



NEWSLETTER

FALL 2015

Celebrating the Abundant Harvest

St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON

Telephone: 519-843-1781

E-Mail: secretary@melvilleunited.com

Web Site: www.melvilleunited.com

Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care: Rev. Marion Loree

Minister of Faith Formation & Outreach: Jen Auger/

Rev. Robin Osborne

Director of Music: Matthias Schmidt

Church Secretary: Gerri McCullough

Secretary's Office hours: 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. T. Th. & F.

Custodian: Robert Mitchell

Chair of Church Council: Mary Lloyd

Pastoral Care: Alison Rainford

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Facebook Group: Melville United Church

PASTORAL CARE – Is someone ill, in hospital or needing to visit? Would you like to be included in our prayers? We also have prayer shawls that can comfort you or loved ones in times of need.

It is important to let Marion Loree (519-843-1781) and Alison Rainford (519-843-3841) know of pastoral care needs.

CARDS OF CONCERN, CARING OR CELEBRATION - Please contact our Pastoral Care Team through Alison Rainford (519-843-3841) or Doreen Ecclestone (519-843-1998) if you know someone who would like a card.

God makes everything beautiful in its time. Ecclesiastes 3:11
Happy Fall!

A Message from Rev. Marion Loree, Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care

September 2015



Well! Where did the summer go? It seems like only yesterday I was writing about looking forward to vacation time and a little rest and relaxation and challenging you to try some different ways to connect with Spirit. I hope you were able to find some time to put worries and cares aside and enjoy some down-time for yourself. That in itself can be spiritually renewing but if you did try something different I hope you will come and tell me about it.

September is a time of 'getting back to normal' so to speak - the kids return to school, people return to work, kids church and youth groups get underway at the church, various groups and organizations gear up again after a summer hiatus. It is a time of re-connecting and catching up with friends, acquaintances and colleagues. It is also a time to anticipate and prepare for the upcoming fall and winter seasons and the busy-ness that lies ahead.

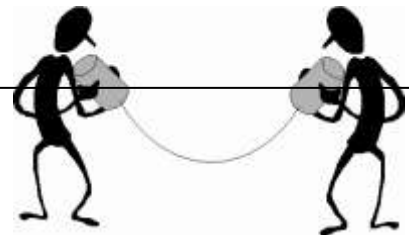
My wish is that, as you gear up and re-commit to whatever activities you like to take part in, you will remember to pause often, if only for a few minutes, for some Sabbath time. The word 'Sabbath' does necessarily mean "Sunday". Sabbath, according to author Donna Schaper in her book called "Sabbath Keeping" means "setting aside time for God." And God, to me, is the Spirit that dwells within each of us. So keeping Sabbath for me means setting aside some quiet time to re-connect with myself and my inner being. Being aware of what is going on inside us help us to focus on Spirit and the important things in life.

For some people Sunday morning worship is part of Sabbath time. For some, time spent enjoying nature is part of it. For some spending time with family is part of it. There are so many ways to 'unhook the world' and simply be. I pray that you can remember to take your Sabbath time - whatever it may mean for you - as often as you need it.

In the mean time, Melville United Church offers many opportunities and ways to connect and be involved - from kids church to spirituality groups, from Sunday worship to Church Council, from making coffee to visiting shut-ins - there is something for everyone here - a varied menu of activities to feed the body, mind and spirit.

I look forward to re-connecting with you as we get back into the 'swing of things' this fall. I am usually in the office Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays although the hours may vary depending on meetings etc and I try to be here Friday mornings for coffee hour, too. Hope to see you soon!

Blessings to all!
Rev. Marion



COMMUNICATION

1. You can "Stay Up to Date" by logging on to our web site www.melvilleunited.com.....Then....look to the lower left corner of the HOME page. Enter your email address there and you will get newsletters, the weekly bulletin and news alerts. It looks like this: "**Subscribe to www.melvilleunited.com to automatically receive updates.**"

Your email:

Enter email address...

2.



