

WHAT'S UP AT WESLEY

Friday, Dec. 13, 2024

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT WESLEY

Theme – Joy in Uncertain Times – Sun., Dec. 15, 2024, 10 a.m.

Watch the Wesley Worship Services live on YouTube by clicking [here](#) or going to <https://www.youtube.com/@wesleyunitedchurch1105>

Thank you to all the people who have given their time to make our Sunday worship successful.

Bible Study Wednesday night at 7 pm via zoom. [Click here to join](#)



Soloist Teresa Cole sings at Wesley this Sunday

Teresa is a fourth year BA Music (Honours) student at Brock University with a six year-old daughter who keeps her on her toes. Teresa enjoys singing and performs with Chorus Niagara and Brock University Choir and has previously sung with Treblaires Woman's Show Choir. Teresa is currently a voice student with Dr. Leanne Vida. She has performed solo selections in the Brock University RBC Tuesday Noon Concert Series.

Holy Humour

What do you call a Bible character who just pulled into church?
A parking Lot.



Give a Christmas Card to Wesley!

The Finance Committee has initiated the “Christmas Card” fundraiser again this year.

As you may give a Christmas gift to a member of your family, you may want to give a “gift” to your Wesley Church Family.

You may enclose a monetary gift inside a Christmas card and send or bring it to the Church, or drop it in the collection plate, with your name or PAR or envelope number on the envelope.

The cards will be placed on the Christmas tree in the foyer.

Thanks for your consideration at this time of the year!

Hospice Niagara

We are extremely excited and pleased to announce that Hospice Niagara will be running their Wellness Programs here at Wesley on Thursday mornings starting on Jan. 9.

Alexandra Plato, the Community Programs Co-ordinator from Hospice will be coming to speak to us on Dec. 29 during our Worship Service. Alex and our own Tanis Laramée, Rose Hotte's granddaughter, will join us for Coffee Hour to answer any questions.

This is such a wonderful Outreach for Wesley and our whole community!!! Join us on Dec. 29 and invite your friends and family.

- *Your Membership and Outreach Committee*

Cookies For Shut-ins

On Tues. Dec. 17 at 9:30 am. we will be making up plates of cookies to take to some of our Wesley Family Shut-ins to say that we care about them and truly miss them.

Please consider helping by making some cookies for us to give out and/or take some to our Wesley Family who are no longer able to attend in person. Please contact Wendy Reed if you are able to help baking and packaging the cookies.

If you are able to help by deliver the cookies and a card to our Wesley friends and perhaps have a short visit with them if possible, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please see me (Wendy Reed) this Sunday if you are able to help deliver cookies. I will have the list of names for visiting with me.

Thank you so much!!!

Wesley Thursday Walk

The next Wesley Walk will be on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 8 am.

We will meet and walk at the Walker's Sports and Abilities Centre at Brock University. To get there, take the Merrittville Highway northward from Turner's Corners. Pass the stop light at Decew Road – turn left at the first light after Decew Rd, turn right at the first turn off and head for the Sports Centre. A car will leave Wesley Church parking lot at 7:40 am in case you need a ride.

Everyone is welcome to join us. Hope to see you out there.

Volunteers needed for Harvest Kitchen

Wesley volunteers will be returning to Harvest Kitchen on Sunday, Jan. 5 to serve up some tasty slow cooker chicken! We can always use more volunteers as there are dinners planned for the first Sunday in February and March, as well.

You will find volunteering at these events is very rewarding. At the December dinner, as we were serving roast beef, people were telling us they couldn't afford meat anymore and some hadn't had meat in months. They enjoyed the meal immensely and we enjoyed serving them.

If you want to volunteer, either for the Sunday or the Saturday before (for prep work), please sign the sheet in the Narthex! We hope to see you out there!

A Finance Minute

What is Wesley's LOCAL MINISTRY FUND?

This Fund's primary purpose is to maintain our ministry to our Congregation, our Neighbours, and the wider Community.

This fund is primarily supported through donations, building rentals, and fundraising. This fund pays for all of the operating costs of the church including: Lennox's ministry, staff, pastoral care, committee expenses (Worship and Music, Christian Development, Membership/Outreach, Property, Finance, Multi-Media, and Ministry & Personnel), and building expenses such as electricity, natural gas and snowplowing.

Funds are kept in the CIBC Local Operating Account. Surplus funds may be transferred to a Tangerine savings account to earn interest or Wesley's Endowment Fund to earn income. In 2024, to the end of November, the expenses exceeded regular sources of income (envelopes, PAR, E-Transfers, rentals and special donations etc.) by \$102,890. Approximately \$10,000 a month was transferred from the Tangerine savings account to maintain a positive CIBC chequing account balance. However, Wesley's Endowment Fund, this year, has had an incredible investment income rate of 18.6% to the end of November, and it is very likely that Wesley's Local Ministry Fund will break even or have a surplus.

