



**Celebrating
178 Years**



May 5, 2024

Melville United Church

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Faith Formation & Youth
Ministry of Music Team
Office Administrator
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Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain
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Melville United Church
May 5, 2024
Mental Health Week

Service lead by SJ&O, prepared by Jane O'Leary

Prelude

Welcome

Announcements

If you are worshipping with us for the first time today, you picked a great day!

Everyone is invited for today's **Lasagna Luncheon**, hosted by Suzanne Flewelling, Colleen Weber and the UCW. Lunch will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Please join in for fun, fellowship, and conversation!

- **Melville meat** pies are available. **\$5 each**. You can help by telling friends, neighbour's and family that our pot pies make a delicious easy meal. Come in for pick up on Fridays 10 a.m. - 12 and stay for a coffee. Or pick up on Sunday after church. Or call Marg Frayne 519-843-3274.
- Join Us for Our Ongoing **Garage, Plant, & Bake Sale! Fridays & Saturdays 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**. We welcome donations of good used/new items and plants. Help support our cause and find treasures while you're at it! For more information, call Lorna 519-787-0570
- **Search Team Update:** As we prepare to review candidate information and plan interviews, we are committed to ensuring our actions reflect God's radically inclusive love and justice. We've spent time considering our biases, reflecting on privilege and power, and reviewing human rights. We have thoughtfully considered our interview questions. We desire to represent Melville in a respectful, loving and welcoming manner in all steps. Stay tuned. We will keep the Council and congregation informed while maintaining the required confidentiality. Please pray for the interviewees that they will come prepared and confident— and for us, that we are able to provide a safe and welcoming environment in which each interviewee feels able to shine. One prayer has already been answered; a Liaison has been identified to guide and support us through the next critical steps! Thank you for your continued support and encouragement. It is appreciated. With thanks, Jane O'Leary (chair), Heather Halls, Chris Hopewell, Lara Johnston, Alison Rainford, Dave Ogilvie
- **Rev. Marion Loree** is here on Fridays during Coffee Hour and is also available for an hour or two afterwards.
- **Rides needed for seniors:** Can you help? Rides to Friday Morning Coffee (10 - 11am), and Sunday Service (11am - Noon). Please speak to Lorna Bevcar
- **Friday or Sunday Coffee Time** – We encourage people to sign up to host either a Friday or a Sunday Coffee Time. It is not difficult! We'd be pleased to show you how. Sign-up sheets are at the Parlour Door. Please speak to Lorna Bevcar or Marg Frayne.

- Rev. Felicia Urbanski encourages anyone to attend an **annual interfaith breakfast** event, this year on the topic of Belonging, on **Wednesday, May 15**, from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Bingeman Centre, 25 Bingeman Centre Drive, Kitchener. The cost of individual tickets is \$50. If you wish to put together a table of six, the cost is \$275.00. Registration is open until May 9, 2024. For details and to purchase your tickets, click on this link. <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/interfaith-community-breakfast-2024-belonging-tickets-861577600797?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>
- **The One Stop Pork Chop Shop.** A drive through, take out, dining experience. Jesse's at the Guelph Country Club, 133 Woodlawn Rd. E., **Thursday, May 23rd 4:15-6:00 pm. \$28 per dinner**, donations welcome. To order contact Kathy for a pick-up time kathyrobertstephens@gmail.com or call 519-829-9622. **Please place your order by May 20th.** Proceeds and donations support the work of Trinity United Church in the Community.
- **Falls Prevention Workshop** Learn how to prevent falls and stay safe. **Friday, May 24th 2:00pm** at Melville United Church in the Fellowship Hall. This is a free workshop to get tips and strategies to reduce your risk of falling so you can stay independent. **Preregistration is required:** Please call 519-638-1000 or email hedwards@mapleton.ca to assure a seat. Provided by Seniors' Centre for Excellence, VON, and Upper Grand FHT.
- **The Bells Are Back in Town.** The Bells of Westminster **Tuesday, June 4th 7:00 pm.** Westminster United Church 247 Broadway, Orangeville. Free will offering.
- Thank you for your donations to the **Food Bank** there is an **ongoing need** of nonperishables, toiletries, or a gift card. Baskets are in the sanctuary.

Land Acknowledgement

Let us take time to acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial.

God, help us to be thankful, and to become better neighbours and stewards that we might continue to honour these lands.

Lighting of Christ Candle

As we light this candle, we are reminded of the flame in each of us; a fire of passion to be shared with the world. Through Christ, the physical reminder of God on Earth, we feel the power and love inside ourselves. With this invitation we are welcome; safe and ready to shine.

Call to Worship

One: We gather in the presence of the One who abandons no one.

All: Come Holy Spirit, our advocate and comforter.

One: All are welcome in this sacred place, made holy through your presence with us.

All: Open our hearts and minds this day, guide us into a loving relationship with all your children.