FACEBOOK HELPS US STAY CONNECTED. Pictures, events, and links to the wider United Church are frequently updated on Melville's Facebook page. You do not have to have your own Facebook page to see Melville's page. You can browse our "posts"/announcements by typing the following in your search bar "Melville United Church, Fergus Ontario on Facebook" or use facebook.com/pages/Melville-United-Church/ Similarly browse the United Church of Canada Facebook postings. Type in the browser's search bar: "United Church of Canada on Facebook".

3. Get news on the Melville email "grapevine". If you give your email address to the secretary, she will send out the occasional email about happenings at Melville to all on the email list.



Message from Jen Auger, Minister of Faith Formation and Outreach

Another year, another grade, and some new opportunities for your children and you to connect with programs at Melville!



Kid's Church:

Launching this Sunday, programs exist from birth to 20+. Leaders are Martha Duncan, Patty Foster, Ralph Rainford and myself, with help from other parents and volunteers. We will be exploring the wonders of Creation in September, the universality of the Golden Rule in October and the Widow's Gift in November. Friends are always welcome.

Youth Groups:

Mango Youth Group: For children in Grades 3-5. Meets the 3rd Sunday of each month, 6:30-7:30 p.m. This is co-hosted with Elora U.C. and we alternate between the two locations each month. Open to all in the community. A time for active games, fun and friends.

Bananas Youth Group: For youth in Grade 6-9. Meets the 1st Sunday of each month, 6:30-8 p.m. This is co-hosted with Elora U.C. and we alternate between the two locations each month. Open to all in the community. We enjoy active games and community outreach.

Dragon Fruit Youth: For youth in Grade 9+. Meets once a month at various times for community outreach and involvement. Next event: Trick or Eat on Hallowe'en in support of the Foodbank.

Play Eat Worship - PEW

A family fun night for all. 4th Friday of each month. Simple dinner is available from 5:30-6:15 p.m. Activities (board games, kid's movie, Lego, basketball, etc.) run from 6:30-8 p.m. Open to all ages and anyone from the community.

Please "like" our Facebook page

(<https://www.facebook.com/Melville-United-Church-196603387032133>) in order to stay connected to these and other upcoming events (i.e. concerts, fall festival, and more!)

Also, in case we don't connect in the next few weeks, I wanted to take this opportunity to extend my thanks for all the support and kind words you have offered me for my upcoming adventure. I will be going on sabbatical after Thanksgiving in order to complete a counselling internship in Kitchener over the next 6 months. Rev. Robin Osborne will be taking on the leadership of the children and youth ministry programs beginning in early October until my return. In case we don't connect in the coming weeks, I wish you the very best over the coming winter season and I look forward to seeing you in March!

Blessings,
Jen





Recent Work and Plans of Committees/Teams at Melville

Property

- Thanks to all who helped with many small “fix up” jobs this summer. Special thanks to Ralph Rainford for his leadership on getting the floors varathaned in the Upper Auditorium, the Chapel and the Parlour. Work on more small repairs/upgrades will continue. See Barry Rawn or Ralph Rainford if you can offer your help.
- Property oversees the rental of rooms for all events. Property is presently managing several ongoing weekly rentals: Centre Wellington Drama, Highland Dance Classes, Weight Watchers, Pilates, Karate, Scottish Dance, Highland Dance, VON exercises and the Early Years Centre and several events. All events and rentals are added to the calendar in the church office. Melville council recently updated their room rental policy.
- In looking for support to complete the floor in the Fellowship Hall, a grant was submitted to the New Horizons for Seniors Program. The proposal was for completion of the in-floor heating system. Thanks to Barry Rawn and Marg Frayne for submitting this grant.
- Property and the UCW have begun some investigations into remodeling the upstairs kitchen off the Parlour.
- Longer term large projects are planned for the future, including the repairs to the sanctuary stained glass windows.

Ministry and Personnel

- Reverend Robin Osborne was selected by a joint committee of M & P, Worship and Music and Faith Formation members, to be Melville’s temporary Faith Formation and Outreach ministry leader while Jen Auger is away on sabbatical. Her period of employment is from Oct 4th to March 18th inclusive.

