

Between Friends

July 2016

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75 Pergola Road
 Etobicoke, ON M9W 5K4
 416-745-6252
martingroveuc@bellnet.ca
www.martingroveuc.ca
 Sunday Worship ~ 10:30am
 Office Hrs Tue - Fri 9:00am – Noon
[July Hrs Tue & Thr 9:00am – Noon]
 Rev. Paul's cell: 647-700-7129
 Email: paul.mguc@zoho.com

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

WHO WANTS TO BE SPECIAL?

I remember going to the EX in the summer when I was a kid. It was something I looked forward to every year. I'm not sure I remember much, but I do remember enjoying the food pavilion, with its "World Foods". I remember getting food there I just couldn't get anywhere else, and that made the food pavilion very special. So, of course, when Gareth and Ian were old enough, we all went to the EX. We enjoyed the festivities and the crowds. But when we walked into the food pavilion, one of my children (I won't say which one) said, "This is just a food court". And to be honest, I was shocked. Not because my son said something insightful, but because, he was right! The food pavilion hadn't changed all that much since I was younger. But shopping mall food courts had improved drastically over the years. Many shopping malls now have food courts with really good food and with a great ethnic diversity of foods too. My son was right. The food pavilion at the EX is really not as special as it used to be.

And that experience forced me to wonder - should I be disappointed that the food pavilion is no longer special, or should I rejoice in the fact that Toronto boasts great "world foods" that are conveniently located, and available year-round? Should "world food" be special, or should it be mundane?

And that's a serious question. It seems that many things in life just aren't "special" in the ways they used to be. Should we grieve the loss of "special" status, or should we rejoice that society has caught up, and that great things (like wonderful ethnic foods) are readily available. Special is great. But so is the mundane.

Perhaps special and mundane happen at the same time, at least sometimes. Think about Sunday worship. In many ways, Sunday worship is very special. In other ways, worship has become more integrated into our regular lives - some people come in jeans, ties are less common, and people "come as they are" to a much greater extent. In many ways, our worship is still very structured. At the same time, we are creating space during worship for new music (More Voices) and for other voices (since I've arrived, Larry and Deva have preached). Old traditions and new ideas live together. The special and the mundane can actually co-exist! And that's ok.

This summer, I hope we all have experiences of the "special" and the mundane. Even if they happen at the same time. Explore new things. Relish the special things you find. Embrace the mundane. It's all life and it's all a gift from God. ■

... Wishing you a wonderful summer,
 ... Rev. Paul

Outreach

The Food Bank was very thankful and happy to get our June food and cash contribution. It is now open 3 days-a-week as the need has increased in the area.



ROBERT KOIL SOUTH INDIA OUTREACH MISSION



Our Annual Walk-A-Thon for the South India Project was a great success.

On June 3 we raised \$2,933!



Submitted by Judy Binns, Interim Chair

Sunday School Update



I am so pleased to report that our Sunday School, under the tutelage of Peggy McKee, Larry Jackson and I, is coming along quite nicely. On any given Sunday there are approximately 4-5 students in attendance. The 10-10:30am time slot is working out quite well. The greatest joy is having the students explain to the congregation what they learned in Sunday School and how the Sunday School lessons tie-in so relevantly with Rev. Paul's sermon.

Our last date for Sunday School was Sunday June 26. There will be no Sunday School Program during the months of July and August. The Sunday School program will resume on September 11. ■

Submitted by Cerene Johnson, Chair Christian Education

Pastoral Care



Your Pastoral Care Committee wishes everyone a safe and happy summer. We are always available, so if you or someone you know has a concern please let any member of the committee know and also pass your concerns on to Rev. Paul. ■

Submitted by Sheila Avery, Chair of Pastoral Care

Choir

During the summer months, the choir would like to invite any member of the congregation to join us in the choir loft for the Worship services on Sunday morning. For the anthem we would be singing a familiar hymn. To prepare, we have a short rehearsal at 10:00am before the service in the Choir Room. Come and sing with your heart and enthusiasm to lift our voices to God.

Put September 4 on your fall calendar of events. Elaine Weimer will be conducting a **Hymn Sing Sunday** where we will be singing familiar hymns. ■

Submitted by Liz Gosse-Davidson

NEWS & EVENTS

Summer Walking

For July, August and September, a group of us drive to a designated location and then go for a walk. We gather together at 9:30am, either Wednesday or Thursday mornings. We usually are out for about two hours in total. Please contact Juli Roslin early in the week if you wish to join us. So far this season, we have visited the Brueckner Rhododendron Gardens in Port Credit. Other places on our list are the Humber Arboretum, James Gardens, Colonel Smith Park, the Lakeshore Boardwalk, as well as Centennial Park and its Greenhouses. ■

Submitted by Juli Roslin

MGUCW Fall Event ~ Oct 1!

