

I'VE BEEN THINKING...

...that the image of religious faith is a bit distorted in our part of the world. You probably **wouldn't have guessed this, but the human race** is actually becoming more religious, and the Christian Church is actually growing in many places around the world.

However, knowing the decline in church attendance in Canada, and the trend to identify **as 'spiritual but not religious', we might think it's** all downhill.

Not so. This week, at a church leaders **conference at Queen's, I was reminded that the** world is actually becoming more religious, and the Christianity in particular is growing. Whereas a generation ago, 78% of the human race was actively linked to some religion, that number has increased to 90%.

What's causing the upswing? For one thing, when communism collapsed, millions of **people, formerly forced to be 'atheists', were** allowed to investigate and engage their spiritual side. Now churches in Poland, Romania, etc. are packed. Even in China (although still communist) churches are being allowed to exist, and flourish.

(continued on back page)

**wellington
square**



October 21, 2018

Passing on the Poker Chips

"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls and will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with sighing—for that would be harmful to you."

"Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

"Let marriage be held in honor by all,..."

"Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have;..."

"Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith." -Hebrews (selected verses)

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 or at the Connection Point table. As a THANK-YOU for taking the time to fill out the **card, please accept a copy of "CASE FOR CHRIST". If you need assistance, please feel free to ask one of our greeters.**

TODAY, SUNDAY October 21st : JNAC Congregational Meeting at 10:20am in the Sanctuary.

Fellowship Lunch | Please join us TODAY Sunday, October 21st after the 11am service. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the door.

Communion Sundays: November 11th
December 2nd
December 24@10pm

ONE SERVICE @ 10am: December 9th

Ministry in Motion | Nov 5, 6, & 7, 2018
We need your help! If anyone is able to provide breakfast time baked goods for the visiting ministers, it would be appreciated. Nut free pastries/gluten free options/ or fruit items can be brought to the church on Sunday Nov 4th. Please label what the item is. If there is a container or plate that needs to be returned, label it as well. Sign up with: Diane Thompson; Renee Kraus; or Kathryn McFarlane.

Sermon Notes | **from Orville's sermon on** Sept 30th (UNAFRAID: of Meaninglessness), are available at the Connection Point table, or please contact the office.



ADVENT CONSPIRACY

Join the groundswell of Christ-followers who are choosing to **make Christmas what it should be** - a joyous celebration of Jesus' birth that enriches our hearts and the world around us.



WORSHIP FULLY

SPEND LESS

GIVE MORE

LOVE ALL



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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. Nur to Gr. 6

October Themes:
The Last Supper
The Thankful Leper
Care for Others
Accepted by Christ

Advent Faith/fellowship Brunch Event

Peace
LOVE
JOY
Hope

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25th
10:30 am - 11:30 am

St. Paul's Hall (Light lunch provided - fee will offering)

To encourage & support families (children and their parents/grandparents) to prepare their hearts for Advent with a fun fellowship brunch.

Family Advent resources and activities will be distributed.

John 1:4 - In him there was life, and that life was a light for the people of the world.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT HEATHER MACKAY - hmacdon@wellsquare.ca or 905-534-1940 x31
Wellington Square United Church - wsquare.ca



Rubber Chicken...coming soon
Stay tuned for a big announcement concerning our first Rubber Chicken of the school year happening THIS November...

ROCKPILE Halloween Party - Gr. 7-8
Wed Oct 31 - 7-9pm - *Bring a Friend!*

ADMIT YOU AND 2 FRIENDS

WELLINGTON SQUARE YOUTH

**ROCKPILE:
HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY**

What: Gr. 7-8
Where: Wellington Square Youth Room
When: Wed Oct 31 - 7-9pm

Games and Music!
Halloween Treats!
Costume contest!

BRING YOUR COSTUME



Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partnership of 15 Canadian churches and church agencies working together to end global hunger. Our vision is a world without hunger. We support programs that:

- Meet emergency food needs in times of crisis.
- Strengthen agriculture and livelihoods to improve access to food in the longer term.
- Improve nutrition, particularly for pregnant and breastfeeding women and young children.