Rev. Osborne is a resident of Guelph, and she is both a Diaconal and Ordained minister of the United Church. Robin has a wide range of skills and experiences that include work with team ministries, youth groups, drama, alternative worship, and creative communication. She also has a background in nursing, counselling and palliative care.

Welcome Reverend Robin Osborne!

Outreach Team

- Come and enjoy fellowship and food at fundraising breakfasts this fall: (Sept. 13), Oct. 18, and Nov. 15, 9:00 – 10:30a.m. Funds raised at the Sept. 13 breakfast were donated to the Women’s Community Lunch program at St. James Anglican church, sponsored by the Centre Wellington Social Justice group and Food Bank.
- Thank you to Marilyn and Don Emmerson for volunteering to take Melville’s donations to the **Food Bank**. We will keep you posted on the Food Bank needs. Watch for news about “Trick and Eat”...a joint youth and Outreach project collecting food at Hallowe’en for the Food Bank. Thank you for all donations!
- Please watch the poster at the back of the sanctuary for updates on the work of this team.
- Can you join this team to help with this important satisfying outreach work? 2 or 3 people are needed. No experience is required, just your enthusiasm!
- The loon has been seen in Melville again! Drop a loonie in the Loonie Bird for purchases supporting the Benevolent Fund and the Food Bank. The Benevolent Fund assists folks in need of an emergency meal; thanks to generous donors in our congregation, our Melville Ministers keep a supply of emergency gift cards on hand for folks who drop by the church asking for a meal.

*Oh give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good and His mercy endureth forever.
Psalm 136:1*



Recent Work and Plans of Committees/Teams at Melville (*continued*)

Faith Formation

- Melville's **Community Garden, "Thyme with God"**, was a delight to many. The harvest was shared with the Food Bank. Special thanks to those who helped in the creation and upkeep of the garden (especially Linda Mae Ogilvie, Ken McManus and Jen Auger). Melville celebrated this space with a Sunday service in the garden in June.
- Sharing your cooking skills. This committee is looking for a volunteer to teach some of our youth some cooking classes.
- Thanks to Martha and John Duncan for hosting the **Church Family Picnic** in June.
- Contact Martha Duncan to volunteer for Kid's Church.
- Youth groups have started meeting. Events are posted on Facebook and on our calendar.

Stewardship

Watch for the Stewardship program in the fall implemented by Stewardship and Outreach committees.

Faith Formation

- Melville youth groups have started. The Mangos Youth Group is for youth from grade 3-5 and their friends. This group is co-hosted by Melville United Church and Elora United Church. Come to make new friends and have fun together.
- The Bananas youth group is for youth in grade 6-9. This group started the year with volleyball at Elora P.S. followed by a campfire and marshmallows at the Weaver's place (in Salem).

Fun, Funds and Fellowship

- Plans are underway for our largest community fund raiser of the year, **Melville's Fall Festival, Oct. 24, 10 - 3**. Watch for notices about how you can help to make the Fall Festival a success. Donations for Attic Treasures, book, craft and Christmas tables, silent auction are accepted anytime now by contacting Lorna (519-787-5070).
- Please deliver items, baking and plants to the **Giant Garage and Bake Sale on Thursday, Nov. 5**, noon into the evening. The Garage and Bake Sale will run Friday, Nov. 6, Saturday Nov. 7, and Monday, Nov. 9 from 8 – 4.
- Thanks to all who donated time working at the Truck Show in July.
- This committee helped with several fellowship events including Family Camp and summer Garden Parties.
- A shower/wedding "money tree" was presented from all of their Melville friends to 3 couples this summer to: Cody and Rebecca Rawn, William and Katherine Miner and Cameron and Lauren O'Leary. Our very best wishes to these couples!

