

Jubilation!

Autumn 2019

Jubilation! is the newsletter of Jubilee United Church
40 Underhill Drive * 416-447-6846 * www.jubileeunited.ca

Notes from Norm

From time to time, people ask me about the acknowledgements that we do before the Sunday Service. A number of people really appreciate them, visitors have commented on how much they like them; one person went out of their way to engage me in a gushing, gratitude-filled 30-minute conversation about the impact of the words and the welcome experienced in the words. (Of course, those standing in line to see me after the service were less gratitude-filled). Others have wondered why we do them and will we always have to do them? I thought that I'd take this time to talk about them, what they are, and why we do them the way that we do.



As we begin our service, we introduce ourselves to each other, strangers and friends alike. We usually talk a little about the diversity of opinion and experience that exists in our gathering on any morning. For many people, the first time they come into a new church can be scary: They wonder if they're going to fit in; will they know what to do and when to do it; do they have the kind of faith that will connect; or will they feel foolish or be shamed for not believing the right things? We start by trying to assure people that whatever their belief, they are welcome.

When everything in the world hurts because of grief, loss, or a change in circumstance, it's sometimes hard to go back to old friends who are accustomed to you being cheerful, helpful, and ready to listen. We take time to acknowledge that some of us come to Sunday hurting and looking for comfort, while others come ready to engage and laugh. We have much to offer each other, but we don't have to be the same every time we enter the church; we are allowed to retreat or emerge from the shadows. There is nothing wrong with being happy or being sad. In our opening words, we acknowledge that we are all human and that it's okay to feel.

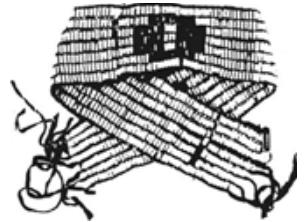


There was a time during our most recent amalgamation when we would acknowledge the founding churches of Bethesda, Victoria Village, Donminster, and St. John's United Church. This was a time when we were finding comfort in our historical identity but also finding our current identity in our commonwealth. We were building the present by embracing and acknowledging the past.

This brings us to the Land Acknowledgment in which we acknowledge that the land upon which we work, live, and worship is the traditional land of Indigenous Peoples who have come before and also remain present. This is one of the things that we can do in response to the **Calls to Action** that resulted from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It is a very small thing, but it is part of changing our awareness of our history and various treaties and settlements that are part of the history of the GTA. You can read the extensive Calls to Action from here, http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf or pick up a copy from the bulletin board adjacent to the Church Office.

continued on page 2

In the excavating for the Eglinton Subway, some interesting artifacts have surfaced. Old bottles, pottery, and a great many finds that could be props on Murdoch Mysteries or other historical dramas. Also unearthed was a 5000-year-old hand axe - evidence of settlement, at least a hunt camp, somewhere along our new subway line. Five thousand years ago. Think about that for a moment. The simple truth is that much of the history that we were taught in Canada was wrong; this was not an empty wilderness waiting to be settled. The stories that we told were self-serving and de-humanizing of the millions of Indigenous People living in Canada. When Europeans arrived in North America, Indigenous peoples were not nomads, not few, not savage, not impoverished, and not looking for salvation. Indigenous peoples had commerce, travel, economies, permanency, stewardship, history, artistry, drama, ceremony, mourning, health care, politics, justice, and peacekeeping, and they still do. The acknowledgement that we make on Sunday may pique some interest and set someone to asking questions or doing some research; it might do a little to change the stories we tell, so as to include the broader truths of history and it should also remind us that we live in relationship with Indigenous Peoples now – not just historically. The Indigenous population is not only the fastest growing group in Canada, but it is also the youngest. We are not just trying to correct history; we are trying to open our eyes and our minds to the future and to the people with whom we could build a vital future if we can first recognize, acknowledge, and treat them with justice. Much like the time that we would have acknowledged our founding churches, we are trying to build a better future by embracing and acknowledging the past.



