

### ***I'VE BEEN THINKING...***

...about the attack on the mosque in Quebec City. Like many of you I was jolted, stunned, and then felt shame and embarrassment that this happened in Canada. Most of the time we are proud of Canada, very comfortable with our reputation for tolerance, kindness, peace. So this event not only shocked us, it hurt our pride.

And for followers of Jesus, and all people of goodwill this violent event wounds our spirits. Several of you contacted me to share the shock and grief together. I am grateful to those who were able to attend the vigil on Monday evening at City Hall, and to the many others of you who have expressed your sorrow to God, in prayer.

#### **It is inevitable that we will ask 'Why?'**

What caused this? And when the answer **seems to be that it was one, isolated person's** insane hostility we will, to some degree, feel helpless. From all reports, the attacker used a restricted, illegal weapon. He never should have had that gun. So one of the best responses we can give as individuals is to continue to support strong gun control in Canada. And all efforts and treatments toward mental health. And all efforts and education toward religious tolerance and inclusivity.

*(continued on back page)*

wellington  
square



February 5, 2017

## Five Habits for Living Well: The Most Important Commandment of All

**"Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.**

--Deuteronomy 6:4-9

# 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, **nobody'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.

Communion Sunday Collection for the Crisis Care Fund | Today we invite you to contribute to our Crisis Care Fund - a vital resource used with prayerful discernment by your ministry team. It allows us to provide care and hope for those in our wider **community as they cope with some of life's** harshest realities. Our prayer is for a day when such a fund will have no use...and we pray, until that day arrives, you will continue to contribute generously.

Givings Envelopes | Envelopes for 2017 are now available for pickup in the office. *Please destroy any of your unused envelopes at the end of 2016 as your number may have changed from the prior year.*

Fellowship Lunches 2017:  
February 19th    March 19th  
April 23rd        May 28th  
October 15th    November 19th

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.

Annual General Meeting | Please join us for our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday February 22nd. Coffee at 6:30pm, meeting begins at 7pm.

## happenings cont.

Community Garden Initiative |

**A 'community garden' is a powerful tool to help** to build our families and neighbourhoods.

Community gardens have ecological, social, nutritional and economic benefits. For us at Wellington Square, a garden would improve community relationships and community building. Those who do not have access to a growing space of their own could benefit from enjoying fresh food that they plant and tend to themselves. Food knowledge would increase as people gain an understanding of growing, harvesting and cooking. Those who participate in its care would have an increase in their physical activity level and improved mental health, as they work towards a goal and take pride in the end results. A community garden at Wellington Square would be a valuable place and space for people to get to know one another and build a sense of community and belonging.

We are looking for folks interested in the planning, implementing or care for a Community Garden here at Wellington Square. We would also benefit from connections for purchasing materials for a garden.

For more information please contact:  
llunski@wsquare.ca

From Outreach | *Thank you* to everyone who supported our Trivia Mind Meld. It was a terrific night of fun and fellowship with the proceeds going to our African projects.



Every Friday we join together and reconnect with friends. Some folks are there every **Friday and when we don't see them they are missed.** Friends hold each other accountable and even take it upon themselves to find out why another was absent. It is always a joy when folks come in our doors who we have not seen in a long time.

We continue to have new friends come to volunteer each week. We appreciate the patience folks show when taking people under their wing and walking alongside them with kindness and grace.

**"For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people's love and concern for each other."**

Millard Fuller

Most needed items:

**\*Valentine's candy**

**\*snacks for children's lunches**

\*salad bar toppings

\*lemonade & ice tea crystals

\*larger sizes of adult winter boots

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

\*gently used/newer pull out couch

\*twin head & footboard for 8 year old girl

\*desk light

\*boys clothes 2t-5, boots 11, coat size 10

\*adult winter coats sizes 3x & 4x

**\*men's underwear and long underwear sizes**

XL and larger

**\*men's track pants size 3xl-5xl**

**\*womens' boots size 6,8, men's size 10,11**

**\*men's running shoes size 10**

For information contact: fnc@wsquare.ca

## Board Nominee Bios

Greg Buxton-Forman



Shelley and I are excited to have found our church family and fellowship at Wellington Square. I was first introduced to Wellington Square by Peter and Rene Kraus (my amazing in-laws) in 2009 when I was still living in Toronto. In August 2012, Shelley and I were blessed to have Katie marry us. Two years ago we moved to Burlington, allowing us to continue our faith journey and invest in the amazing community at Wellington Square. Since joining, we have been fortunate to be involved in **some of the smalls groups, including the "Guardrails" series, "Staying in Love" series and the current Alpha course.** We are also a part of the incredible Graceland team, where I help with the Grade 4 and Grade 5 Class and Shelley helps with the Grade 1 and Grade 2 Class. The Graceland leaders and children have truly enriched our lives.