Martin Grove's U.C.W. will be holding a "Mini-Bazaar/Craft Sale" on Saturday, October 1 ~ from 1:00 to 4:00pm. Not many plans have been made as yet, but we'll have refreshments, a bake table, books and as many crafts as people want to make and donate. The good news is "you have all summer to work on the crafts"! It is not a Christmas Bazaar/Craft Sale but if you have something Christmassy that is okay. We will need lots of help. More news and detail in the fall. ■

*Submitted by Joan Carr and Shirley Irvine,
Co-chairs*

New Audio/Visual System

Under the leadership of Rev. Paul, a small group of people have been investigating the feasibility of an Audio/Visual System which would include a screen and the equipment to run it. They have had presentations by a couple of representatives from companies who gave various scenarios which might fulfill the needs in our sanctuary.

No decision has been made as yet. Any proposal would have to be presented to Council and then ultimately decided by the congregation. Over the summer, think about the advantages and disadvantages of installing this new system and how it might affect you and our church. ■

Submitted by Juli Roslin

Praise Singing

The Praise Group is very pleased to enhance Sunday morning services with their special uplifting songs. We usually practice after a Sunday morning service about once a month, however we will not be practicing during the summer. We welcome anyone to join us - with your voice or your instrument. If you feel the spirit, just come up to the front when we lead the congregation in song. Make a Joyful Noise! ■

Submitted by Juli Roslin

In Loving Memory

Paul Callan Gellatly ~ April 28, 2016



Headley Goodall Saville ~ May 5, 2016

Rev. Paul's Away Times

Continuing education. We look forward to seeing what new ideas and insights he comes back with!

May 16-21 ~ June 20-26 ~ July 11-17

Summer holidays. We wish him a restful and restorative break.

July 18-24 ~ Aug 13-Sept 4

2016 SUMMER SUNDAY COVERAGE ~ Martin Grove United Church is open every Sunday in the summer. Our sanctuary is cool for your comfort and our hearts are warm and inviting as always. During the summer months we will be having a few Guest Worship Leaders, as Rev. Paul enjoys his much deserved holidays and continuing education. Come on out and enjoy hearing their messages, and stay for light refreshments after service and visit with our guests.

LOOKING AHEAD

Schedule of Worship

July

Sun Jul 3	Worship Service
Sun July 10	Worship Service
Sun July 17	Worship Service ~ Guest Minister Rev. Dr. Don Laing
Sun July 24	Worship Service ~ Guest Worship Leader Ruth Pentinga ~ Emmanuel College
Sun July 31	Worship Service

August

Sun Aug 7	Worship Service
Sun Aug 14	Worship Service ~ Larry Jackson
Sun Aug 21	Worship Service ~ Larry Jackson
Sun Aug 28	Worship Service ~ M&S Guest Speaker Carol Bennet

September

Sun Sep 4	Service of Hymns ~ Elaine Weimer
Sun Sep 11	Worship Service
Sun Sep 18	Worship Service
Sun Sep 25	Worship Service

Dates to Remember

Thursdays	7:00pm – Choir Rehearsals/start September
Saturdays	11:00am – Prayer Group

June

Mon Jun 27	2:00pm Meditation Group
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July

Fri Jul 1	Canada Day
Mon Jul 4	2:00pm Meditation Group
Tue Jul 5	7:00pm Opening Up the Bible

August

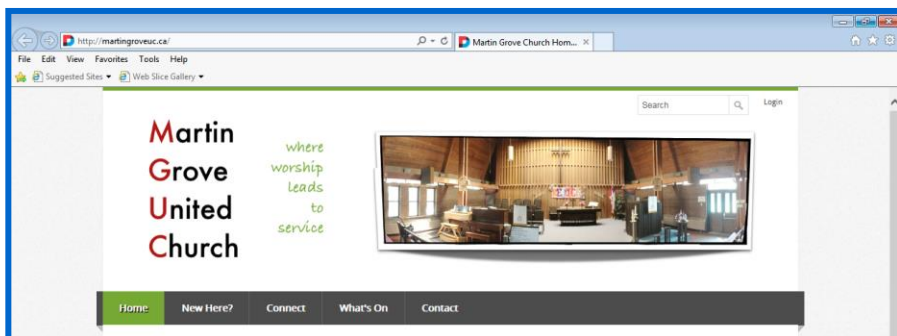
Mon Aug 1	Civic Holiday (Simcoe Day)
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September

Mon Sep 5	Labour Day
Sun Sep 11	YWS Dinner
Mon Sep 12	Men's Lunch at Wally's

Please note that these schedules may be subject to change, and for that reason we encourage you to regularly check your weekly "Life and Work" and monthly "Calendar" for the most current info possible.

Editor, Juli Roslin
Design & Format, Carol Burke



Check out our new
and improved website @
www.martingroveuc.com