Waterloo Presbytery

- The new Moderator for the United Church of Canada for the next three years is Rev. Jordan Cantwell. Rev. Cantwell has been serving at a church in Saskatchewan. Please pray for her during these years of restructuring in the United Church.
- Have you heard about the **United Church Comprehensive Review**? Information will be coming to you soon. Melville will be asked to learn about the changes coming to the structure of our national church; we will consider the changes and vote on these changes. You can find information on line: <http://united-church.ca/general-council/gc41/comp-review>
- Are you interested in the work of the United Church beyond Melville's walls and connecting with folks from other congregations? Consider being a representative to Presbytery for Melville. Please speak to Chair of Council, Mary Lloyd. (To stay informed, take a look at the United Church of Canada's website or FACEBOOK page for information on the larger church.)

.....

*For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under Heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3, 1-22.*



Recent Work and Plans of Committees/Teams at Melville (*continued*)

Worship & Music

- What a great celebration we had in June of the 90th anniversary of union to form our United Church! Open houses, a massed choir, lunch and our sanctuary filled with guests from all area United Churches! Thanks to all who made this celebration possible, especially Lillian Gohn who conceived, planned and guided the volunteers.

United Church Women

- Join the fellowship and faith journeys of the women of the United Church. UCW meetings are posted in the bulletin. All welcome.
- The UCW has worked very hard and earned money to renovate the upstairs kitchen so planning for renovations has started.
- There are plans for several catering events during the fall. There will be opportunities to assist with events.
- And YES! UCW will be selling our famous meat pies. Watch the bulletin to see when the pies are available.

Finance Committee

Finance Report – January to July 31, 2015

	2015	Budget	2014
Givings	\$ 88,700	\$ 105,000	\$ 92,300
Other Revenue	28,600	21,000	26,300
Total Revenue	117,300	126,000	118,600
Expenses	117,700	135,200	118,500
Net Income	(400)	(9,200)	100

Melville reported a net loss of \$400 for the period of January 1 to July 31, 2015. Givings were down compared to budget and to 2014. Fundraising income and rental income are above budget. Expenses are below budget mainly due to timing of general maintenance projects, which has helped to offset the lower givings. Melville needs to increase givings in order to meet the budgeted expenses for the remainder of the year.

Trustees

This committee is carrying out the legal aspects of church property, administers bequests, legacies and memorial funds, keeps insurance policies up-to-date and keeps safe all church records (including Historical Roll).

Pastoral Care

This committee arranged a meaningful service in June for seniors who don't get out regularly to church. The UCW provided a soup and sandwich lunch with lemon and rhubarb custard pies. We celebrated the 90th birthday of the service for union with bell ringing and cupcakes on the lawn and we celebrated our own seniors that day! This committee also looks after cards, prayers, visits and prayer shawls.

*The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.
Numbers 6:24-26*

A message from Mary Lloyd,

Chair of Melville's Council

I love the autumn season... the change of the leaves, the cool evenings... children and families getting back into the swing of things!



Here at Melville we are too... hopefully you enjoyed the Outreach Team's breakfast on September 13th and maybe signed up to help a committee with an upcoming event.

Thank you to the small group of property guys here at Melville; jobs are getting done around the building! There is always room for a few more helping hands and if you can spare a few hours ... we will provide the supplies. Come and have some fellowship and see the results every Sunday.

Thank you to our gardening teams... both at Melville and at the Frayne's farm – many deliveries of fresh produce went to the Centre Wellington Food Bank. Thank you to the Duncan family for hosting the family fun barbeque event in June.

Council meetings have resumed and we have confirmed the hiring of our temporary Faith Formation and Outreach leader – Rev. Robin Osborne. Reports from General Council are anticipated as the fall moves forward and we will keep you all informed as the information becomes available.

We have a busy fall planned – on October 16th Melville hosts the concert “Songs of World War II” and our annual Fall Festival on Oct. 24th. In November will be a yard sale and the “Aloha” Elvis concert. Sprinkle in the catering work that the UCW has taken on and add our annual Stewardship campaign... and did I mention that there are volunteer opportunities?

God Bless,
Mary Lloyd,
Chair of Melville Church Council

Melville Church Council Chairs of Committees for 2015 – Council meets the first Tuesday of the month.

