



<b>Melville United Church</b> St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON: 519-843-1781 Team Ministry	
Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care	Rev. Marion Loree
Minister of Faith Formation & Outreach	Jennifer Auger
Minister of Music:	Matthias Schmidt
Church Secretary:	Gerri McCullough
Custodian:	Robert Mitchell
Chair of Church Council:	Ralph Rainford
Pastoral Care:	Millie Cumming, Elizabeth Stinson
Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain	Alison Rainford
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February 23, 2014  
6<sup>th</sup> after Epiphany

February 23, 2014

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**Melville United Church**  
**February 23, 2014**  
**7<sup>th</sup> after Epiphany**

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\* *Congregation please rise as you are able.*  
**Bold print invites congregational response.**

**Our Mission**

We seek, we pray, we act knowing that Jesus is amongst us.

**Our Vision**

Knowing we are not alone on our spiritual journeys, Melville United Church seeks to be an open, compassionate and inclusive Christian community; honouring and serving the living Christ in all that we do.

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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome and Announcements

PRELUDE: Improvisation

**Sharing the Light**

**Chorus:** MV 18 God Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary  
**God prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy, tried and true;  
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary for you.**

**Call to Worship:** Based on Psalm 119:33-40  
(from *Everyday Psalms by James Taylor*)

Give me your rules, your guides, your regulations,  
and I will follow them all my life.

**Teach me your principles, so that I can understand your ways.**  
I long for clear instructions;

**I need each "i" dotted and each "t" crossed.**  
So point me in the right direction.

**Put my life in order.**

Don't let me be distracted by irrelevant details,  
or drawn aside by passing fancies.

**Lay out your law, and let me follow it - I won't look for loopholes.**

Do not treat me with contempt,  
when I have pursued your policies without question.

**I don't believe in ad-libbing my way through life;**

I want a straight and narrow path that I can follow.

**We come to celebrate your ways.**

Come, people of God. Let us worship together.

**\*Hymn: VU 234** Let us With a Gladsome Mind

**Prayer of Invocation and Confession:**

God, you have a very generous nature.

**You have given us gifts without number.**

You have given us families, friends and loved ones,

**shown us the power of forgiveness**

and graced us with opportunities for community

**where we can work together for good.**

But it seems impossible to love our enemies, O God.

**To forgive those who have hurt and humiliated us is not our  
natural, human tendency.**

Forgive us and show us that revenge does not work out,

**that if we see your point of view then peace can be shared**

**between us. Help us to know that with love nothing is impossible.**

**Amen.**

**Words of Assurance:**

As God promised the psalmist, so God keeps God's promise to us that  
the path of justice will be made clear, our hearts made whole, and life  
be given through God's perfect love.

**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

Chorus: MV 50 Alleluia (Duncan)

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

Ministry of Music: Draw Me Close to You - M. Hayes

Musical Guest - Gil Taves on Saxophone

**Hymn:** VU 299 Teach Me God, to Wonder

Theme Conversation:

Jen Auger

**Scripture Reading:** Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 (*from The Inclusive Bible*)  
(Living in God's way)

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Reader: Susan Barth

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 5:38-48 (*from The Inclusive Bible*)  
(Loving our neighbour is not enough)

**Message/Reflection:** "LOVING OUR NEIGHBOUR IS NOT ENOUGH"

Rev. Marion Loree

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**OFFERING**

Offertory Hymn: MV 191 What can I do?

**What can I do? What can I bring?**

**What can I say? What can I sing?**

**I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.**

**I'll bring my love. I'll do my share. (Repeat)**

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER (unison)

**God we thank you for these gifts and for the freedom to give. May  
they bless our neighbours as you have blessed us, so that we all may  
rest and work with the peace and reassurance of perfect love given  
and received through you. Amen.**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Prayer Prelude: MV82 Bathe Me in Your Light (vs1)

**Bathe me in your light, O God of All, Creator;  
let it shine upon my soul with healing and with grace.  
Be to me a beacon bright through shadows of life's wounding,  
showing me the way to live in faith, in your embrace.**

**Prayers of the People:****Prayer of Jesus:**

**\*Hymn:** VU 424 May the God of Hope Go with Us

**\*Blessing/Sending Forth:**

As we move from here into our Annual Meeting let us give thanks for the opportunity to serve God as Melville United Church.

