

"When people of faith are not willing to sit quietly sometimes & let doubt make its case bad things can happen...Humanity may be the most religious of virtues."

The deepest, the only theme of human history compared to which all others are of subordinate importance, is the conflict of skepticism with faith.

Wolfgang Von Goethe

"In Bible college my brother received an F on a speech that, in the 1960s, dared to suggest that rock music is not inherently immoral. Although my brother was a classical musician who in fact had no taste for rock music, he could find no biblical support for the arguments about rock music made at that (conservative) school. My brother left the school. He also left the faith, and has never returned – in large part, because he did not observe truth 'setting people free' and never found a church that makes room for prodigals. I had a very different experience from my brother's. In my pilgrimage I found a grace-filled church and Christians who formed a safe place for my doubts... My friends at LaSalle Street Church in Chicago created a haven of acceptance that carried me along when my faith wavered. I feel sad for lonely doubters; we all need trustworthy doubt companions.

Philip Yancey

"I follow Jesus not because I don't have doubts, I follow Jesus because in my doubts he is so tender & loving with me."

Johnathon Martin

(continued on back page)



Doubt and its Dividends

"Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

-John 20: 26B, 27 (NRSV)

"Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted."

- Matthew 28: 16-17 (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, 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.

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 from April 7th - 21st. Rev. Orville James is available during this time for any pastoral needs.

New Members | Have you been around Wellington Square for a while now and feeling comfortable enough to **belong? We'd love you to** officially join this congregation on Sunday, June 10th. Please let us know by contacting the church office at (905)634-1849 or office@wsquare.ca

BETTER TOGETHER | Meet the ministers Sunday April 22nd. Spiritual journeys go best when shared with others. If you are beginning your spiritual quest at Wellington Square, Reverends Katie & Orville would like to meet you. Please drop by the Chapel after the 9am or 11am service on Sun. Apr. 22nd.

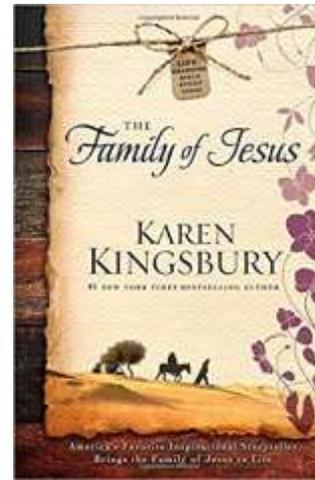
happenings cont.

Observer Magazine | Please note that the cost of the Observer subscription is \$25 per year. If you wish to renew your subscription or start a new one, you can pay for it by using a blue pew envelope and writing Observer on the envelope with your contact information by Sunday April 15th.

Spring Cleaning Challenge! Do you have unwanted, costume or broken jewellery at **home and don't know what to do with it?** Consider donating it to our Friday Night Community. We are looking for donations of beads of any kind (glass, wood, paper or plastic), pins/brooches, amulets, broken chains, single or mismatched earrings for our Ladies Spring Brunch. There will be a basket in the church office or pass them along to Iona or Lisa. We will be collecting donations through April. More questions? Text Iona @ 289-208-6048.

Photo Directory | is now available after both the 9 and 11 a.m. services at the Connection Point and also in the office during the week. Cost:\$3.

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 Family of Jesus

By Karen Kingsbury

Karen Kingsbury brings her amazing storytelling **skills to the characters of Jesus' family. People like Joseph, Jesus' father; Mary, his mother; Zechariah, his uncle; Elizabeth, his aunt a woman who faithfully believed in the impossible; John the Baptist, his cousin; and James, his brother a man whose regret turned into joy.** Based on the Bible and interspersed with emotionally gripping fictional details as well as historical and theological insights, these stories **of Jesus' family will shed new light on God's word.**



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

Participant Forms are required every year for children and youth to ensure safety for all. Thank you for supporting our Plan 2 Protect procedures.

April Themes:

- Praise God for Easter!
- Friendship (3 part lesson series)
- How to read the Bible



Summer kids camp week is August 27-30th for SK to Gr. 5. Registration forms are available in the office and online.



Confirmation Meeting

Sun Apr 15 - 10:30-11:15am

After the 9am Service next week prospective Confirmands and their families will be gathering in the Youth Room with Adam to go over details of the upcoming Confirmation session. Preliminary details are found below this post:

CONFIRMATION: MAY 2018

Apr 15, May 1, May 15, May 29, Jun 3

Confirmation Session dates are here!

This series is open to any youth who

a) **Participated in this past fall's Youth Alpha** program, and b) Have not yet been confirmed and would like to be.

Confirmation is a chance to transition into being an active member of the Church and more importantly the chance to make the personal choice to follow Jesus. If you or your youth are considering confirmation and would like more information please contact Adam by e-mail and we can set-up a time to meet and chat.

