly laughs. Worship services continue to be at the centre of our church lives, where we gather together as one family.

Special thanks to Fredric, our Minister of Music who is our rock and our inspiration providing uplifting music Sunday after Sunday.

Beginning Sunday, Feb. 22, we have been blessed to have Rev. Mark Winger leading us in worship. Although recently retired, he agreed to lead us in worship through Lent and Easter. From comforting us through the disappointment of the Olympic hockey gold medal game, to welcoming a new child in baptism, Rev. Mark has quickly become a well-loved member of our community.

In our sanctuary the grand piano donated by Evelyn and Mert Hambly will be taking on a new role in our Reception Hall for special events. A new Yamaha C7X has been donated by our Toyo Eiwa friends in Japan. The new piano will be used in the sanctuary for services and for concerts.

On Sunday, April 12 we will welcome Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, the most recent moderator of the United Church of Canada. On April 19 we will meet Dr. Jose Zarate, Canadian Indigenous Communities and Latin America-Caribbean Development Program Coordinator. Then on April 26 Rev. Dr. Miriam Spies will come home to us and lead us in worship.

We are indeed blessed.

Joan Williams 905-536-7462 ttjwilliamsbirch@hotmail.com



Please join us for Sunday Service at 10 am.

Enjoy refreshments in the Dining Hall with friends following Sunday service.

Services are livestreamed and can be viewed on our website or Facebook.

We also record the services and upload to our website allowing you to view them at a later date.

The church office is open Monday to Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm but is locked outside of these hours.

Access only to those with a key fob.



Welcoming • Caring • Uplifting

St. Paul's Ministry Team

St. Paul's Website <https://stpaulsdundas.com>

Twitter or X <https://twitter.com/StPaulsDundas>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsDundas/>

Minister of Music: Fredric DeVries fredric@stpaulsdundas.com

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Merrill Graham

Church Office: 905-628-6396 office@stpaulsdundas.com



Our mission as a community of Christ's disciples is to grow in faith,
in love of God, all human beings and the world God created.