We also acknowledge Jubilee's identity as an Affirming Church. The church, in general, does not have a reputation for embracing and engaging the LGBTQ2S+ community. Far too many people have been invited out, pushed out, punched out, and written out of community and history because they did not fit into a cis-gendered, heteronormative world view. Now, I know that I should explain a few terms. Please don't imagine me to be authoritative. I encourage you to look up words and terms, but I will give my quick understanding of these various terms, or at least what I mean when I use them.

I am a cis-gendered heterosexual man who exists in a largely heteronormative society. By "cis-gendered", I mean that I feel and see myself pretty much as the world sees me. I am masculine and meet most of the expectations of society around my male identity. As a heterosexual, I am attracted to and engaged with the opposite sex (in a binary sense – we'll talk about that in a moment). I live in a society that is pretty much built around and for people like me – from public washrooms and high school proms to advertisements on TV – most things are designed for my benefit. In short, the world revolves around me and others are usually described in relationship to my "normal" status. ("He's gay; he doesn't like girls" implies that the norm is for boys to be attracted to girls; "Now that we know that we're having a baby boy, we're painting the nursery blue" suggests that there is a specific colour code and that boys would not like pink). One of my favourite Dorothy Parker quotes is, **"Heterosexuality is not "normal" – it's just common."** (If you don't know Dorothy, look her up... and be prepared to laugh and blush).

As an Affirming Church, we recognize the world in which we live, but we also believe that God loves all people and that "normal" is not a word that should be used in discussing identity (sexual or otherwise). People have the right to establish, experience, and communicate their identity as they see fit. Historically, the church has told people that they needed to be like me (Be Like Norm – now, that's a campaign sure to scare people). We want to be clear: every time that we gather, we are striving to move beyond a cis-gendered heteronormative perspective and embrace all of God's children, including using the currently Affirming Alphabet:

L and G – Lesbian and Gay - People who are emotionally or sexually attracted to people of the same gender.

B – Bisexual – People who are emotionally or sexually attracted to people of more than one gender

T – Trans – People whose gender identity does not match society's expectations of someone with their physical sex characteristics.

Q – Queer – A term for those who challenge and defy gender or sexual definitions and restrictions.

2S – Two-Spirited – A person who has both masculine and feminine spirits.

+ – Plus – All manner of other folks who do not define themselves in ways that are common in our larger society. This would include people who are non-binary (will not be defined as either Male or Female); gender fluid (an identity that fluctuates and may move through a combination of male/female/straight/gay and more); pansexual or just questioning and wondering.

continued on page 3

People who identify in these terms have found it hard to find safe places where they can relax, laugh, pray, question, wonder, love, and live without fear of being rejected, abused or killed. As dramatic as these words are, they are the truth. We are not fixing this situation with our acknowledgement, but we are indicating our desire and efforts to be a safe place for all people to engage with each other and God. Like Jesus would.



We start our Sunday Service trying to be a welcoming place, a safe space, to engage with God and community; a place where we are aware of our failings and our need for God's help; a place where we are hopeful and ready to build a future; a place where we realize that we are NOT alone – we are surrounded by and invited to love all of God's wondrous creation.

I should tell you that the Acknowledgement that we do every Sunday is not the only acknowledgement that I do. Every morning, when I wake up, I take a little time for Acknowledgments before the day begins. I begin with acknowledging how I feel as soon as I awake: Some days I am anxious, some days I am sad, other days, I am happy and full of energy... I recognize how I feel as I wake up, and I tell God. I reflect on the past few days, and I ask God to forgive me for my failings and mistakes, I ask God to forgive me for the times that I let pride or self-interest rule. I acknowledge to God that I am part of a family with relationships that come with expectations and responsibilities; I work with a team and am part of a church community that comes with expectations and responsibilities. As a Christian, I have a responsibility to live in a manner that Jesus would endorse. I tell God what I'm hoping to do that day. Some might call this prayer or even meditation... I'm not sure what to call it, but in those moments, I not only remind myself of who I am and what I'm hoping to be, but I also feel a sense of connection to God, as I feel heard and embraced. My day and my life are truly made better by my daily acknowledgements. I think that our Sunday Service and our Jubilee Community benefits the same way.



