

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

...about the Blue Jays and the start of their baseball season. They've been very weak, at one point having lost 3 times as many games as they'd won. A friend commented that it might be the fault of the Maple Leafs hockey team. As he said, *The Jays are NOT normally playing games of any significance until after the leaves are done – usually by the 1<sup>st</sup> of April.* Well this year the Leafs played very well, and made the play-offs!

But the Blue Jays have been losing. However, the players did not seem to be hitting the panic button. One of them, in an interview said, *We are fine in the clubhouse. We trust each other, give our best and pull together.*

I like that. And its probably the best strategy. In all aspects of life. When facing adversity – trust each other, give your best, and pull together.

I see that in the Church too. Religious affiliations are declining in Canada. We hear that fewer people are going to



*(Continued on back page)*

# happenings

*Today at 9am we celebrate the  
Baptism and Blessing of*

Abigail Elizabeth Meisenheimer  
Child of Adam Meisenheimer and Julie  
Hafenbrack

*Today at 11am we celebrate the  
Baptism and Blessing of*

Lucas William James  
Child of Eric and Sarah James

New to our church? We would like to get to know you | We invite you to fill out a Welcome Card which is in the pews. Please leave it in the box marked Connect/Reconnect at the exits at the front and back of the sanctuary.

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.

Staff Notes | Rev. Katie Southon will be away May 6 - 13th. Rev. Orville James is available during this time for any pastoral needs.

From the Office | Would whomever has envelope #74 please contact the church office at 905-634-1849 or [office@wsquare.ca](mailto:office@wsquare.ca). Thank you.

Thank you | Katie, Michael and their family would like to express their love and appreciation to their Wellington Square family. Your cards, notes, kind words and prayers have been very comforting. Thank you so much.

Gifts in Will | Be long remembered for gifts made through your Will.

*All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.*

-Deuteronomy 16:17 (NRSV)

How long has it been since you last updated **your will? Perhaps it's time. Remember to take** care of your family. And remember to support a Wellington Square United Church program, service or ministry that is close to your heart. Your donation made through your will is appreciated and will be remembered by our community members. For information please contact Ruth Thoem at: [rthoem@wsquare.ca](mailto:rthoem@wsquare.ca)

Mexico Mission 2017 Info Session

This year we are planning on building a house, as well as exploring other opportunities to connect with, and serve, the local community in Ensenada. Our next trip is planned for Nov. 2017, come learn more today, in the McMillan Room after the 9am service for a short presentation and Q&A. If you are interested in coming, or you have been before **and want to find out how this year's trip might** be different, please join us! Contact Gwen Vernon, Rob Crawford, or Les & Lindsay Reynolds for more info.



## Miracles from Heaven by Christy Wilson Beam

Annabel Beam spent most of her childhood in and out of hospitals with a rare and incurable digestive disorder that prevented her from having a normal, healthy life. One sunny day when she was able to go outside and play with her sisters she fell three stories headfirst into an old hollowed out tree. Impossibly, she survived without a scratch. While unconscious inside the tree, with rescue workers struggling to get to her, she visited heaven. After being released from the hospital, she defied science and had inexplicably recovered from her chronic ailment.



One of our friends has moved much farther away from Burlington, but comes back to see us and enjoy a meal when he can. This past Friday he shared that he has been frequenting a community dinner in his new city, but they have now closed down until the fall. They told **him they don't have the people to keep it** running week after week throughout the year. He then shared that he thinks we are doing it **right...having people come from all over to** serve at Friday Night Community. Of the folks who were left in the dining room at that time, I pointed out where some of our volunteers had **come from. "Burlington Meeting House, Burlington Baptist, Wellington Square, a neighbour just down the street, Nelson High School, Fellowship Church, Eaglesfield Korean, Knox Presbyterian, a teacher at a local school, Rotary Club...just to name a few."** **We know that we couldn't even begin to do what we do** with one or even a small number of churches or community groups. It takes the hands and hearts from all over to make up the Friday Night Community and we are thankful for that!!

### Most Needed Items:

- \*Game of Crokinole, Chinese Checkers, Chess, Backgammon, etc.
- \*snacks for children's lunches**
- \*toaster oven (gently used)
- \*double bed frame with head and possible foot board, gently used mattress
- \*salad bar toppings
- \*lemonade & iced tea crystals

For information contact: [fnc@wsquare.ca](mailto:fnc@wsquare.ca)

# SMALL groups

"Making Rows into Circles"

*For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with 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.