Confirmation involves attending 3 classes which run at the church from 7-9pm, on 3 Tuesday nights in May as well as the Sunday morning Confirmation Service. There will also be a brief meeting for prospective confirmands and their family/supporters after church in the Youth Room at 10:30am on Sunday April 15th to go over further details. The dates for the classes are as follows: May 1st, May 15th, May 29th. The Sunday morning Confirmation service that Adam and the confirmands will put together takes place at 10am on June 3rd in the sanctuary. If you or your youth are wishing to be part of There is no cost to the confirmation but please register by e-mailing Adam at acresswell@wsquare.ca



**Tired of walking around not feeling good enough?
Want to build up your self-esteem?**

Starting Monday April 9, 2018

**Self-esteem workshops in a safe, supportive environment.
Run by Nikki Rosen, award winning author & survivor of childhood
abuse, rape and addictions.**

Date: April 9, 16, 23, 30

Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Mondays.

**Place: Wellington Square Church: 2121 Caroline Street. Burlington
Ontario**

**Description: Four week self-esteem workshops for women that will deal
with overcoming shame, becoming your own best friend, learning to tell
yourself the truth & more.**

Cost: Free

**Need more information or to reserve your spot, email Nikki at
blueheron12345@yahoo.ca**



In the Belly of the Whale

Summer Kid's Camp

**Mon. August. 27 -
Thurs. August. 30
9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

\$30

per child per week

*No refunds after July 1st.
Financial assistance is available.*

SK to Grade 5

(Must be 5 years of age by Dec. 31, 2018)

Wellington Square United Church • 2121 Caroline St., Burlington, Ont.
Heather Mackey • hmackey@wsquare.ca • www.wsquare.ca

Wellington Square United Church

&

*Southern Ontario
Lyric Opera*

Invite you to an afternoon of operatic
arias & sacred music

April 15th, at 2:00pm

Featuring:

**Two talented soloists and
Members of the SOLO chorus,
accompanied by
Maestro Sabatino Vacca**

Tickets \$30

Available after all weekend services, or by
calling

The church office (905) 634-1849

or Juanita Maldonado

(289) 440-1623

Fellowship Lunch

Join us April 15th
after the 11am service.
Tickets are \$10 and
can be purchased at
the door.



Note from the Board As a follow up to the AGM, there are 2 things to be mentioned: During the months of April, May and June, on the first Sunday of each month, a member(s) of the Board will be available to answer any questions or concerns that you may have concerning Wellington Square. Look for their table in the Foyer between both services if you would like to chat with them. The first date will be April 1st. For clarification regarding the budget, a change has been made this year. For a few years now, a percentage (6.3%) of our regular givings has been directed to Reaching Out initiatives, for example, Sierra Leone, Malawi, Mexico, Canadian Food-grains, Dot Gow and other local initiatives. For a long time, the Friday Night Community received funds from this percentage too. This ministry has grown. They have a budget of \$6,000 for 2018. This budget item was included in the budget presented to the congregation on Sunday March 4th, but was erroneously combined with and reflected as Outreach Expenses. Friday Night Community now has its own budget line and a revised copy of the budget is on the church website for anyone who might wish a revised copy. Staffing is provided and paid for by the church. Regular givings continue to support Friday Night Community, but in a different way. They also receive any funds that are designated directly to them.



"For where two or three come together in my name, there I am 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).

Men's Breakfast | the next Saturday Men's Breakfast will be April 21, 9am-10:30am at **Gary's place**. Sign up at the Connection Point or contact Gary Brown at gbrown@wsquare.ca

JESUS CALLING devotional available at the Connection Point \$11

Kettles on Tea | Please join us on Monday April 9th from 1:30-3pm in the Pritchard Room for our afternoon tea.

JOYFUL SPIRITS: Our next gathering will be Thursday April 19th at 7pm in the Pritchard Rm. We will be viewing the PASSION TALK SERIES by **LOUIE GIGLIO... "HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD"**. Contact: jmaggwood@wsquare.ca

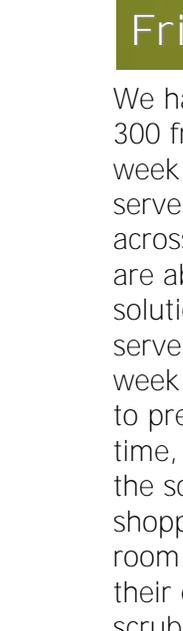
THANK YOU to the flower team for magnifying and glorifying GOD through their work in decorating the sanctuary with the beautiful Easter flowers! It is so very appreciated!

