

wellington
square



February 26, 2017

I've Been Thinking...

...that we had a terrific Annual Congregational Meeting on Wed evening. (Or so I hear – I was home hibernating with the effects of the flu).

I saw the printed Annual Report, and it was the best looking, easiest to read, fun report we've had decades. Catherine Wagg (in the office) and a lot of great 'team captains' can take credit for that.

All of that led to a good attendance, and a tight & bright Congregational Meeting. What were highlights?

Multiple sources tell me that Lisa Lunski delivered an inspirational report on how lives are being transformed and changed through the FNC (Fri. Night Community). That community makes a difference in the lives of both volunteers and guests.

We heard a promising report from the Music Ministry Task Group (thanks Anne!), sharing the news that we will hire 2 music leaders, one for the 9:00 and one of the 11:00a.m. service. Worship can only benefit

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A Wider Rationality

"For we did not follow cleverly devised myths...but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty.... We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain."

2nd Peter 1:16 & 18 (NRSV)

welcome!

We're glad you're here today. We're a group of people learning what it means to be followers of Jesus. This is a place where everyone is welcome, **no-body's perfect, and anything is possible.** We welcome and encourage you to share your life with us as we journey in faith together.

What can you expect on a Sunday morning? Our worship services aim to be about 70 minutes long, with a mix of praise singing & prayer, and a time of inspiration and learning through the teaching that explores scripture, and issues of everyday life.

We believe that by working together, sharing our faith and our lives, we can accomplish much more than we could **individually. With God's help and the** power of the Holy Spirit, we believe we can transform our community and our world as the hands and feet of Jesus on earth.

If you're ready for us to get to know you, please fill out a "Connect" card from the pew and bring it to the Connection Point in the foyer after the service. We hope you too will find a place of belonging here, and share your life and faith journey with us.

happenings

New to our church? We would like to get to know you | Please fill out a connection card in the pews and bring it to the Connection Point Table in the foyer, or hand it to one of the greeters.

Staff Notes | Rev. Katie Southon will be away Feb 25 - Mar 11th. Rev. Orville James is available during this time for any pastoral needs.

Fellowship Lunches 2017:

March 19th	April 23rd
May 28th	October 15th

Nut-Free Scent-Free | Please note that at Wellington Square we do our best to be a nut-free and scent-free safe space for everyone. Thank you for your contributions to this effort.

Givings Envelopes | Envelopes for 2017 are now available for pickup in the office and in the foyer this morning.

Please destroy any of your unused envelopes at the end of 2016 as your number may have changed from the prior year.

Help Wanted at the 11am Service | Greeters, ushers and servers for Communion needed. If you would be able to greet at the door, take collection, and/or serve Communion, your help would be much appreciated. Please see Joyce Pearson or Karen Guyatt, or leave your name and contact information with the office and we will contact you. Thank you.

happenings cont.

Calling all interested singers (The Mob) to contact Juanita if they would like to participate in a dramatic musical excerpt of Jesus Christ Superstar (Hosanna and This Jesus Must Die) to be presented on Palm Sunday (April 9) at both services with full band, and special guest Frederick Bruce Owens as Caiaphas



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uo81UqO54dg>

You may reach Juanita at jmaldonado@wsquare.ca.

If you have questions, please call Juanita at 289-440-1623. Juanita will host a Jesus Christ Superstar info session March 9th from 7-7:30 pm. in the Music Room.



Every week as we serve on Friday evenings, we are reminded of the great needs. Dozens of dedicated folks help in all parts from set up and shopping, right up until the last plate is cleaned and counter wiped. Some of us sit with friends and enjoy a meal together while **others scrub the dirty plates and don't see** much outside of the busy kitchen space. We so appreciate the dedicated volunteers who come through our doors, and are thankful for their patience and flexibility as we work in sometimes cramped and fast moving areas. In the midst of this, it is wonderful to see folks walk alongside others by guiding and assisting, encouraging one another and showing appreciation. Please know that in all that you do, your gifts of service, friendly tone and words of affirmation are appreciated by many.

