

I'VE BEEN THINKING...

...about how to handle the information overload we've been facing. One trauma after another. Crisis, death, sensationalism multiplied. The hurricanes and earthquakes of September were enough; then the massacre in Las Vegas. Senseless carnage. And in other regions of the world there is more – ethnic\religious cleansing in Myanmar, floods in SouthEast Asia with **thousands drowned...** as I type the list I want to stop – **I don't want you to be bombarded by this anymore.**

And that's my point. We don't need to be crushed by constant news of disaster and death in the world. Rather, be selective and protective of how much you allow your senses to receive.

While we don't 'turtle' and pull in and ignore, we choose to keep balance in what we let our spirits receive. The News media will tell you every disaster, in glorious detail. Their **motto is, "If it bleeds, it leads"** meaning the bloodiest story will lead the news in priority and air-time. They will broadcast on-scene video from cell phones and police body-cams. For you to see that is not helpful or healthy – in fact it is diminishing and destructive to your spirit.

So what's the alternative? Well, Limits and alternatives.

(Continued on back page)

wellington
square



October 8, 2017

I Love This God Stuff: We Worship & Praise

I will extol the LORD at all times; **God's** praise will always be on my lips. I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt **God's name together.**

Psalm 34:1-3 (NIV)

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 "Welcome" 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 | 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.

From the Board | Welcome Adam! The Board of Wellington Square United Church, along with the M&P committee are very happy to announce the hiring of Adam Cresswell as our Interim Youth Director. Adam is not a stranger to the Square - **he's volunteered in** GraceLand off and on for a couple of years as well as appearing in some of our dramas. He has just finished a summer time of working at Cave Springs Camp and brings with him quite a few years of working in various church camps along with a resume full of youth activity and connections. Adam is a delightful spirit-led young man who will prayerfully lead our youth in joyfully exploring faith in Christ and how they can connect this with the challenges of being a teen in this world! Blessings Adam - and may you feel the love of God surrounding you and upholding you as you continue to seek out ways to serve!

Fellowship Lunch | Please join us next Sunday October 15th after the 11am service. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the door.

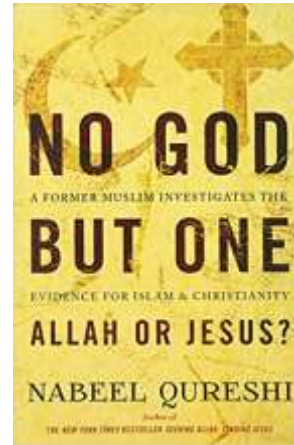
Nut-Free Scent-Free | Please note that at Wellington Square we do our best to be a nut-free and scent-free safe space for everyone. Thank you for your contributions to this effort.

The Church will be closed for Thanksgiving on Monday October 9th.

happenings cont.

Stagedoor Canteen | Thank you to all who **responded to the "CALL" for singers in the Stagedoor Canteen event CHORUS**. As well, a BIG note of gratitude to those who have volunteered their services to help with costumes and wartime paraphernalia for the display pre-concert. One final ask: we are preparing a staffed display table of medals, photos, posters and any other relevant wartime memorabilia to honour those who served in the name of freedom. Please see Juanita or any member of the chorus if you would allow us to borrow your precious memories for this display with others as they **enter St. Paul's Hall for the luncheon and show**.

Custodial Help | Our church is in need of a few people who would be willing to be called **on an "as needed" basis for external events** that are held at Wellington Square during after regular hours on week nights and weekends. This part time work would be paid on an hourly basis, and would be perhaps once or twice per month. If you are interested in hearing more about this, please contact Catherine in the office cwagg@wsquare.ca



No God but one: Allah or Jesus?
By Nabeel Qureshi

In this anticipated follow-up to New York Times bestseller Seeking Allah, finding Jesus Nabeel reveals what he discovered, providing a thorough and careful comparison of the evidence that wrenched his heart and transformed his life.

No God but one: Allah or Jesus? addresses the most important questions at the interface of Islam and Christianity. How do the two religions differ? Are the differences significant? Can we be confident that either Christianity or Islam is true? And most important, is it worth sacrificing everything for the truth?