Originally from South Africa, my family and I immigrated and settled in Oakville in 1996 braving the freezing Canadian winters. I obtained my Bachelor of Commerce degree from McGill University followed by my Chartered Accountant designation while working at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in Toronto. I recently returned to PwC as a Senior Manager in the Audit and Assurance practice in Oakville after a few years working in industry at various private and public companies. I am passionate about all sports including tennis, rugby, golf, hockey (Leafs, not Red Wings), basketball and ultimate frisbee.

It would be an honour to serve as a member of the Board and I am looking forward to becoming more involved in the Wellington Square family!

Tony Wilson

Wellington Square became our church home in August 1999, when it was recommended to us by difference folks in London ON as "the place to check out" when we relocated. We vividly remember the reception received that first Sunday and didn't bother looking anywhere else. Our two sons fell in love with the place instantly and enjoyed active participation in the Youth Group during the early 2000's. My wife Janet, became active with Footsteps Library in 2001 and is still active as a volunteer in that ministry today. I retired 4 years ago after an enjoyable 25 year career in Student Transportation, 18 of those years in the lead Finance role, the last 7 in a VP-Operations role. Today I stay active in various volunteer roles driving one day a week for the Red Cross Meals on Wheels program and staying close to my Finance roots as Treasurer for both Ministry in Motion and Cruxifusion, the latter a registered charity whose focus is to support, inspire, and connect Christ-centered leaders and congregations in the United Church of Canada. I have also been active within Wellington Square most of the 16 years in various roles serving on the Stewardship Team from 2004 to 2014. I've led small groups in Financial Peace University and the CAP Money course for 6+ years. I have also volunteered behind the scenes providing the Board and Finance Team with an analysis of Wellington Square givings patterns and trends for 7 years now and will continue to do so in the future. I am blessed to be considered a candidate for service on the Wellington Square Board and will serve to the best of my ability in whatever fashion God and the Board chooses to use me.





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.

January to February Themes:

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.

Creative Art Ministries:

Dance starts up today, February 5th, 10:30 - 11 am in the Grade 1 & 2 class for ages JK and up.



## Confirmation

We will be providing an opportunity for our young people to make a profession of faith on June 4th. Leading up to this day we will meet together to explore and enrich our faith in preparation for this important milestone. **We'd love to have the names of any young people (Grade 7 and up) considering Confirmation this year.**

## 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 for more information.

## Website, Facebook and Next Events:

Please visit the youth ministry page on our website ([www.wsquare.ca/youth](http://www.wsquare.ca/youth)) to see **updates about what's happening for young people** (Grades 7 - 12). You will also find links there to join our Facebook groups where we post reminders for upcoming events.

## Rockpile (Grade 7&8)

Wednesday, Feb. 8 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM

## Edge (High School)

Sunday, Feb. 19 from 10:30 AM - Noon



### **"Making Rows into Circles"**

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

Matthew 18:20

Vision | to grow a prosperous, vibrant ministry together that glorifies God and equips His people to live out the great commandment and the great commission.

Mission | to create a loving, kind atmosphere **where God's people are cared for** and the marks of discipleship are lived out.

Dot Gow | meets every Thursday, 9:30am-2pm in the Pritchard Room. Newcomers are most welcome!

Monday Men | Lunch and discussion on topics that influence Christianity. Mondays 12noon-1:30@WS Contact: Ross Patterson rosspat@wsquare.ca

Kettles on Tea | Please join us Monday Feb. 13 from 1:30-3:00pm in the Pritchard Room for our afternoon tea. All are welcome.

Joyful Spirits | Our next gathering is Thurs. February 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Pritchard Room. Please be prepared to discuss Session **#4 of Andy Stanley's "Follow"**.

Contact: Joy Magwood  
jmagwood@wsquare.ca

Thursday at Seven | *New Series*, Book Study - *Is This The End?* by Dr. David Jeremiah. Please contact Bruce: bmagwood@TORRLANE.ca

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: March 21st. Watch bulletin for sign up details.