**"I AM A CHURCH MEMBER"** This *wonderful* little book explains the power of belonging to



a church family. If you are considering this, we invite you to join us for a brief discussion together based on this book. Cost of book \$10. Available at the Connection Point. Sun. May 28th in the McMillan Room, 10:30-11 am.

JOYFUL SPIRITS - This small group meets Thursday, May 18th at 7 pm in the Pritchard Room. Discussion & DVD will be on Session 7 & 8 of "FOLLOW" by Andy Stanley - "Leading Great". Contact: [jmagwood@wsquare.ca](mailto:jmagwood@wsquare.ca)

Monday Men - meet each Monday @ noon in the McMillan Rm. Please join us for discussion, fellowship and bible study.

Thursday at Seven | *New Series*, Book Study - The Red Letters - The words of Jesus for today's world by Tony Campolo. Please contact Bruce: [bmagwood@TORRLANE.ca](mailto:bmagwood@TORRLANE.ca)

Thank you to our flower team for beautifying the sanctuary during the Holy season of Easter. It was a magnificent tribute to our God. You ALL are AWESOME!! Thank you - Joy

NEW GROUP: - "TRUSTING in CHRIST". In this second study in the Jesus Calling series by Sarah Young, you will examine what the Bible says about relying on God for all your needs.

START DATE: Wed, May 17th for 8 sessions

TIME: 7- 9pm

WHERE: McMillan Room

Facilitators: Sue Zwicker & Lynn Kasprzyk. Please sign up at the CONNECTION POINT or contact [lkasprzyk@wsquare.ca](mailto:lkasprzyk@wsquare.ca)



Kettles on Tea | Please join us on Monday May 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-3pm in the Pritchard Room for our afternoon tea. All are welcome.

WOW book club | Monday May 29, 7:00pm. Our host is Nancy James, 680 Ramsgate Rd.

**Margaret's pick of the year book "Our Souls at Night" by Kent Haruf. Info contact:** [wow@wsquare.ca](mailto:wow@wsquare.ca)

New Small Groups - If you have an idea for a new small group, please see Joy Magwood or contact her at [jmagwood@wsquare.ca](mailto:jmagwood@wsquare.ca)

Connect/Reconnect - We invite you to fill out a Welcome Card which is in the pews. Please leave it in the box marked Connect/Reconnect at the exits at the front and back of the sanctuary.

The Chapel is open Mon-Fri 9am-4pm and Sunday morning. We encourage and welcome you to take time for prayer and reflection in the Chapel.

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

# happenings cont.

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.

Community Garden | Thank you to all who helped with the church property and garden clean up, and who participated in putting together two of the raised bed community gardens. What a weekend of hard work, fun and community building. We appreciate those who came out to dig, wheel barrow, chop, rake, pull sod, lay sod, build our garden walls, look after children and BBQ and prepare the snacks and lunch. A big thank you to Alvin, Gareth, Beth, Dickie and Clayton who coordinated and contributed their skills and knowledge in order to make this happen. We are working towards completing our third garden, adding top soil, planting and enjoying some fresh vegetables this summer.



The poster features the Burlington Foundation logo at the top left. Below it, a blue box contains the text "Making Change Happen Brilliant." To the right is a photo of Spencer West, a man with glasses wearing a black t-shirt with a graphic. Below the photo is a black box with "Happenings 2017". A pink box below that says "FREE Community Event, Join Us!". A yellow box contains the date and time "May 24 7-8:30 pm" and the location "The Burlington Performing Arts Centre". At the bottom is a white box with the website "www.happenings2017.eventbrite.ca".

**In honour of Canada's 150th birthday,** Burlington Foundation is hosting an inspiring and motivating evening celebrating community giving. This free community event will feature keynote speaker Spencer West, an incredible individual who is inspiring change at both a global and local level.