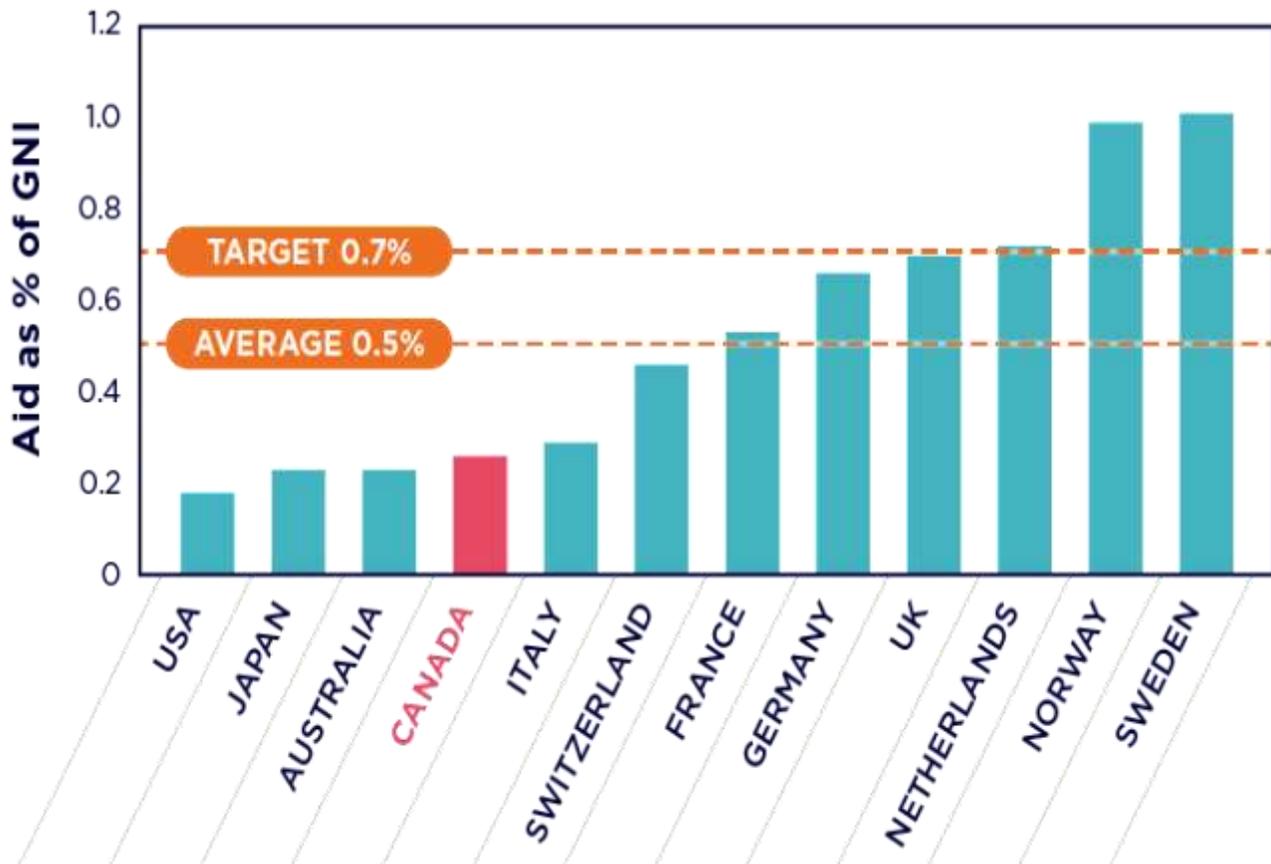
We also advocate for change in public policies that improve access to food for families and communities, and deepen the engagement of Canadians in the work of ending global hunger.

Visit foodgrainsbank.ca for more worship resources, videos, and educational activities on related topics.