Chair: Mary Lloyd
Vice Chair: Allan Hons
Past Chair: Ralph Rainford
Secretary: Eleanor Johnston
Treasurer: Kaillie Rawn
Pastoral Care: Alison Rainford
Finance: Lara Johnston
Stewardship: Ralph Rainford

Communications: Marg Frayne
Ministry and Personnel: Phil Brown
Faith Formation: Allan Hons
Trustees: Norm Porritt
U.C.W.: Lorri Wright & Eleanor Johnston
Presbytery Rep: Susan Barth
Worship & Music: Lillian Gohn
Fun, Funds & Fellowship: Lorna Bevcarr



Dear Jen,

We want to give you our best wishes for your Sabbatical (mid October to mid March). We will miss you. We thank you for all the things you have done for us at Melville. Lots of luck in your work doing your internship for your counselling certification. See you back at Melville next March.

With love,





Fall Events Calendar

September

Sept. 8 - 7pm - Melville Church Council
 Sept. 13 - 11am "Welcome Back" service for all ages, Jen Auger and Rev. Marion Loree. Outreach breakfast from 9:30 – 10:30am.
 Bananas Youth Group (Grades 6 – 9), Volleyball at Elora Public School, 6pm
 Sept. 20 - 11am service Rev. Marion Loree; Mango Youth Group (grades 3 – 5) at 6:30pm
 Sept. 25 – PEW, dinner 5:30, activities 6:30pm
 Sept. 27 - 11am service

October

Oct. 4 - 11am World Wide Communion Rev. Marion Loree.
 Bananas Youth Group, 6:30-8:30pm
 Oct. 6 – 7pm Melville Church Council
 Oct. 11 - 11am Thanksgiving service, Jen Auger & Robin Osborne
 Jen starts her leave.
 Oct. 16 - 7:30pm "Songs of WWII" concert at Melville
 Oct. 18 - 9:00 – 10:30am Outreach Breakfast. 11am service.
 Mango Youth Group, 6:30-8pm
 Oct. 23 – PEW 5:30pm
 Oct. 24 - 10:00am – 3pm Fall Festival with Music by Marion Loree & Friends at 11 – 11:40am
 Oct. 25 - 11am service

November

Nov. 1- 11am service. Bananas Youth Group, 6:30 – 8pm
 Nov. 3 – 7pm Melville Church Council
 Nov. 6, 7 & 9 - Giant Garage and Bake Sale 8am-4pm
 Nov. 8 - 11am service
 Nov. 15 - 9:00am Outreach Breakfast. 11am service. Mango Youth Group, 6:30-8pm
 Nov. 22 - 11 am service
 Nov. 27 – PEW 5:30pm
 Nov. 28 - 7:30pm. "Aloha" concert at Melville
 Nov. 29 - 11am service, communion



Fall Festival

Oct. 24
10am – 3pm

Concert by Marion Loree and Friends at 11:00 –11:40am
"Easy Listening Music" in the sanctuary
(freewill donation)

Lunch, drinks and snacks all day

.....
 Donate items anytime now for a Silent Auction, Attic Treasures,
 Bake, Christmas, book & craft tables.
 Call Lorna 519-787-0570
 Invite friends for music and good food.

Outreach Breakfasts:

(Sept.13)

Oct. 18

Nov. 15



Songs of WWII

7:30pm Tickets \$15 at Melville office, Ralph Basset,
 Ron Wilkin's, or at concert door.

Brad Halls (piano and vocals), singers Laura Harp,
 James Walke, Patricia Ramos-Ward, & musicians
 Matthias Schmidt (trombone),
 Brad Moggach (sax and clarinet) & Rob Valli
 (trumpet).

***Songs of a momentous era and the stories behind
 the songs.***

***Commemorating the 70th anniversary of the end of
 WWII.***

Also at Harcourt United, Guelph Oct. 18



"Aloha"

Concert featuring Steve Michaels as Elvis
 Nov. 28, 7:30pm
 Tickets (\$35) at Ralph Basset Associates
 519-843-4852

**Donate anytime now or remember to drop off
 items & baking
 on Thurs. Nov. 5, noon to evening for the
 GIANT GARAGE & BAKE SALE
 Nov. 6, 7, & 9 from 8-4.
 Call Lorna 519-787-0570.**