"Therefore encourage one another and build **one another up, just as you are doing.**" 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Most needed items:

***snacks for children's lunches**

*salad bar toppings

*twin, double, queen duvet/sheets (newer)

*vacuum (gently used)

*gently used/newer pull out couch

*double bed & mattress (gently used)

*boys clothes 2t-5, **men's boots 11 and up**

***children's rain boots (gently used)**

***men's jeans size 36-42**

*pull-ups for children size 5/6

For information contact: fnc@wsquare.ca

Joseph Brant Hospital Mental Health Consumer Advisory Committee

Presented in Partnership
with:

Friday night
CommUNITY

Friday March 3, 2017
Friday Night Speakers Series

Sandy Yuen M.S.W.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

What is Post Traumatic Stress Disorder P.T.S.D.

*Awareness and understanding of Trauma care and different
approaches to attending to people with traumatic experiences*

FRIDAY March 3, 2017

PRITCHARD ROOM, WELLINGTON SQ. UNITED CHURCH

2121 CAROLINE STREET, BURLINGTON

Speaker at 7PM to 8:30PM

Dinner @ 6pm All Welcome

Sponsored by:

Friday night
CommUNITY



**BURLINGTON
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

**JOSEPH BRANT
HOSPITAL**

**Mental Health Consumer
Advisory Committee**



GraceLand provides a FUN, SAFE and FRIENDLY place where we learn about God's love and how to shine His light every-day. Nursery to Grade 6. Sunday's at 9am.

Sign-in/out procedures are important for us to follow to ensure safety for all children and leaders. Pager systems are available to provide extra comfort and ease for families.

February Theme:

We are teaching children about the Ten Commandments God gave to His people to obey and follow. Unpacking these scripture commandments in relevant ways helps children understand how to live a life of freedom, love and safe keeping.



GraceLand Band Practice today Sun. Feb. 26th from 10:30-11:30am

GraceLand Needs: Gently used-washed or new, white tube socks



Youth Ministry

An Update from Spence

Friends,

If you were thinking that you haven't seen me in a while - you'd be right.

Around January 20th I injured my back and have been struggling with managing the pain, sleeping and healing the damage that was done. I am being well cared for by Jody and the kids, our doctor, a chiropractor and a physiotherapist, but I am an **impatient patient and can't wait to get back** to my church family and the ministry I love.

I am so very thankful for my supportive colleagues (special thanks to Heather Mackey for stepping up to help out in my absence); for Heather Germain and the entire M&P team; and for all your kind words and prayers.

Details regarding Confirmation will be provided soon – thank you for your patience.

I'll be back!

Spence

An Opportunity for Young Adults

I'm looking to gather a group of young adults (late high school to mid-twenties) to work through a new small group curriculum on vocational discernment – faithfully figuring out the direction for our lives. This group will explore resources for making big life decisions (career, relationships, and more). Please contact me to learn more.



Making Rows into Circles"

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them"

Matthew 18:20

Discipleship Café: Saturday April 29

Time: 10am-noon (**Marg's marvelous muffins** & coffee being served at 9:45am)

Topic: EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP AT EVERY LEVEL with T.D. Jakes

- how to have leadership excellence at every level
- the change begins with me
- the three moves of MOSES

Sign up at the CONNECTION POINT TABLE

Lenten Study | "THE BAD BOYS OF

EASTER" "In the days and weeks preceding

the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, three men found their way into the story. Each refused to abandon his quest for control and

surrender to the Savior of the world. In this 3-part series, Andy Stanley uncovers the stories and

how you fit in." This will be a three week

study on Tuesdays offered both evening & in the afternoon. Start date: We are offering this study Tuesdays, March 21, 28th & April 4th at 2pm or 7pm in the Pritchard Room.

Sign up at the Connection Point Table.



SAVE the DATE: MEET & GREET Monday, May 1st @ 7pm in the Pritchard Room (Details to follow at a later date)

THE SHACK - 'Where Eternity Confronts Tragedy'

An opportunity to read & discuss the most impactful novel of the last decade (Over 10 Million copies sold, and 70 weeks on the NY-Times best-seller list).

Beginning March 2nd, Orville will lead a 3 week encounter with the book that led Wynonna Judd to say "this story has blown the door wide open to my soul."

Come Thursdays, either 1:30p.m or 7:15p.m to deepen your understanding of God, and how our faith can shape and restore our lives despite hardship and loss. Sign up at 'The Connection Point' table. New copies will be available for \$15; *However - Special request: We used 'The Shack' 6 years ago. If you still have a copy of the book and might loan it to someone, please put your name inside, and bring it to the church.*

Connection Point 9am and 11am Teams (greeters, ushers, team leaders, offering team) please meet with Joy on Sunday March 5 at 10:30am in the McMillan Room.