Nabeel shares stories from his life and ministry, casts new light on current events, and explores pivotal incidents in the histories of both religions, providing a resource that is gripping and thought-provoking, respectful and challenging.

Joseph Brant Hospital Mental Health Consumer Advisory Committee

Presented in Partnership
with:

Friday night
COMMUNITY

Friday October 13, 2017
Friday Night Speakers Series

*A Vision for our Mental Health
and Addictions System*

Presented by:

*Dr. Steven Selchen
Chief of Psychiatry
Joseph Brant Hospital*

FRIDAY October 13, 2017
PRITCHARD ROOM, WELLINGTON SQ. UNITED CHURCH
2121 CAROLINE STREET, BURLINGTON

Speaker at 7:15PM to 8:30PM

Dinner @ 6pm All Welcome

Sponsored by:

Friday night
COMMUNITY



**JOSEPH BRANT
HOSPITAL**

Mental Health Consumer
Advisory Committee



Rockpile (Gr. 7/8)
Wed Oct 11, 7:30-9pm

Edge (High school)
Wed Oct 18, 7:30-9:30pm

ALL YOUTH (Rockpile & Edge)
Tues Oct 17, 7-9pmish – MOVIE night
Wed Oct 25, 7-9pm- VOLLEYBALL night

Youth Alpha & Youth Confirmation!! If you are in gr. 7 & up and interested in Youth Confirmation and/or Youth Alpha, we are excited to have you come on board to explore life, faith and meaning together. Starting Sunday, Nov 5th and continuing Nov 12th, 19th and Sunday, Dec 3rd from 10:30am - 1pm (Youth Room) we will meet together for a video teaching, good conversation and food (Lunch). A Youth retreat for Youth Alpha will be from Fri. Nov. 24th at 2:30pm to Sat. Nov. 25th at 9pm and then a couple more sessions in the New Year (Jan. 2018) will be added to complete Youth Confirmation before our ONE 10am Youth Confirmation Service on Sun. Feb 4, 2018. Got questions? Contact Heather Mackey and/or Shelley and Greg Buxton-Forman.

We welcome Adam Cresswell, our new Interim Youth Ministry Director! Feel free to send him a message: acresswell@wsquare.ca



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

Oct Theme: **Jesus' Teachings**

Participant forms are required every year for children and youth to ensure safety for all. If you have yet to fill out a 2017 form, please take one from the GraceLand reception or from our web wsquare.ca, fill out and return to us. We will be sending a notice out by November 2017 for 2018 Child/Youth Participant forms.

GraceNotes Singers & Dancers - no practice today. Resumes on Sun. Oct. 15 from 10:30-11am (also closing date to sign-up). Children must be SK & older. We are starting to prepare for our Christmas services.



Puppet Ministry Rocks here at the Square! In gr. 5 & older & interested? Contact Nancy James. Practice Sun. Oct. 15 10:30-11:15am

GraceLand Youth Band next practice is Sunday Oct. 15 from 10:30-11:30am St. Paul's Hall stage.



"Better Together"

For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them"

Matthew 18:20

Vision | to have every person in a healthy small group.

Mission | To live out the GREAT COMMANDMENT (Matt. 22: 37-39) and the GREAT COMMISSION (Matt. 28: 19-20).

JOYFUL SPIRITS: Next gathering will be Thurs. October 26th at 7pm in the Pritchard Rm. Please bring your bible & a smile. Our **study is "THE RED LETTERS" (the words of JESUS for today's world).** Through a series of six video conversations, Tony Campolo and Colin McCartney discuss the radical but clear teachings of Jesus.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT - Thurs. October 19th and Fri. October 20th. CONGRATULATIONS Wellington! Our goal (in order to get the early bird special) was to get **10 of God's people at Wellington to attend this dynamic 2 day session.** We have a wonderful group of 20 going! Way to go Wellington & PRAISE GOD for HIS GOODNESS!!

DISCIPLESHIP CAFÉ - **You won't want to miss this.** We are blessed to have PETE KUEHNI from DELIBERATE U as our guest presenter.

TOPIC: **"KINGDOM THINKIN" not "STINKIN THINKIN"!** Shifting your mindset

DATE: Saturday, November 18, 2017

TIME: 10am - noon (coffee & muffins at

9:45am). Sign up at the Connection Point table to reserve your spot.