Thank you for being you, exactly as you are.

Norm

Rimbala at the National Ballet School



Our Jubilee Rimbala participants did extremely well during our special presentation!

I'm so proud of their work ...everyone had fun and learned a great deal!

**Cheers all
Daniel**

A Musical, Muffin and Welcome service.

Sunday, September 22 at 1030am.

Welcome

Coffee & Muffins
available from 10.

The Muffin Band will play "Welcome Songs"
as we share our personal experience
and discover God's wisdom together



BURNING SOULS DAVID CHERNUSHENKO

A tale of courage and integrity
in a time of ecological collapse.

Burning Souls offers plenty to lift the reader,
even as things go horribly wrong.

DAVIDC.CA

Sunday, September 29th, 7pm @Jubilee United Church

Hear the Author, ask questions about Environmental Issues
and see what initiatives some our neighbourhood churches have taken on.

www.jubileeunited.ca

Ulterior Worship

A refreshing break from the rush of life



Jubilee United Church

1st and 3rd Monday of the month
at 8:35 pm
in the Sanctuary
Lead by Rev. Norm
with music by Benjamin Gabbay

Join us for some peace a quiet...
A chance to breathe and to
wonder. It really is better when
you are here.

September 16, October 7 and 21,
November 4 and 18.



Autumn Jubilation 2019... pg 4

A Time to Come Close - Rev. Anne Dionisio

It is that time of year again: time to enjoy the warmth of the cottage fireplace; time for students to get used to new classes and teachers; time to harvest apples from the orchard. Okay, I do not have a cottage, and my children are too young for school, and I do not have an orchard. Nevertheless, I can feel it. It is not New Year's, but to me, September always feels like the time when everything begins again - like the Monday after a long summer Sunday. Some in the church call this season "Creation Time": a time to pay closer attention to the beauty and pain of creation, and a time to wonder about what it means to know God as Creator.

In Godly Play (our Sunday morning children's worship), this is the time that we begin again, too, starting with the Story of Creation. Godly Play is based on a philosophy of spiral education and each year it brings us right through our sacred stories. We start with the fullness of the pre-creation "nothing", then we encounter Noah, Sarai and Abram, Moses and the people who crossed the Red Sea, King David, the people who lived in Exile, and the prophets. With Advent, we get ready for Christmas and to hear the story of the Holy Family. Then we hear the stories about Jesus and the stories that Jesus told, on through Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. Summer comes and goes, and suddenly, it is time to hear the Story of Creation again.

But I wonder...do we really need to hear it again???

You may have heard me tell the Story of Creation on a Sunday morning. I have told it during morning worship at least three times since I arrived at Jubilee in 2015. As I tell it, we slowly unravel a large banner depicting the seven days. The banner itself was created by our congregation. In one work meeting, a group gathered to cut out the large pieces of felt and find a way to attach them to the panels. On another day, the youth continued the work of cutting and glueing (hot glue turned out to be the best adhesive). When it became clear that we should connect the seven panels to make one large scroll, another person took them home and sewed them all together. Piece by piece, we created something beautiful.

If you have not heard me tell the story, surely you have read it or have heard it told. The one I tell comes from Genesis 1...but maybe you are more familiar with the story of Adam and Eve found in Genesis 2...or there is the one in Psalm 104 where God rebukes the waters and makes them flee and take flight...or in Job when God speaks of marking off the dimensions of the earth; stretching a measuring line across it...or finding in John 1 that the Word was, and was with God in the beginning.