One: We gather as God's beloved people, leaving no one outside.

All: Spark us with a word of life and radical belonging— a message that we share with others as we seek to live out Christ's love.

One: We call on the name of God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us.

All: Amen.

Opening Hymn: Come In, Come In and Sit Down (Part of the Family)

VU 395

Come in, come in and sit down,
you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found,
and we are a part of the family.

- 1 You know the reason why you came,
yet no reason can explain;
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,
for we are a part of the family. R
- 2 God is with us in this place,
like a mother's warm embrace.
We're all forgiven by God's grace,
for we are a part of the family. R
- 3 There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,
but we are a part of the family. R
- 4 There's rest for the weary and health for us all;
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.
So come in and worship and answer the call,
for we are a part of the family. R

Gathering Prayer (in unison)

God of love, today as we recognize Mental Health Week, stir in us deep compassion for people struggling with mental illnesses and their families. Raise our awareness of how we can create a supportive and safe spiritual community for people who feel isolated, shunned and ashamed. Inspire us to reach out in love and kindness as a sign of your radical hospitality and grace. Encourage us to receive the gifts that are given by all, including those who are living with mental health challenges. Amen.

Ministry of Music: There's A Wideness in God's Mercy *Words by Frederick William Faber (altered)*
Music by Maurice Bevan

Time with Children

Reflection: Kindness In Many Forms

Today's service is going to be a little different as we connect the theme of Kindness to Mental Health and also to the work of Melville's Search Team.

A Call to be Kind. Kindness is the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. It's where you act in the best interests of others, out of a sense of love, empathy, and compassion.

Kindness and compassion are critical supports for Mental Health.

Kindness – helping others – can include showing respect, recognizing others' value and contributions, inviting others to participate and share their gifts – Welcoming others.

No one wants to be an outsider.

No one wants to be laughed at, bullied, or assaulted for being different.

No one wants their differences to be obstacles to getting opportunities for education or work.

Everyone wants a chance to share their gifts, to be valued, to be safe, and to be welcomed.

We are so thankful to have The Grove Hub – Fergus supporting youth ages 12 to 26 here in our community. It is one of 5 sites operating in Guelph & Wellington, soon to be 7. Their common aim is to be a safe and welcoming place for all youth. They took the time to understand the experiences and diverse needs within each community. Then developed their Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Indigenous Reconciliation (EDIIR) Framework, which is being implemented at all of their sites. This will foster a sense of belonging in individuals within the communities and have lasting positive effects on the mental health of our youth.

Kindness and welcoming are also important for the Search Team.

During training, our team was challenged to confront our biases. We need to ensure we are not eliminating candidates because of unfair biases. We want to show respect in our questions and our interview meetings. We need to reflect Melville's Mission and provide the best opportunity for candidates to shine during an interview.

Our training included 4 short videos, and we were asked to share these with our congregation. We need our congregation to be prepared to extend kindness in our welcome for whoever God brings to fill our Supply Ministry role.

Melville has a wonderful history of kindness. Kindness that acts when others are hurting. Kindness that supports someone trying something new. Kindness that makes welcoming a part of our mission, vision and values.

We'll watch two of the videos together now. Links to all 4 videos will be added to Melville's website under the Social Justice section, later this week.

Hymn: Let Us Build a House MV #1

- 1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

- 2 Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

- 3 Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

- 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (in unison)

We pray for those who live in the midst of injustice.
Encourage us to lift up their voices and strengthen their hope.
We pray for those who continue to perpetuate injustice.
May your kindness fill our hearts
and make us agents of freedom and peace.
We pray for every institution and person
who stands for justice.
Let us act justly according to your words.
Today we ask you:
O God, grant us your justice
and hear us as we speak your prayer ...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kin-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Invitation to Offering

In our offering we share not only measurable treasures of time, talents and resources, we also radically commit to sharing immeasurable gifts of forgiveness, grace, kindness, compassion, acceptance and loving concern with each other and with ourselves.

Offering Hymn: What Can I Do MV 191

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. (x2)

Offering Prayer

In all that we do, all that we say, and
all that we give, may we create spaces of
radical belonging for all. Amen

Minute for Mission

Commissioning and Benediction

We thank you for the many colours, cultures, and customs that we share in this world.
In our differences, unite us by your love.
Enable us to act together to uphold life and to make this world a just and peaceful household
for all humanity.
Today we ask you: O God, hear our prayer and grant us your peace. Amen

Postlude

Welcomers: Barb Gregory, John Cuming

Counters: Phil Brown, Norm Porritt

Worship Schedule

May 12	Christian Family/Mother's Day	Rev. Felicia Urbanski
May 19	Day of Pentecost	Rev. Tom Watson
May 26	Trinity Sunday	Rev. Jeff Hawkins
June 2	Pride Sunday	Social Justice & Outreach