**We thank God for this opportunity.**

Let us give thanks for each other and the gifts each of us brings to this community.

**We thank God for each other.**

Let us give thanks for the food and friendship that we go to share.

**We thank God for friends and good food.**

May we be nourished in body, mind and spirit, O God, as we do the work of your church together.

**Amen.**

\*Choral Closing: Melville Benediction

**Let's go out from here and take our place,  
Respect creation, sharing all God's grace.  
Treasure the past and things we have done,  
Open our minds to new things yet to come.  
God will be with us within, around, above,  
Bless all our doings. Let us go and love!  
Bless all our doings. Let us go and love!**

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**Prayer of the Week:** Holy Love, comfort us with the love that challenges our hearts. Steadfast Strength, firm up our foundations in the reassurance of the grace of Jesus Christ. Perfect Love, make perfect our understanding of the love that perfects us. Amen.

OUR WORSHIP ENDS - OUR SERVICE BEGINS

Postlude: Allemande - J. H. Schein

Partners in Prayer: Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fergus

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Letterbreen

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

**Welcomers:**

Susan Barth, Ken McManus,  
Isobel Glennie, Isabel Weaver

**Counters:**

David Gohn (C), Kaillie Rawn  
Lloyd Ross

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Feb. 23, 2014

**If you are worshipping with us for the first time, welcome!** Please sign our Guest Book at the back of the church or in the entranceway.

**Come and celebrate 2013 at Melville's Annual Meeting TODAY** in the Fellowship Hall after the worship service. Lunch will be provided as well as a programme for the children. The Finance Ministry Team will present the budget for 2014. The Stewardship Ministry is looking for members to fill vacancies on the various Ministry Teams. Prayerfully consider where your talents can be best used. Mark your calendar and plan to join us.

**Spirituality Circle will meet** at 10:00 a.m. on Mon. Feb. 24 in the parlour.

**Unit Faith meets on Mon. Feb. 24** at 2:00 p.m. in the parlour. Everyone is welcome!

**Unit Grace meets on Tues. Feb. 25** at 2:00 p.m. in the parlour. Everyone is welcome!

**Rev. Marion will be in her office at the church** on Tuesday and Friday mornings as time permits. If you need to see her you can drop in at those times or call her to arrange a different time. Telephone messages can be left on her confidential voice-mail anytime.

**Shrove Tuesday, pancake supper will be held** on Tuesday, March 4th in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us. Freewill Offering and All You Can Eat! If you would like to help, please contact Ralph Rainford.

#### **International Women's Day Celebration**

The Grandmothers of the Grand (Stephen Lewis Foundation) invites all ladies to a complimentary evening honouring Women of the World. Saturday, March 8th – 7 p.m. at the Elora Legion – Maple Leaf Room. Sample International foods from local Restaurants and Bistros. Shop at the Marketplace and bid at our silent auction. Meet your friends and make new ones. Take some time for you! Listen to the beautiful sounds of Janice Howie. Nancy Revie, motivational speaker will give an inspirational talk about International Women's Day. Women build bridges of peace and hope for the future. Call Elly for more info 519-843-1528

**Button, Button! Please wear your name button** to assist Rev. Marion in learning names here at Melville. If you need a new button, please see Ralph Rainford.

**Musical at Melville.** Spring will come and as in the past years we are planning our own - original - Musical production: THE WALL. This is planned for the Sunday after Easter, April 27th with rehearsing starting in February. We need Children for the Choir and Actors (non-singing parts) If you or your child/ren are interested please contact Matthias Schmidt at (519) 836-9720 or matsch@rogers.com

**The 5 Love Languages of Children.** This 3-session workshop for parents, grandparents and caregivers will be held here at Melville UC on the 1st Wednesdays of Feb., Mar., and Apr., from 7-8:30p.m. Facilitators are Heather Halls and Shawna Dunsmore. There is no cost, but please RSVP to Jen so we can prepare materials for you.

#### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Mon. Feb. 24 - Sun. Mar. 2, 2014

Mon. 24	10:00	Spirituality Circle	Parlour
	2:00	Unit Faith	Parlour
Tues. 25	9:00	Quilting	Parlour
	2:00	Unit Grace	Parlour
Thurs. 27	7:00	Choir	Parlour
Fri. 28	10:00	Coffee Hour	Parlour
	11:00	Meditation	Library
Sun. 2	11:00	Baptism Sunday Service	Sanctuary