"God made the things, and the things were good"...you know the story, I know the story, we know the story. So why keep telling? Why keep telling it if we all know it? Why keep telling it if it does not seem to make sense in a time when we know about big bangs and expanding universes? Why keep telling it when we know the earth is round and not, in fact, "set on pillars"? Why keep telling it when there are so many other important things we could be thinking about? In Godly Play, we keep returning to stories because we are pretty sure that they have more to tell us. We suspect that we are never going to fully understand the story. We believe that, as we become familiar with the story, it begins to shape us - like waves shaping stones on the seashore.

I wonder if this is what happens when we encounter the creation stories again and again?... I wonder if this is what happens when we come close to the Creator again and again? As we wonder what it means to be created by the one who calls us "good"? What it means to live in a creation that has been spoken and called into being? To be made in the image of the One who creates? I wonder how we are called to create?

It is that time again...a time to hear the story...a time to come close to God, who speaks us into existence, forms us from the dust and hovers over the depths. I wonder how you will come close this time?



Jubilee Mystery Theatre
Invites you to attend

The International Humanitarian Awards Dinner

Awards will be presented to honourable, kind and creative people from all over the world

But be warned! A murder will be committed and all those present will be asked to help solve the crime and bring the murderer to justice. While enjoying a lovely meal, of course.

Saturday, October 26, 2019

Murder Mystery Dinner

Cocktails at 600pm

(There will be a cash bar)

Dinner at 630pm

Tickets are only \$20

available after Worship and from the Church Office

www.jubileeunited.ca



Open Doors

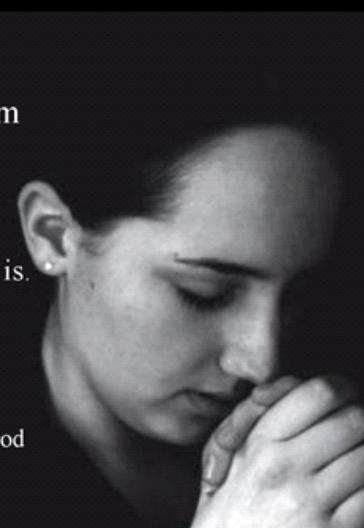
Wednesdays 430 – 630 pm

The sanctuary is open,
and you are invited to sit...
to pray...
to be still and know that God is.

One of our ministers will be there
if you want to talk

There are candles that can be lit
and time that is just for you and God

Jubilee United Church



Coffee @Jubilee
Tuesdays 11am-1230
You never know who will you meet!



Autumn Jubilation 2019... pg 6



RESISTANCE CHURCH

This fall, Jubilee launches the **Resistance Church** project — a multifaceted approach to engaging the local and extended community in conversations about Christian faith and its relevance within our daily lives. This new worship project will be led by Bri-anne Swan, a third-year student at the Centre for Christian Studies, Community Minister with the Living Presence Ministry...and spouse to former intern, Jason Meyers!

BACKGROUND

Throughout his ministry, Jesus worked within the constructs of his culture to challenge prevailing norms and values. Creating parables and quoting easily recognizable Scripture, Jesus inspired those around him in working towards the Kingdom of God. Jesus lived in, with, and among his people: eating with them, laughing with them, worshipping with them and praying with them.

Resistance Church looks to lower barriers in cultivating a relationship with God, creating worship that is as accessible as possible for neighbours coming from a broad cross-section of income, culture, race, gender, ability, and sexual orientation. **Resistance Church is for both the Un-Churched and the De-Churched**, particularly those loosely fitting within the Millennial age demographic.

Reflecting Jesus' willingness to meet people as they were, the goal of Resistance Church is to offer worship that is acutely aware of people's context, drawing on elements of current events and popular culture to illustrate stories and lessons found within Scripture.

While not limited to the immediate community, Resistance Church will be intentional about engaging with residents immediately surrounding Jubilee. These neighbours may be **looking for a spiritual home**, but have yet to find something that "fits" for them and their family, perhaps because of scheduling issues (children's activities on Sunday morning), or because they have not yet found a worship community whose culture and demographics reflect their experience.