WORSHIP NIGHT: Experience Classic Worship Songs by the writers Paul Baloche & Brian Doerksen (Come Now Is The Time To **Worship, Above All, Refiner's Fire, Micah Six Eight & Many More!**) WHEN: Friday, April 27th, 2018 TIME: 7-10pm WHERE: Oakville - Harvest Bible Chapel. For tickets & more information go to UNITEDPRODUCTIONS.COM

I AM A CHURCH MEMBER - Rick Warren from **Saddleback Church** says **"It is impossible to grow to spiritual maturity by yourself. You must be connected to other parts of the Body. This wonderful little book explains the power of belonging to a church family."** For those who are looking forward to taking the step of being received as a Wellington member, we invite you to join us for discussion of the book on Sunday May 27th in the chapel at 10:30am. Please sign up at the CONNECTION TABLE or contact joymaggwood@gmail.com. Cost of book \$10.

Discipleship Café - Thank you to all our team who helped make the March 24 Discipleship Café so successful & to all the attendees who made it so vibrant. We PRAISE GOD for His blessings! Our next DISCIPLESHIP CAFÉ will be Saturday, October 27, 2018, so please reserve the date on your calendar.

Small Group Book Study: Brian McLaren, The Great Spiritual Migration We are starting a six-week study of this important book about the future direction of the Christian faith. Study will be hosted at **Rob and Lisa Irish's on Wednesdays** starting April 11th. We meet for dinner and community at 6:30, study together from 7:30 to **9:00. If you're interested, let us know** rirish@wsquare.ca



Friday Community

We had a wonderful Easter celebration with over 300 friends. It continues to astound us that each week we are able to provide a delicious meal to serve to our community. At times we come across challenges and glitches, and together we are able to support one another and find solutions. We have a group of volunteers that serve so tirelessly, many of them week after week. Others come with groups or on their own to prepare or serve the meal. They give of their time, resources and hearts. Some help behind the scenes by putting together snack bags, shopping, sorting food, and setting up the dining room. One amazingly dedicated group spend their evenings scraping and sorting dirty dishes, scrubbing or running them through the dishwashers and then putting the kitchen back together again. Still others interact with our many friends in the afternoon Hub or dining room by lovingly putting food on plates, sharing in conversations and offering a listening ear or a hug. It takes so many giving hearts to create a special and safe place such as the one we have at Friday Night Community.

Blessings of goodness:

*donations of Easter candy that were enjoyed at our holiday dinner celebration

Most Needed Items:

*yogurt and black take out containers

***snacks for children's lunch bags**

*salad bar toppings & dressings

*gently used/newer running shoes

*electric beaters, sandwich maker

*Queen mattresses & headboard, lamps, bedside tables, sewing machine/material, wall decorations for new family to country

*wool for knitting in Hub

For information contact: fnc@wsquare.ca



reaching out

Reaching Out – Spring Flower Sale

Many of you have been asking about the annual Spring Flower sales. In addition to bulbs and seeds, there will also be the opportunity to order *plants*.

There are some changes from last year. Instead of picking up the flowers at the Church on Mother's Day, as we have in the past, you will need to arrange to pick up the flowers at **Dee Glover's home on Wednesday May 9th**. The address is on the order form. There will be no extra flowers ordered this year.

As usual, the flowers are of excellent quality and competitively priced. All profits will go to help fund our Reaching Out projects.

Order forms are available in the church office and will be at the Connection Point table for the next two Sundays. There is also a printable version of the order form available on the church website under Outreach. Deadline for submitting orders is Wednesday, April 25th.

If you have any questions, please contact Dee at kdeeglover@bell.net. He is also looking for volunteers to help unload the truck and sort orders when they arrive on the morning of May 9th.



Bulbs and Seeds: order forms due by April 15.

905-634-1849

office@wsquare.ca www.wsquare.ca

2121 Caroline St, Burlington ON L7R 1L7

Office Hours: Mon to Wed 9am-3pm,

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 (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 Tuesdays

treasurer@wsquare.ca

Administration

Catherine Wagg (ext. 15)

cwagg@wsquare.ca

Jennifer Erbiceanu (ext.10) office@wsquare.ca

Custodian Team

Terry Beck

Raul Gutierrez

(continued from front page)

The right kinds of doubt can actually deepen our faith and intimacy with God.

"Doubt can motivate us to study and learn; It can purify false beliefs that have crept into our faith. It can humble our arrogance. It can give us patience and compassion with other doubters. It can remind us of how much truth matters."

John Ortberg

"Those who believe they believe in God but without passion in the heart, without anguish of mind, without uncertainty, without doubt, and even at times without despair, believe only in the idea of God and not in God himself.

Madeleine L'Engle

"I have become aware, not by my own wish, almost against my will, of an existence of another life of far, far greater importance and beauty than this physical one.

Hugh Walpole

"We will always see too much to deny and too little to be sure."

Blaise Pascal, French scientist and Christian theologian