

I'VE BEEN THINKING...

...I wish someone with the writing talents of Milton or Dante (OR John Grisham, or J.K. Rowling?) would render the scene that must have transpired in hell on the day that Jesus died. No doubt an infernal celebration broke out. **Evil had destroyed good. God's Son, sent to Earth on a rescue mission, had ended up dangling from a cross like some ragged scarecrow.** Oh, what a diabolical victory!

Oh, what a short-lived victory. In the most ironic twist of all history, what Satan meant for **evil, God meant for good. Jesus' death on the cross bridged the gap between a perfect God and a fatally flawed humanity.** On the day we call Good Friday, God defeated sin, routed death, triumphed over Satan, and got his family back. God took the worst deed of history and turned it into the greatest victory.

No wonder Jesus asked that we never forget; No wonder the symbol of the cross never went away.

It took time for the church to come to terms with the grotesque shame of the cross. Not until the fourth century did the cross become a symbol of the faith. (Scholars note the crucifixion did not become common in art until all who had seen a real one died off.)

Now though, the symbol is everywhere – **it's shaped into jewelry, baseball players cross themselves before batting, and candy makers even concoct chocolate crosses for the faithful to indulge as Lent ends and Easter arrives.** Christianity has become a religion of the cross.

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Days of Divine Irony

"...the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" "As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it..."

- Luke 19: 38, 41 (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.

Palm Sunday, March 25 – 7:00 p.m.
Tenebrae Service – **"A Journey into Darkness"** - a service in word and song, performed by Hamilton Schola Cantorum, William Renwick, Director Hosted by: Port Nelson United Church, 3132 South Drive, Burlington.

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.

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.

happenings cont.

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 Foodgrains, 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.

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.

Church closed | Please note the church will be closed Monday April 2nd (Easter Monday).



BENEATH COPPER FALLS By Colleen Coble

As a 911 dispatcher, Dana Newell takes pride in being calm in tough circumstances. In addition to her emotionally-charged career, **she's faced enough emergencies in her own life.** She recently escaped her abusive finance to move to tranquil Rock Harbor where she hopes life will be more peaceful.

But the idyllic town hides more danger and secrets than it first appeared, Dana is continually drawn to her new friend Boone, who has scars inside and out. Then she answers a call at her job only to hear a **friend's desperate screams on the other end.** Soon the pain in her past collides with the mysteries of her new home—and threatens to **keep her from the future she's always wanted.**



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.

March Themes:

- Life of Jesus
- Jesus Entry to Jerusalem

GraceLand Band practice today from 10:30-11:30am in SPH. And GraceNotes Singers/Dancers practice at 10:30.



ALL YOUTH (Gr 7-12)

Sun. Mar 25 - Squarebucks Board Game

Cafe- 10-15-11:15am (Gr 7-12) Squarebucks

has moved to Sunday mornings! Following the 9am service TODAY the Youth Room is all yours! Come to chill out, or ask questions about life and God, or for hangouts, video games board games or whatever you want! As always Squarebucks times comes complete with free food and snacks!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH & UP! (Gr. 9 to Age

99!) Fri. Mar 30 – The Hub: Good Friday

Worship Service 6-9pm St John UC - 195

East 38th St, Hamilton On the night of March

30th at St John United Church in Hamilton Adam, Rhonda and Steven Cowley will be leading an interactive Easter Worship Service with their team from The Hub. This event is geared towards high school youth and young adults but is open to anyone over 15! Parents and other adults are encouraged to come join us as well! The theme for the night is "A Chance to Forgive". As we experience forgiveness from God at Easter we become keenly aware that God, in turn, calls us to "Forgive others as we have been forgiven". And that's what we want to do as a community this Good Friday. We'll sing together, pray together, hear a teaching from Adam, Rhonda and Steven and we'll engage in an worship activity where we'll seek God's help to forgive someone we've struggled to forgive. Fellowship and snacks will run from 6-7pm and the service will run from 7-9pm! Come on out for what should be a great night of encountering Jesus!

Adam Cresswell our Interim Youth Ministry Director holds office hours by appointment Tuesdays 3-5pm. Feel free to send him an e-mail if you'd like to meet: 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**



Maundy Thursday

March 29, 2018 at Burlington Baptist

7:00pm Service with Communion, shared with friends from Burlington Baptist, Port Nelson and Wellington Square

Good Friday

March 30, 2018

9:00am at Wellington Square

Contemporary Service with Children's Ministry

11:00am at Burlington Baptist

Guest Preacher Rev. Jean Stairs
combined choirs of Burlington Baptist,
Port Nelson, and Wellington Square