WHAT IS RESISTANCE CHURCH?

Rest: Resistance to a culture where busyness is used as a marker for status, merit, and validation.

Hope: Resistance to a culture whose media embraces and cultivates despair and fear.

Community: Resistance to a culture of competition, isolation, and othering.

Christ-centred worship focusing on Jesus' message of radical and subversive love.

Monthly Worship Services

One Sunday evening a month, the Resistance Church community will gather to sing, pray, and reflect. The music is contemporary, presented by a worship band, and drawing on a repertoire of praise and popular music that is consistent with the United Church of Canada's ethos and values. These worship services are to be distinct both in style and culture from the current offerings of Jubilee United Church, though **sharing in Jubilee's long history of being a welcoming and affirming community**. Childcare will be available during worship times. **Our first gathering will be October 6th, 2019!**

Social/Multi-Media

As a complement to its monthly worship services, Resistance Church will be **exploring ways in which social media can be used as Ministry**; by inviting questions and engaging in conversations via Instagram, Facegroup groups, Facebook Live, and podcasting.

We look forward to updating you on this new and exciting endeavour! Our website will be launched in early September (www.resistancechurch.ca) and will have resources for Seekers exploring what it means to live a life with faith. Until the launch, feel free to visit the site and sign up for our mailing list.

The church is God saying: "I'm throwing a banquet, and all these mismatched, messed-up people are invited. Here, have some wine."

-Rachel Held Evans





Well, we've done it again. In early August, the Canadian Government responded to a request by the United Nations to provide a safe place for a young woman from Uganda. This young woman is living in a Refugee Camp in Kenya – she has been abandoned by family and community, bullied, beaten, arrested, and tortured because of her identity within the LGBTQ2S+ community. She lives literally in peril. The Canadian Government contacted the United Church of Canada who in turn reached out to a handful of communities that are Affirming and have experience with Refugees. Jubilee United Church replied. The Canadian Government is providing significant financial support (we will

still have a wishlist of items that we need and we will do some fundraising, but not to the same degree as with our previous Refugee families). This young woman speaks no English, has few skills, and no ties to Canada. This worried us, but her safety and chance for a life away from the threat of imprisonment was worth it, we thought. We also wanted to be sure of support for this person, so Jubilee reached out to Birchcliff Bluffs United Church (with Rev. Greg Daly), and we began a partnership. Since then, we've connected with two United Churches with Ugandan Immigrants and even a Kenyan LGBTQ2S+ group.

And then, another surprise: she has a partner in the Refugee Camp, a partner whose identity was unknown to the United Nations because it is illegal in Kenya to be in such a relationship, and they feared being arrested. This partner has work skills, English fluency, and family connections in Toronto. With the help of the Canadian Government and the United Church of Canada, we will be able to bring them both to Canada together.

Imagine, we will not only be able to live our commitment as an Affirming Church, but we are also able to provide hope, welcome, love, and acceptance to two people who have gone without any of these things. We expect our friends to arrive in October... and we will keep you posted as things develop.



JUBILEE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Our new committee was formed this year, and we focused on a limited number of events that we hoped would appeal to members of the congregation and the community at large.

We began by sponsoring a concert: "Concert for a Saturday Afternoon", featuring our own Benjamin Gabbay and colleagues who presented a spectacular performance.

Our Saturday, May 25th, Day Trip to the quaint village of St. Jacobs was a success in spite of the weather. With 46 persons attending, we enjoyed a visit to the famous St. Jacobs Farmers Market. A Mennonite Farm, a speaker, provided us with the history of the Mennonite faith and a luncheon at the popular Crossroads Restaurant.

The response from those attending will likely lead us to select another interesting Day Trip in 2020.

Judy Olsen of our committee continues to lead a weekly program of Bid Euchre in the church auditorium at 12:30 each Tuesday. Newcomers are most welcome to join this fellowship time and learn and enjoy this popular game.