ABOUT WORLD FOOD DAY

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) created World Food Day to commemorate its founding in Quebec City, October 16, 1945. The goal of the FAO is to free humanity from hunger and malnutrition, and to effectively manage the global food system. World Food Day events are organized in over 150 countries across the world, making it one of the most celebrated days of the UN calendar. These events promote worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and help strengthen the link between agriculture and food security.

Canada's commitment to international assistance (2017)



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.

finance

Wellington Square Finance Update
Nine Months ending September 30, 2018

	Actual	Budget
Givings and other income	\$ 486,515	\$ 504,146
Expenses	520,577	544,258
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Net deficit	\$ (34,062)	\$ (40,112)
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Friday Community

As the weather gets colder, we see greater anxiety and concern about what is to come. Folks are worried about having the appropriate winter wear and are also asking for long underwear and warm blankets. As the days get shorter some struggle more with mental health challenges. We have seniors that do not like to be out in the dark, which leads to a feeling of greater isolation. We intend to help by ensuring that friends have the warm items needed, and to continue to provide fellowship and show people that they are loved and cared for. Thank you for continuing to taking the much needed time to share in conversation and friendship with those who come in our doors.

Most Needed Items:

***Hallowe'en candy**

*winter coats, boots, snow pants, mitts & hats, sleeping bags, warmer comforters, (gently used and clean)

***men's walking shoes**

*running shoes of all sizes (gently used)

*lemonade & iced tea crystals

*decaf coffee

*salad bar toppings (pickles, beets, olives, Craisins, croutons, seeds, etc.)

*tea towels & dish cloths

*mattress covers (clean gently used)

*curtain rods, panel curtains and hardware

*smaller lightweight desk & chair for youth

*vacuum cleaner (gently used)

*living room/bedroom end tables & lamps

*gently used running shoes of all sizes

For information contact: fnc@wsquare.ca



"Disciples Making Disciples"

"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." Matt. 18:20

Acts 2: 42 "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."
(NIV)

DISCIPLESHIP CAFÉ - PASSION TALK SERIES with Louie Giglio. Be inspired to take your place in His symphony! This is open to Board, staff, M&P and all congregants.
TOPIC: SYMPHONY (I Lift My Hands)
WHEN: Saturday, October 27, 2018
WHERE: Pritchard Room
TIME: 10am-noon (with Marg's muffins & coffee at 9:45am)

Who Should Attend: Everyone who wants to serve the Lord in glorious ways!
Sign up at the CONNECTION POINT table or contact Joy Magwood jmagwood@wsquare.ca

ADVENT CONSPIRACY: **Don't wait! Sign up today to be part of the groundswell of Christ-followers who are choosing to make Christmas what it should be - a joyous celebration of Jesus' birth that enriches our hearts & the world around us".**

WHEN: Tues, Oct. 23, 30 & Nov 13, 20, 2018
WHERE: Pritchard Rm
TIME: 2-3:30pm or 7-9pm
STUDY GUIDE: \$17 available at the Connection Point
FACILITATORS: Gary & Alison Brown, Joy Magwood, Ana Walber. Please sign up at the Connection Point table.

JOYFUL SPIRITS - Meets every third Thursday of the month (September to June)
Next meeting: October 25th.
TIME: 7pm WHERE: Pritchard Room
NEW STUDY: WHO IS THIS MAN??? THE UNPREDICTABLE IMPACT OF THE INESCAPABLE JESUS
CONTACT: jmagwood@wsquare.ca

WOK with GOD - Men's fellowship, pot-luck dinner and faith discussion. Next WOK with GOD Thursday Oct 25th. 6:30 - 10:00 pm. Hosted by Allan Pearson. Sign up at the Connection Table or see Gary Brown or Bruce Magwood.

THANK YOU to our SANCTUARY DECORATING TEAM for your creative THANKSGIVING décor. It lifts glory & visual praises to our AWESOME GOD! We are thankful also for the new members who signed up for this wonderful serving team at our GROUPLINK Sunday. Many hands do make "light work".

