

Thoughts on "Six Words to Set You Free..."

"The inability to offer sincere apologies is a form of narcissism or emotional, psychological and spiritual immaturity. This is why three of the most important words we can say in life are, **"I am sorry"**. We can't stay married, we can't retain friendships or family relationships, we'll never be effective leaders or managers if we don't learn how to say, **"I am sorry."**

What does a good apology look like? Four things: 1. An awareness of how you've wronged someone. 2. Genuine feels of regret. 3. Confessing and accepting responsibility. 4. Commitment to change and not repeat.

Often apologizing directly to a person, in person is the best – But, sometimes doing this *FIRST* in a letter, with a follow-up call to get together is a better approach. In the Bible, all of this is called *'repentance'*.

I forgive you...

It's one of the greatest gifts you can give yourself, to forgive. Forgive everybody.
Maya Angelou, poet laureate

To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you.
Christian theologian, Lewis B. Smedes

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Five Habits for Living Well: Six Words to Set You Free

"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

--Colossians 3:12-14

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.

Fellowship Lunch | Please join us today after the 11 am service. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the door.

Daily Bible Readings | The Daily Bible Reading Guide for 2017 is now available. Please pick up a copy from the Brochure Stand in the foyer or the office.

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

From Finance | After many years of volunteering week in and week out, our Elizabeth Talbot is retiring from our counting team. Thank you Elizabeth for giving so much of your time, your attention to detail and your cheery outlook! **We'll miss you in the counting room, but we're all grateful that you'll still be** around the Square helping out where **you're needed! Thank you so very much!!**



Wellington Square United Church
Presents:

A Mind-Meld Trivia Night!

Help us raise money for our
African Outreach Programs.

Date: Saturday, February 4th,
6:30 p.m.

Teams of Six
Bring you own Snacks

Tickets: \$20 each or \$100 per
Team, available at the Church
Office

Door Prizes, Team and Individual
Prizes!

For more information
contact:

Dee Glover
kdeeglover@bell.net or
(905) 639-3623



"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.

ADVENT STUDY: BECAUSE of BETHLEHEM - LOVE IS BORN! HOPE IS HERE! Thank you to all those who took the **time to attend our Advent Study "BECAUSE of BETHLEHEM"**. A special thank-you also to Katie, Orville & Spencer for co-facilitating this study. **Trusting that God's presence touched you during this study & may His presence be evident in our lives! May we strive to live in an "IMMANUEL" world! New Year's Blessings to you all.** Joy

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.

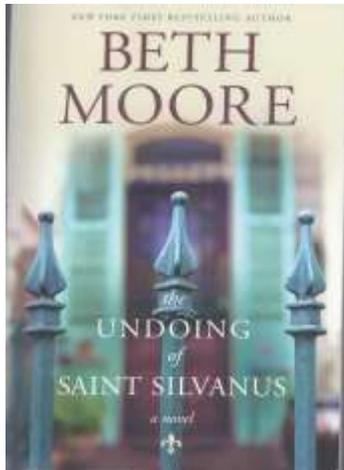
Joyful Spirits | Our next gathering will be Thursday, January 19, 2017 in the Pritchard Room at 7:00pm. **Session #3 "Fearless" of the Andy Stanley Study "Follow"**. Contact: Joy Magwood jmagwood@wsquare.ca

THANK YOU to our small group of faithful ladies who decorate the sanctuary to celebrate our special HOLY DAYS! You glorified God in a most beautiful way for the Christmas season! You are greatly appreciated!

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

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



The Undoing of Saint Silvanus
by Beth Moore

When Julian Slater learns that her father has finally drunk himself to death, she reluctantly agrees to return to New Orleans, but is she crazy to get involved with her family again? Could the colourful collection **of saints and sinners in her grandmother's** apartment building actually be affected by a curse?



This past Saturday a group of friends joined to celebrate and remember dear Elyse. As we reflected on the life of this strong and courageous lady, we were once again reminded of the importance of the **community that we have created.** Elyse's friends were those who she shared meals with at the church dinners over the last 8 years. During her long illness she found solace in chatting with friends who cared, and was so appreciative to know that many were praying for her. She will be remembered by her stories, sweet smile and positive demeanor.

We appreciate the ongoing help from so many who continue to provide volunteers, food and financial support and prayers for this Ministry. Every week we receive considerable food donations including delicacies such as Brussel sprouts and asparagus from Food for Life and staples from our local Burlington Food Bank. With the colder weather upon us and challenges that some experience during the winter months, our tables are overflowing each week. What a blessing it is to invite friends in to share a smile and conversation while they fill up on a warm and delicious meal.

Most needed items:

***snacks for children's lunches**

*salad bar toppings

*lemonade & ice tea crystals

*larger sizes of adult winter boots

*single and double bed with duvet/sheets

*living room & bedroom end tables (newer)

*couch set or couch and love seat (newer or gently used)

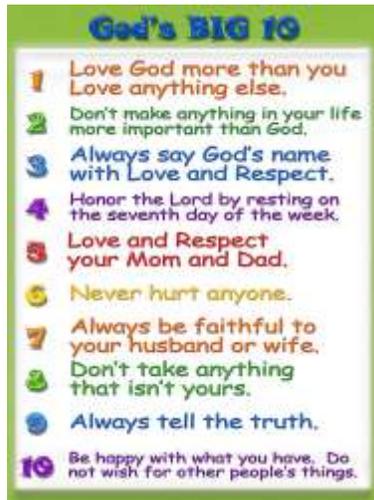
For information contact: fnc@wsquare.ca



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.**

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.



Confirmation

We will be providing an opportunity for our young people to make a profession of faith in the late spring. Prior to Confirmation Sunday 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 considering Confirmation this year so we can begin our planning process.**

Website and Facebook

Please visit the youth ministry page on our website (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 for where we post reminders for upcoming events (and much more in the weeks and months to come).

Upcoming Youth Events @ WSquare:

Wednesday, January 18, 7 – 9 PM
Edge (High School Youth)

Wednesday, January 25, 7 – 8:30 PM
Rockpile (Grade 7/8 Youth)

If you have any questions, or would just like to **connect, please contact me. I'd love to hear from you!**

Spence

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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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Forgiveness is not a feeling - it's a decision we make because we want to do what's right before God. It's a quality decision that won't be easy and it may take time to get through the process, depending on the severity of the offense.

Joyce Meyer

We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. Those devoid of the power to forgive are devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

We think that forgiveness is weakness, but it's absolutely not; it takes a very strong person to forgive.

Bishop T. D. Jakes

In The Coming Weeks...

Jan 22nd The Requirements of the Lord

Jan 29th The Secret to True Wealth
(generosity of spirit, money and time/
talent)

Feb 5th The Most Important
Commandment of All