Planning is currently well underway for a spectacular fall event, namely a Murder Mystery Dinner planned for the evening of Saturday, Oct. 26th. Please purchase your tickets early when they go on sale in mid-September as we do anticipate that this event may sell out. Ticket price for dinner and mystery theatre performance will be \$20.

A.Howes, C.Scott



Scotiabank Waterfront Marathon
(Marathon, 1/2 Marathon and 5k)

Sunday, October 20, 2019

ARE YOU READY???

Want to be part of this great "health" raiser and fundraiser? In the last two years, we have raised over \$13,000. Last year we had 15 participants, including a ½ Marathon and Full Marathon completion by Jubilee Folk.

Imagine what could happen this year if you joined us. Google "Waterfront Marathon Toronto" – and/or go to torontowaterfrontmarathon.com

Click on "REGISTER"

And then "RACE ROSTER – Canadian Runner."

You can register with email and create a password or register with Facebook.

- Once you've registered, you can select your event:

Marathon ½ Marathon

5km Walk 5km with Stroller Walk

- Having selected your event, you will then "Create a Scotiabank Charity Challenge Fundraising Account."

(when you choose your race name, do not include spaces).

Following the directions, you will be asked for a Charity Pin Code:

· **Marathon or Half Marathon: M19JUBILEE**

· **5k: 5K19JUBILEE**

· **5k with Stroller: 5st19JUBILEE**

These codes will connect you to Jubilee and bring the Registration Fee down to \$80 for the Marathon and 1/2 Marathon; \$40 for the 5k and \$50 for the 5k with a stroller (plus HST and Processing Fee). Jubilee will refund registration costs for any and all who raise over \$200 (but you don't have to stop there!)

If you're having trouble... ask Norm; he'll get you help.

Worried about going down to pick up the race package? No problem, we'll send someone...

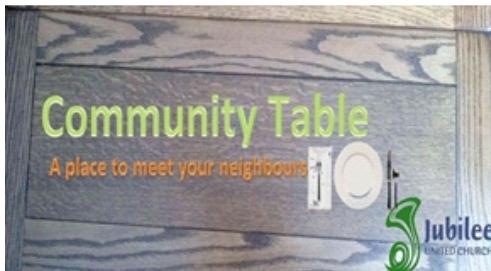
Want to train for the 5k? We have training sessions!

Not ready to walk or run, but would like to Sponsor?

Check with the Church Office and/or check the display in the Church Foyer.

**OH YEAH, THIS YEAR, TEAM NORM and TEAM ANNE
are going head to head!!!**

Choose your team wisely!!



Have you ever been to Community Table?

On the second Saturday of each month, Gary, Iona, and a host of volunteers share a meal with folks in our community. Some come for the food, some for the company, and some, just because. People just like you and me...

The success of our program means that we are getting more people all the time. What we are hoping to do is to put together a "Serving Team" – a group of folks who help to serve dinner and interact with our friends. We're going to provide some training, and we are hoping to find 12 people to serve, 3 or 4 people at each meal.

Interested? Speak with Rev. Seli when you get a chance.





The Benevolent Fund

Every time I write about the Benevolent Fund for Jubilation, it feels like I'm campaigning for your donations. But I'm not.

Many of us already give so much of ourselves, so many and much of our gifts and assets. I'm not trying to get you to re-direct your givings or to give beyond your means or aspirations. I just want you to know a little bit about what goes on with the Benevolent Fund.

This Fund is a modest amount of money that is shared at my discretion with those in need. I try to share this resource with those who might otherwise fall through the cracks, those who have medical or financial needs that cannot be met through other agencies or those who have a one-time challenge that threatens their future. We have helped new mothers and babies, seniors on a fixed income. We have helped some folks buy books for school, go to summer camp or get a Metropass for work. We stress with our friends that this is a "one-time" assistance, not an on-going source of support and we are most likely to help by paying a utility bill on-line rather than handing over the money to the client. The folks that we help may have a variety of challenges, some of them are pretty obvious, others not so. The folks we help often stick out in our community, but many do not. In fact, there are probably people sitting next to you in church who have benefitted from our support once or twice.