A vertical poster for a Discipleship Café event. The background is a silhouette of a person with arms outstretched in a field of tall grass at sunset. The text is centered and reads:

Discipleship Café
Saturday October 27, 2018
10am-noon
(coffee & muffins @ 9:45am)

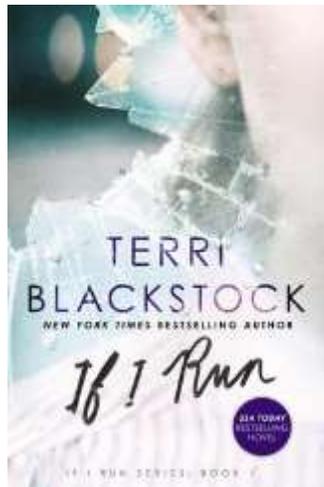
Louis Giglio
Be inspired to take your place in His symphony

SYMPHONY
I LIFT MY HANDS

Please RSVP Joy Magwood
jmagwood@wsquare.ca to reserve a seat



MISSING BOOK from Footsteps Library-- If I Run by Terri Blackstock. This new book was highlighted in the bulletin for Footsteps Library weekly review on September 16th and we would like to get the book back into circulation. Please remember that any item from Footsteps Library can be signed out for a 3 week loan period on Sundays between services when the library is open. Items can also be signed out using the self-check out system in the big unit or the self-check out system inside the Chapel.



Eritrea, Brundi. If you are hard pressed to find these countries on a map, you are not alone. These countries have one thing in common. They

are on a list of the most underreported crises in the world. Public awareness and funding for humanitarian crises are closely intertwined. Underreported means underfunded. Enter the Foodgrains Bank. Many people and growing projects make generous gifts without designating a specific cause or crisis. The funding agreement with the Canadian government is also flexible. By having money in **the "Bank", the CFGB can allocate the funds as** the need arises. The faithful support of so many Canadians allows the CFGB to provide lifesaving assistance. It allows the CFGB to show people who are suffering that someone notices and cares. It is vital that people facing terrible crises are not forgotten by the world or by the Church. Thank you for caring. Thank you for giving.

The United Church of Canada has launched an emergency appeal in response to the tragic situations in the Asia-Pacific region. United Church donations are supporting the work of medical teams, the supply of food and shelter and agricultural assistance to replant crops. We maintain an emergency fund, supported by a portion of your weekly donations, and were able to send a cheque for \$1,500 in response to this appeal. Thank you.

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Ministerial Team

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Rev. Tom Chire (*Voluntary*)

Children/Family Ministry (GraceLand)

Heather Mackey (ext. 21)

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Adult Faith Ministry

Joy Magwood (ext. 23)

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Music Ministry at 9am

Tim Watson (ext. 10)

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Music Ministry at 11am

Juanita Maldonado (ext. 20)

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Custodian Team

Terry Beck, Raul Gutierrez



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Beyond that, throughout much of Africa and Latin America, Christianity is expanding. There is a hunger for faith, for justice, for hope - and Jesus team, (both Catholic and evangelical protestant) are helping to satisfy that yearning.

What about us in Canada? In Burlington? There is some decline; there is always change. Some older traditional churches are struggling to survive; Other congregations that have been gently joyful about **Jesus are doing better, especially if they've allowed themselves to change their 'style' –** the way they do music, and welcome strangers.

I kinda think we're one of those congregations – softly enthusiastic about a trusting faith in God; adapting and evolving to stay current and keep Christ-centered spirituality Fun.

Because of that, I'm confident about the future here. Bit of a change coming... with my 'finish line' happening early in the new year. No worries. This place will be fine.

Today's meeting reporting the 'Needs Assessment' is a good step forward. Then lots of prayer, thought, discussion (and more prayer) will take you through to a new chapter and a new leader (by next summer?).

The Living God is at work in faith lives throughout the whole world, even and especially Wellington Square. All will be well.

Grace & Peace to you,

ORVILLE