SAVE the DATES:  
(Details to follow at a later date)  
MEET & GREET Monday, May 1st @ 7pm in the Pritchard Room  
DISCIPLESHIP CAFÉ Saturday, May 6th @ 10am - noon in the Pritchard Room

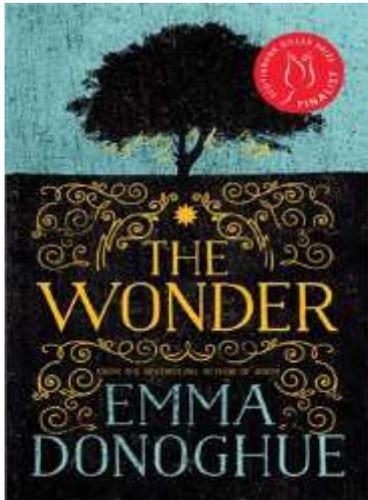
...Jesus Calling devotional now available again at the Connection Point (\$11).

Small Groups | If you would like to start a small group or have an idea for a small group, please contact Joy.  
jmagwood@wsquare.ca

For a complete listing of small groups this winter, see the brochure in the foyer or go to [www.wsquare.ca](http://www.wsquare.ca)



Footsteps Library



The Wonder  
By Emma Donoghue

In 1850s Ireland a little girl Anna O'Donnell appears to be thriving after months without food, and the story of this "wonder" has reached fever pitch. People come from all over to the family's cabin in the small Irish village to pay homage to the miracle or to satisfy their curiosity. Townspeople have organized a 2 week vigil to investigate. An English nurse trained by Florence Nightingale is hired along with a nun from the local parish to determine whether or not Anna is a fraud.

"Her contemporary thriller Room made Canadian author Emma Donoghue an international bestseller, but this gripping tales demonstrates that her historical fiction is equally fine." Kirkus Review (starred review)



**Come to the table  
TOGETHER**

For Communion Sundays we will be linking children together with their families. Today, Sun. Feb. 5th, please note the following instructions:

- Parents/guardians will sign in their child as normal at the GraceLand reception area
- Parents/guardians will go with their child to their class to check in with their leader for a 2nd sign-in as well as leave any coats, boots, bags, etc. in the room
- GL leaders and helpers will be available to assist and/or come along-side-of families for support in the service (nursery & toddler Leaders can stay with any babies & toddlers in room if needed)
- Parents/guardians and children will enter the sanctuary and sit as a family - GL volunteers will sit on the side transept or with families that would like support
- ALL will be a part of worship and communion
- Once communion is received, parents can lead their children to the side transept where GL leaders will be ready to lead children to St. Paul's Hall for Open session and the remainder of GraceLand
- Sign-out will be done as usual at the end of the service in the GraceLand classrooms
- If families arrive late to the service, they need to enter the sanctuary and then sign their children into GraceLand after communion when Leaders and children return to GraceLand.

There will be colouring/activity sheets with crayons available at a table near the sanctuary for families. We ask that crayons get picked up and put back in bin. The above details will flex and adjust as we seek the best spiritual experiences to worship together as ONE family in Christ.

# 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*)

(continued from front page)

Many of you remember the Imam from our local mosque, and his visit and participation in our worship back in October. He spoke at the vigil on Monday evening and said three things: Firstly, when a horrific event like this happens, despite all of the emotions we will feel, we should look for the positives.

With that, Imam Abdullah pointed out that the victims died while kneeling in prayer – they were doing something they loved, drawing close to God, and in those very moments they were taken; and so we can hope and believe that they were ushered into the presence of their Creator.

Secondly, the Imam reminded us all to recognize the outpouring of goodwill toward the people of the Muslim faith. **“Community,” he said, “is bigger than any one religion.” This sad event has shown the true nature of the Canadian community – respectful, compassionate, inclusive.**

**Finally, he also said, “We in the Muslim community have work to do. We cannot withdraw into our ethnic or religious enclaves. We need to go out and connect with our neighbours and co-workers and build friendships.” Of course he is right. And his challenge is not just for the people of the mosque – it is also for Christ’s followers.** Reach out, engage, welcome and respect all people of faith and goodwill.

Pray for Peace. Live Love.

*ORVILLE*