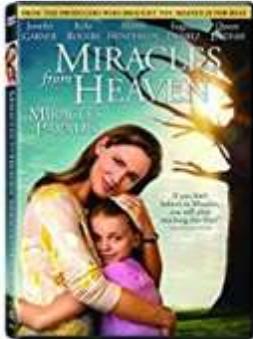
LENTEN DEVOTIONAL - "AT THE CROSSROADS" is now available at the Connection Point. If able, please donate at loonie or toonie **to help cover the cost. "Lent is the perfect season to consider the critical crossroads of life - losses, transitions, choices, uncertainties and disappointments - those times when faith and life intersect."**

...Jesus Calling devotional now available again at the Connection Point (\$11).

For a complete listing of small groups this winter, see the brochure in the foyer or go to www.wsquare.ca



Footsteps Library



Miracles from Heaven: A Little Girl and Her Amazing Story of Healing
Christy Wilson Beam

Don't miss this incredible, true story of healing! Take in the film, or read the book that inspired it. From a very young age, Annabel Beam was plagued with a rare and incurable digestive disorder. Her mother tells the heartbreaking story of **Anna's constant pain and frequent hospital stays** that prevented her from living a normal childhood. **Despite this, the family's faith in God** was strong and held them together. After an accidental fall into a huge, hollow tree, Anna claims she visited heaven, and is subsequently completely cured!



Outreach

HOPE IN MALAWI

The rains have come and the corn is growing. The fields look beautiful and the harvest should be much better than in previous years. As a result of the Malawi Farming Project, two hundred and fifty families have been provided with enough seed and fertilizer to plant one quarter of an acre. The resulting crops are giving them hope and bringing positive changes to many lives. Pastor Moses will continue to share success stories with us over the coming months.



wellington square united church

905-634-1849

office@wsquare.ca www.wsquare.ca

2121 Caroline St, Burlington ON L7R 1L7

Office Hours: Mon to Wed 9am-4pm,
Thurs 10am-3pm, Fri 10am-2pm

Children/Family Ministry (GraceLand)

Heather Mackey (ext. 21)

hmackey@wsquare.ca

Youth Ministry

Spencer Edwards (ext. 11)

sedwards@wsquare.ca

Adult Faith Ministry

Joy Magwood (ext. 23)

jmagwood@wsquare.ca

Friday Night Community Coordinator

Lisa Lunski (ext. 0) *llunski@wsquare.ca*

Music Ministry at 11am

Juanita Maldonado (ext. 20)

jmaldonado@wsquare.ca

Administration

Catherine Wagg (ext. 15)

cwagg@wsquare.ca

Jennifer Erbiceanu (ext.10)

office@wsquare.ca

Outreach Missions Coordinator

Karen Guyatt (ext. 0) *kguyatt@wsquare.ca*

Finance

Karen Dobson (ext. 16) in Wednesdays

treasurer@wsquare.ca

Custodian Team

Randy Taylor (ext. 12) / Raul Gutierrez

Ministerial Team

Rev. Dr. Orville James (ext. 19)

ojames@wsquare.ca

Rev. Katie Southon (ext. 14)

ksouthon@wsquare.ca

Rev. Tom Chire (*Voluntary*)



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by giving our dedicated volunteers this professional support.

Finances can concern some people, but apparently at present, there is no cause for concern. One Board member reported to me ***"The fact that we were only \$3000 in the hole (on a \$700,000 budget) and most of that was because of a audit\review which was necessary to get mission grants & funding applications completed, is very good news."*** Also, prudent money management has given us a reserve to easily cover that slight deficit.

If I had been there, I was hoping to also report some encouraging attendance averages. We count carefully, and know that our averages over the last 3 years have held steady, for the same period (Oct-Nov) each year. We have had right around 430 people here, including about 130 in GraceLand. The numbers wobble slightly but the averages have held pretty steady.

Of course, as followers of Jesus, we want to extend the faith community to many more who are spiritually hungry; so we are not complacent. Maybe a goal we could each quietly attempt this year – bring someone who has spiritual questions or hunger – bring them to your church.

Other goals? Two were mentioned last evening. Why not pay off the last of the \$190,000 left on the mortgage by the July 8th renewal date? And why not this year, put Air-Conditioning into the main sanctuary, well before the hot summer. Well – why not?

I know we can be successful at all these goals – invite someone to join you at church; and, think about what significant financial contribution you can make this year.

Peace & Joy to you, *ORVILLE*