In 2019, everybody has seen costs go up and so naturally, we have more people asking for help, and some of our more familiar people asking for MORE help. We share a lot of grocery cards with folks whose needs cannot be met by our local foodbanks – special diets; special needs. In the past few months, we have helped with medical costs that government and/or pension plans have not included. We have provided nutritious food, kept the lights on and made it possible for at least one person to stay in school. Your generosity this year also made it possible for a child to go to summer camp. Although these folks are anonymous to you, they are not to me, and I can see and hear the gratitude – so, allow me to share that gratitude with you and thank for you for a hundred little things that have made big differences.

Should you wish to contribute in the future, donations can be made directly to me, but also to the Church office or in the Offering Box in an envelope marked "Benevolent Fund". These donations will be added to your other church donations, and you will receive a Tax Receipt. Thank you again.

Norm

In case you missed it:

On June 9th, in the midst of a wild, Spirit Filled, Pentecost service, we confirmed **Joshua Barrett-Tandy, Liam Barrett-Tandy, Spencer Clinton, Joseph Gareau, Milena Gareau, Elizabeth MacKay, and Nora Smith**.

We're going to complete the set on September 8th when we confirm **Evan Pasarelu**.



Have no fear; the Youth Group Continues to remain focused and studious, even after being confirmed – as is obvious from the summer picture.



Outreach

In 1998, St. John's United Church created the St. John's Community Scholarship. When we amalgamated with them, we agreed to keep this wonderful initiative going. The recipient(s) are students pursuing post-secondary education who have good academic standing, and engage in community outreach, and financial need is also considered. This year, we honoured two young women, Hailey Clinton and Megan Williams.

Pam Lock spoke on behalf of Hailey Clinton.

Our first winner, Hailey Clinton, graduated from York Mills Collegiate as an Ontario Scholar in French Immersion. She has been accepted at Nipissing University in North Bay in the six-year concurrent education program in child and family studies. On completing her education, she would like to be a French Elementary teacher. Hailey has been coming to Jubilee for more than ten years. She was confirmed at Jubilee and an active participant in Jubilee Youth Group. She has been faithfully involved with the children of Jubilee, beginning with the arts and crafts activities and now assisting with the Godly Play Sunday program which educates children about God and teaches real-life skills. In recognition of her efforts, this past year, Hailey was a recipient of the Baillie Award for youth volunteerism from the Toronto United Church Council. Hailey, you are a deserving winner of this scholarship, and we wish you success in your studies.

Ed Rutherford spoke on behalf of Megan Williams.

Mark Twain once said "There are really only two days in a person's life that are important. The first important one is the day you were born. The second is the day that you find out why you were born". This morning, Megan Williams is receiving the St. John's Community Scholarship, because she has already found out that she is here to make this world a better place. Megan graduated from Don Mills Collegiate as an Ontario Scholar, and by that time, she had completed 900 hours of volunteer work. And she has just completed her first year as an 'A' student in her 4-year Honours Bachelor of Community Health degree at Seneca College. Her plan for the future is to work with youth in the field of mental health. Megan has been here at Jubilee since she was five years old. She has worked at Jubilee Community Table Dinners, Garage Sales, at Vacation Bible School, at Communion services, ushering, the coffee team, and more. And in 2015, Megan won the Baillie Volunteer Service Award from the Toronto United Church Council. Away from Jubilee, she is a member of the Young Shining Water Conference. For the last five summers, Megan has worked for one week as a volunteer at a Family Homeless Shelter in Philadelphia.