Special Note: In November, Wesley's Local Ministry Fund received a \$25,000 special donation from a family member of the "late" Dot Wishart, and the Memorial Fund received a \$4,500 donation from the Estate of Jane & Gord Jackson.

Dave Reed – Wesley Treasurer

BIBLE BULLETS

1. Bear one another's burdens – Gal. 6.2
2. Be kind to one another – Eph 4.32
3. Let us work for the good of all – Gal 6.10

What are the hymns you know and love?

Recently the Worship and Music Committee received a suggestion in the church suggestion box, to have the weekly service begin with a hymn you know, with new ones in the middle of the service and ending in hymns you love.

But everyone has a different opinion on which hymns fit in these categories!

We'd love to hear your thoughts, if you could take the time to email us at

wesleyunited@bellnet.ca or even post on our Facebook page!



Thanks for making the mitten tree a success!

Thank you all so very much for your wonderful donations of hats, scarves, mittens, slippers, socks, etc. in all shapes and sizes and in so many beautiful colours. The many toys and gift cards were so terrific as well!

As I packed them all up for Mary and Rick to deliver to Birchway, formerly Women's Place, I was truly overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity. Birchway Niagara was very appreciative of your wonderful gifts.

Thank you for reaching out to help others!
Your Membership and Outreach Committee

JOIN US AT WESLEY UNITED CHURCH IN WELLAND

MUSIC OF THE SEASON

During the 10 a.m. services on:

- Dec. 15** - Soloist Teresa Cole
- Dec. 22** - Gospel singer Dianne Ticknor and violinists Malcolm and Simon Hauber
- Dec. 29** - Solist Jennifer McKillop Salmon

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US
PLEASE STAY FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARD
244 FIRST AVE., WELLAND, ONT.

From The United Church Moderator:

We know it is a challenging time, and we wish you strength and grace as you offer leadership at the many services and events of the season.

2025 is a big year in The United Church of Canada. It's the Centennial AND General Council 45. And we have a lot to be excited about!

The Moderator, The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne extends an invitation for you to join her on **Monday, January 13 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. ET** for a [New Year's address and town hall](#) built around the theme of visions and dreams (which also happens to be the theme of GC45!). Kick off a year of looking outward-upward-inward and embracing renewal and growth as a sign of hope.

Joining the Moderator will be the Growth team leadership and the new church plant leads. As well as a pastoral welcome to the new and Centennial year, this session will be a national introduction to Growth and emerging Racialized migrants and diasporic Communities of Faith.

Where do you see signs of hope in the church?

There will be an opportunity for you to tell us, and to ask questions during a half-hour Q&A at the end of the session. This will be a bilingual event with live interpretation. Everyone is welcome. [Register](#) on CHURCHx.

The Moderator's Guests



Rev. Jennifer Henry currently serves as Executive Minister for The United Church of Canada's Organizational Development and Strategy unit. In 2021, she led the development of The United Church of Canada's new strategic plan. From 2012 to 2020, she served as Executive Director of KAIROS, a global social justice organization supported by Canadian churches.



Rev. Cameron Fraser is the Director of Growth and Ministry Development with The United Church of Canada. For 14 year he worked at the congregational level at church planting, new ministry development and growth and renewal, most recently in Regina, SK (Treaty 4 Territory), where he still lives.



Emo Yango is the Growth Coordinator, recruiting church plant leads, supervising and coordinating all new emerging Racialized migrants and diasporic communities of faith in The United Church of Canada. He also coordinates the anti-racism courses, on behalf of the Office of Vocation, for United Church ministers and lay leaders.

ADVENT QUIZ

(Answers at the end of WUAW)

1 - "Emmanuel" means what?

- a) Savior
- b) God with us
- c) God and man

1. Advent comes from the Latin word, "adventus," which means what?

- a) Adventure
- b) Waiting
- c) Coming

7. Advent begins what?

- a) A new liturgical year
- b) The shopping season
- c) The countdown to NFL playoffs

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sat., Dec. 14 - **"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE"** – A live radio play being performed at Silver Spire United Church, St. Catharines. Tickets are \$25 per person and include refreshments. Contact the church at 905-682-8328.

Sun., Dec. 15 – **CHRISTMAS CANTATA** – 2:30 p.m. - The choir at St. John's Stevensville United Church presents their annual choral cantata, called "The Wonderous Story!" Bring your friends and family for a free Christmas concert, and then join afterwards for snacks and light refreshments. A freewill offering will be accepted.

Sun., Dec. 22—**VOCALIST DIANNE TICKNOR** -10 a.m. in the Wesley Sanctuary

Tues., Dec. 24 – **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** – 7 p.m. in the Wesley Sanctuary

Sun., Jan. 12, 2025 – **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** – to approve the budget for the new year, to be held in the sanctuary following morning worship



Advent Quiz Answers

- 1 - God with us
- 2 - Coming
- 3 - A new liturgical year