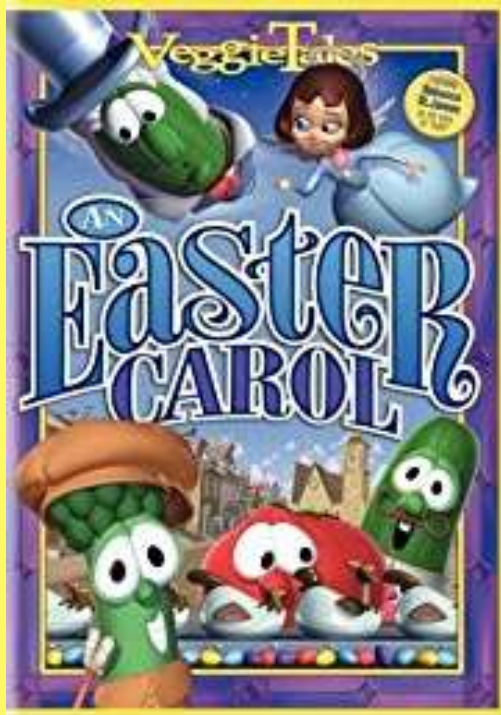
Easter Sunday

April 1, 2018 at Wellington Square

7:30am Sunrise Service at the lake at the west end of Spencer Smith Park

9:00am Resurrection Celebration and Contemporary Worship Service

11:00am Resurrection Celebration and Traditional Worship Service



On Good Friday, March 30 at the 9am service, GraceLand will be watching An Easter Carol!! Inspired by Dickens' Christmas classic, this very special VeggieTales film explains why millions of Christians around the world celebrate Easter past, present and future.



Joseph Brant Hospital Mental Health Consumer Advisory Committee

Presented in Partnership
with:

Friday night
COMMUNITY

Friday April 6, 2018
Friday Night Speakers Series

The Bridge - Prison to Community "Supporting FAMILY in Hamilton and Halton"

Over 60% of individuals in prison have a mental health and/or addiction disorder. The "BRIDGE" supports these individuals and their family members before, during and post incarceration.

Presented by:

Jo Ann Carrothers & Bonnie Barlow

FRIDAY APRIL 6, 2018

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

Wellington Square United Church
&

*Southern Ontario
Lyric Opera*

Invite you to an evening 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



"Making rows into circles"

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Jeremiah 29:13

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).

Please Note: during this Sacred Season of the Year, the chapel is open for Lenten meditation & Prayer. Pray individually or with a group of friends!! Prayer suggestions are available in the chapel.

WOW Book Club: Mon Mar 26 at 7pm at the home of Laurie Tindale (4124 Apple Valley Lane). The book is "The Woman in Cabin 10" by Ruth Ware. All women welcome, please rsvp by Mar 21 or for more information contact:wow@wsquare.ca.

THANK YOU to everyone who stepped out in FAITH to participate in our 5 week LENTEN STUDY & to those who participated in our DISCIPLESHIP CAFÉ on **"FORGIVENESS"**. May your lives continue to be transformed with new life through God's forgiveness and steadfast love.

JESUS CALLING devotional available at the Connection Point \$11

Thursday at Seven: Lenten Series - **"HE CHOSE THE NAILS - What God Did to Win Your Heart"** by Max Lucado. DVD and scripture study guide. Please contact Bruce: bmagwood@TORRLANE.ca

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: jmagwood@wsquare.ca

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



Friday Community

We continue to have an abundance as our community gives of themselves with great generosity. One couple has a Thankful Jar where they put their loose change. They collected over a long period of time, and decided they wanted their savings of \$403 to go to Friday Night Community. It is this kind of generosity that has allowed us to invite folks in, wrap around them and provide ongoing love and care.

One younger friend enjoys coming to serve on Fridays. He took a part time job while attending school and let his employer know that he was not available on Fridays because he volunteers at a Community dinner. We are thankful for his commitment to serving our community by giving of his time. We continue to be blessed by the generosity and commitment of so many friends.

Blessings of goodness:

- *our amazing volunteer who meets the immediate needs of giving free haircuts to friends on Fridays

Most Needed Items:

- *yogurt and black take out containers

- *decaf coffee

- *snacks for children's lunch bags**

- *salad bar toppings & dressings

- *gently used/newer running shoes

- *electric beaters for baking

- *Queen bed & frame, lamps, bedside tables, sewing machine & material, area carpets, wall decorations for new family to country

- *curtain rods and curtains

- *cutlery set & sandwich maker

- *wool for knitting in Hub

- *Easter treats for Good Friday dinner

For information contact: fnc@wsquare.ca



reaching out



Flower Sale

Seeds and bulbs

Sunday March 18-April 8

Please visit the order table in the foyer after service

Sunday March 18 and 25

Order forms to be returned Sunday April 8

Order pickup late April

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)

Because of the cross, I have hope. The prophet Isaiah said, **It is through the Servant's wounds that we are healed, not his miracles. Nothing – not even the murder of God's own Son – can end the relationship between God and human beings.**

If God can snatch such triumph out of the jaws of apparent defeat, what might God do with the apparent failures and hardships of my own life?

The fatally wounded healer came back on Easter, the day that gives a sneak preview of how all history will look from the vantage point of eternity, when every scar, every hurt, every disappointment will be seen in a different light.

Holy Week, with the cross and then the **empty tomb, gives us God's great promise for history:** Hope for the world, and Hope for each one of us who lives in it.

The Lord Jesus be your companion & guide,
this Holy Week –
ORVILLE

(edited & adapted from writings of Philip Yancey)