At 5 years old, Spencer West lost his legs from the pelvis down. Today, his amazing achievements include climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro to bring **the world's attention to the devastating drought** affecting Kenya. Within Canada, Spencer completed an epic 300 km trek from Edmonton to Calgary to raise awareness and money for **Free The Children's clean water projects.**

**Celebrating giving closer to home,** we'll share some powerful, heartfelt stories. From across all lifestages, people right here in Burlington are being positively impacted by partners working together to support sustainable community change. To find out more and register, please visit:  
[burlingtonfoundation.org/happenings](http://burlingtonfoundation.org/happenings)



GraceLand - a place full of God's grace and where children learn the love of Jesus and how to shine His light everyday. Sundays at 9am for Nursery to Gr. 6

Sign-in/out procedures ensure safety for all children and leaders. Pagers are available to provide extra comfort and ease for families.

May Theme: Giving

Families: Our GraceLand Faith at Home Family sheets are available for each month's theme that include our weekly scriptures, focus, life application summary and family activities and prayers. Be sure to pick one up from your child's class.

Today is Inter generational Communion which provides adults and young people the opportunity to come along-side-of one another and partake in the Jesus' meal - remembering what Christ did for us.



Registrations are coming in! Please be sure to get yours in ASAP!



Take a walk down to the Youth Room to check out the wall mural our awesome youth created!



Rockpile (Gr. 7/8)

Meets every 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month from 10:30am - 12pm YOUTH RM

Rockpile Special Event:

Wed., May 17 from 7-9pm: Baking making for WS Food Ministry with Julie

Edge (High school)

Meets every 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month from 10:30am - 12pm YOUTH RM

Edge Special Events:

Thurs., May 25 from 6-9pm: Taco Night at The Mackey House!

Wed., May 31 from 7-9pm: Volleyball Night at the Square

For further questions and info about our Youth Ministry, please contact Heather Mackey [hmackey@wsquare.ca](mailto:hmackey@wsquare.ca) and/or check out updates on our Web. [wsquare.ca](http://wsquare.ca)



**KETTLE'S ON**  
2nd Monday of the month  
drop in 1:30-3:00pm  
(September-May)

*ALL WELCOME!*



## Outreach

One of our Malawi partners is coming to WS in June!!

Rodrick Zalimba, Exec Director of Prison Fellowship Malawi will be coming to Burlington June 4-11 on route to PF International training in Washington DC.

He will be in attendance at both services Sunday June 11th.

More information will follow on opportunities to meet with him and hear of the life changing work of PFM.



# 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



## Custodian Team

Randy Taylor (ext. 12) / Raul Gutierrez

## Administration

Catherine Wagg (ext. 15)

*cwagg@wsquare.ca*

Jennifer Erbiceanu (ext.10)

*office@wsquare.ca*

## 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*

## Music Ministry at 11am

Juanita Maldonado (ext. 20)

*jmaldonado@wsquare.ca*

## Friday Night Community Coordinator

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

## Outreach Missions Coordinator

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

## Finance

Karen Dobson (ext. 16) in Wednesdays

*treasurer@wsquare.ca*

## Ministerial Team

Rev. Dr. Orville James (ext. 19)

*ojames@wsquare.ca*

Rev. Katie Southon (ext. 14)

*ksouthon@wsquare.ca*

Rev. Tom Chire (*Voluntary*)

church. But I have not seen that recently. Last week I was in Niagara at the Anniversary of St. Davids United Church. It was a full house, with kids, and every age of grown-ups. And a Fun and Filling pot-luck lunch afterward. They are trusting each other, pulling together and doing quite well, thank you very much.

And Wellington Square too is in an active period, with both challenges and progress. Our Youth Minister, Spencer Edwards is in long-term rehab, recovering from back surgery, and a team of parents and volunteers led by Heather Mackey are keeping things going. Also, last Saturday a huge team of volunteers led by Lisa Lunski dug, shovelled and built a series of gardens for cultivation on the back lawn; the same day, Alvin Kiers led a work team doing maintenance on lawns, trees and flower beds. Furthermore as Jeremy Cox reported for the BOARD, there are important projects of building maintenance – new energy efficient lighting and heating systems, and plans for Air Conditioning in the main sanctuary. We know, the cost of some \$200,000 is very doable; we will trust each other, give our best, and pull together.

**Baseball, hockey... good teams trust each other, give their best, and pull together. Jesus' team too!**

The Lord be with us,

*ORVILLE*