Thursday at Seven *New Series*, Book and DVD Study - Forgotten God by Francis Chan **"Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit". Please contact Bruce for more information.** bmagwood@TORRLANE.ca

NEW TO OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH:

Please pick up a small group brochure at the Connection Point Table or contact Joy Magwood (joymagwood@gmail.com) to find our more information about where you can connect in.



Had a nice visit with one of our friends who has been in a Hamilton hospital for the last couple of months after his foot/leg were amputated. He continues to be so positive and is anticipating his move to a rehab hospital where he will learn to use a prosthesis. One day he said hello to a lady who was also in a wheelchair after having had a similar amputation. She seemed surprised that he was friendly and acknowledged her. John shared that he has always thought that people in a wheelchair might somehow be judged as not capable or being different, and now that he is the one in the wheelchair he wants to make sure people know that is not true. He shared that we can all do little things like say **hello to a stranger and that 'it doesn't take much to do something nice.'**

Our friend John reminds us of the importance of serving out of love and gratitude and with a cheerful heart. Even in the midst of his daily struggles, he is optimistic and is positive about what lays ahead. With the help of Wellington Square and Friday Night Community we have been able to assist in paying for John to have a television in his room. This has given him hope and demonstrated our love and care as he recovered over the last 2 months.

We are looking for folks who would like to be a part of volunteering at the afternoon Hub (any time between 1 and 5 pm) on some Fridays sharing in conversations, playing games and visiting with the folks who attend. We also need someone to help set up the Hub on some Friday mornings.

For information contact: fnc@wsquare.ca



Monofuko Ando, the inventor of instant noodles, **once wrote that "Peace prevails when food suffices"**. We are saddened when areas of the world that have at times produced enough food **to feed their population now can't** Conflict, war, and climate change have combined to cause the first official famine in six years in South Sudan. Some 65 million refugees around the world are currently fleeing or have fled their homes.

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank continues to address this situation. The funds donated here at Wellington Square are a part of the Christian response to the plight of the hungry.

We give thanks for our blessings today. And for this year, why not share our table by setting a plate for the unseen guest - a refugee, a famine victim - to remind ourselves of those in need.

Making room for the world's hungry at the world's food table continues to be our challenge.

"Loving God, take our stumbling acts of generosity to help prepare a feast for all your people"



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



Ministerial Team

Rev. Dr. Orville James (ext. 19)

ojames@wsquare.ca

Rev. Katie Southon (ext. 14)

ksouthon@wsquare.ca

Rev. Tom Chire (*Voluntary*)

Children/Family Ministry (GraceLand)

Heather Mackey (ext. 21)

hmackey@wsquare.ca

Youth Ministry

Adam Cresswell (Interim Director) (ext. 11)

acresswell@wsquare.ca

Adult Faith Ministry

Joy Magwood (ext. 23)

jmagwood@wsquare.ca

Music Ministry at 9am

Tim Watson (ext. 10)

twatson@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

Administration

Catherine Wagg (ext. 15)

cwagg@wsquare.ca

Jennifer Erbiceanu (ext.10)

office@wsquare.ca

Custodian Team

Randy Taylor (ext. 12) / Raul Gutierrez

(Continued from front page)

Limit how much time and detail given to broadcast news. Limit drastically. Then give your spirit information to maintain your inner spiritual balance. I believe we can fill our mind **and heart with God's presence** – in a mystical yet very real way.

"Christianity has hardly contemplated the possibility that the consciousness of Jesus might be the consciousness of the Christian, that the whole point of the Gospel is that everyone may experience union with God in the same way as Jesus himself."

—Alan Watts

That's a helpful insight. Rather than fill our brain with images of destruction & disaster, or numbers and descriptions of death, we feed our spirit on the heart of God. Far fetched and far-out? According to Jesus, this is exactly what we can and should do.

"Those who love me...my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them... On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you." John 14:23, 20

Tony Campolo explained when he was here that he spends 20-30 minutes at the start of **his day 'Breathing in the Spirit, and whispering Jesus, Jesus, Jesus over and over', until his inner soul and his outer consciousness are steeped in, and radiant with, Christ's peace, wisdom, compassion, and hope. And so I say, very simply...**

The Lord be with you... ORV