Megan, in this envelope is your certificate recognizing your award of St. John's Community Scholarship. But this envelope doesn't just contain a certificate... It also contains a dream ... a dream that has already begun and will continue for decades to come. This envelope doesn't just contain a certificate... it contains a whole bag-full of courage... courage that you may need, a little for yourself and that you will certainly need to spread among those you will be helping. And last, and most importantly, this envelope contains the love, the blessings, and the best wishes of every person here this morning, of the several hundred people who have known you over the years, and of the thousands that your work will touch, as you make this world a better place.

As the Chair of Outreach, I congratulate both Hailey and Megan and wish them both the best in their studies. You both make us proud, and we will continue to follow your progress and would love to include updates in further Jubilation.

Iona Williams



AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

With Thanksgiving celebrations approaching, most of us are grateful for the blessings in our lives. In our attitude of gratitude, let us be mindful of people beyond our immediate circles and of the ways in which the national United Church of Canada's Mission and Service fund supports them. For example, the \$24.2 million (dollars) given in 2018 to M&S support programs ranging from global peace and justice projects in 21 countries to 20 Canadian ecumenical initiatives to 36 chaplaincies in hospitals and college campuses to 89 Indigenous ministries and reconciliation projects.

For those of us who might already be thinking ahead to Christmas, the new catalogues for GIFTS WITH VISION will be available in October. Choosing from the variety of gifts offered in these pages can be a means of committing ourselves to the work of the United Church and an opportunity to teach younger generations the importance of caring for our local and global neighbours.

If you have questions about Mission & Service, please speak to Pam Lock, Jubilee's designated M&S Enthusiast. Our financial support is one way by which we can love our neighbours as ourselves.



The Jubilee Living and Learning LECTURE SERIES

Fall Series: “HISTORY AND THE ARTS”

Four Wednesday afternoons

1:00-2:30 p.m.

Cost of Series \$25 Individual Lectures \$10

Registration

Jubilee United Church Office
40 Underhill Drive, Don Mills M3A 2J5
416-447-6846

www.jubileeunited.ca

(Cheques payable to Jubilee United Church)

November 6: Fire: The Spark that Ignited Human Evolution

The association between our ancestors and fire, somewhere around four to six million years ago, had a tremendous impact on human evolution. Archaeological and anthropological evidence of the earliest human-controlled fires will be used to explore the profound physical and biological impacts fire has had on human evolution.

Presenter: Dr. Francis Burton

November 13: The Art of Music-Making: A Chat with a Soprano

What is it like performing classical music in the twenty-first century? More exciting than you think! Join Soprano Claire Latosinsky, a voice student at U of T, as she discusses performance, the challenges of making music approachable, and why she chose to study music. She'll also perform and share the stories of some of her favourite pieces, from Opera to Art Song!

Presenters: Claire Latosinsky and Benjamin Gabbay

November 20: Travels in “Ghostly Japan: A Survey of Japanese Mythology, Goblins and Ghosts

In this lecture, we will explore the world of Japanese mythology and its iconic gods, monsters, ghouls and ghosts. We will learn how some of these ancient oral and written traditions gave rise to Japan's imperial system of governance. We will also see how scholars and folklorists such as Yanagita Kunio and Lafcadio Hearn promoted these tales to a wider audience.

Presenter: Dr. Max Dionisio

November 27: Rembrandt: Artist and Genius

From portraits to landscapes, allegorical and historical scenes, biblical and mythological themes, Rembrandt's works and styles tell an array of stories that uncover the depth, beauty and mystery of our hidden lives. We will explore the life of this genius and examine some of the most beautiful paintings of the Dutch Golden Age.

Presenter: Paul Dias

*Life
Events*

Celebrations of Life:

Harvey Bride

August 30

Marriages:

Spencer Hoy & Ashley Glass

June 15

Dwayne Alleyne & Elizabeth Robertson

August 3

Kevin Collins & Heather Fraser

August 17

Andy Persaud & Reena Ramlackhan

August 24

