

MacNeill Baptist Church

News and Notes

Church Moderator: Jonathan Purdy

Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care: Susan St John

Director of Music: Monica Admiral

Custodian: Sandy Palin

**Associate Ministers in Chaplaincy: Robert Bond, Claire Gosselin,
David Jones, Felida Toledo**

April 23, 2023

The service is live-streamed at Sundays at 11 am, with access to the video available for later viewing. See the link on our website.

For our in-person worship service, for accessibility for those with differences in hearing, there are a limited number of printed copies of today's sermon and scripture readings available at the Cline Street entrance of the church.

Next week: Allison Barrett preaching

MacNeill has a scent-free policy. Masks are optional.

Wifi Network: MacNeill, password is 3485 6101 5200

Bible Quest Leader today: Lynn B

Pastoral Care: When you would like someone to pray with, to request a pastoral visit, or to publish a prayer request please contact Susan St John at 905-512-9897 or [sstjohn.macneill@gmail.com](mailto:ssjohn.macneill@gmail.com)

Pastoral Care Team: Heather Hobbs, Olga Jenkins, David Jones, Bruce Papky, Feli Toledo and Beverly Woods.

Your continued financial support of our congregation is appreciated. Donations can be mailed to the church or done through our website.

www.macneillbaptist.ca

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Listening and Learning Series

The Truth and Reconciliation learning series begins this week-Wednesday April 26 at 7 pm via Zoom. A link will be distributed by email. For more information, please see the insert and/or our website.

Our friend, **Al Dingle** passed away on April 18. Al had been living with terminal cancer for a number of months. He died at home with Mary Lou, and his sons Brian and Jonathan by his side. So many of us remember Al. He was a Professor of Biology at McMaster. He and Mary Lou lived in Westdale for many years. In the 1980's he coached weekly basketball in MacNeill's gym with a group of teenage boys, and no-one can forget his specially crafted 'bunny' pancakes at each Easter breakfast! Our deep condolences to Mary Lou, Brian & Jonathan.

Ruth Wilton passed away peacefully on Wednesday April 19. She is now in the arms of our Lord. Her family wishes to thank her MacNeill family for the love and care their mother received from this congregation. Details of the celebration of Ruth's life will follow.

Management Board Request

If you require the use of the church building for an event, could you please contact Monica K and Bev L to let them know. This is to facilitate the creation of a common booking calendar. We will use the calendar on the website as it is already accessible for viewing to all.

Guest Preacher April 30

Rev. Allison Barrett has immensely enjoyed her time as Interim Ecumenical Chaplain at McMaster University and wants to share some of what she's learned over the last 8 months of her ministry there with one of McMaster's foundational communities!

Coffee Hour

We hope you will join us for refreshments and fellowship in the parlour after worship. Coffee hour will continue weekly from now on.

A Memo from the Deacons. Lent & Easter Season 2023. We are living in the memory of our challenging and meaningful Lent and Holy Week experiences— from the first Sunday in Lent, through Palm Sunday, Good Friday and then Easter Sunday - and with much gratitude.

The overall planning for the series of worship services was carried out by Monica A, Nancy D, Mary F, Candace J, Heather H and Paula P, all coordinated by Susan St J.

Monica devised and prepared superb vocal, choral and instrumental music and Candace created inspired art and poetry which grew over the weeks. The music, images and poetry supported the Scripture texts and enhanced the worship experience.

Lynn and Bob B set up and took down the Lent & Easter banners, and ensured that the cross was set up for Holy Week and then created the garden of flowers for Easter Sunday.

Beverly L prepared all the worship bulletins, which meant double duty for Holy Week.

The CE Board ensured that everyone was provided with the 'Sanctuary for Lent' personal meditation booklet for use at home, and also prepared wonderful Lent and Easter programs for our children.

And, through the initiative of Bev L and Garth G, and with the support of the Outreach Committee, the season was book-ended with a return of Coffee Hours, with Welsh cakes for Lent 1 and hot-cross buns for Easter Sunday.

Bruce P, who has been changing the outdoor sign for years, which if you've tried it is no easy task, made at least three changes in our sign throughout the season, ensuring that all who passed by knew what was going on inside!

Deep thanks to everyone mentioned above and also to our preachers, Scripture readers, ushers, audio-video operators, and candle-lighters, and indeed everyone who had a hand in the preparation and support of this holy season.

From Your Newcomer Committee

Pledges have been received that exceed the minimum required to sponsor Basel Al Atmeh and his family. Thank you MacNeill! Before we can apply to sponsor we need to have these funds in trust. **Now**

is the time when we need to call in your generous pledges. Please provide cheques payable to MacNeill Baptist Church but clearly marked for the newcomer fund. Cheques can be left in an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary.

Exam Hospitality

McMaster Chaplaincy Centre is asking for volunteers to **hand out coffee and cookies**, or to **donate cookies**. The program runs from Apr 14-28. There is a virtual sign-up sheet with 1 hour shifts. <https://signup.com/go/ZHVnPkq> Or see Al Palin, chair of Outreach, or Nathan Visser 905-525-9140 x 24207, chaplain@mcmaster.ca.

Strata Vocal Ensemble Concert

Strata presents “**Sights and Sounds**” on Sunday April 30 at 3 pm at MacNeill. We invite you to mark your calendars and plan to attend what will be a wonderful afternoon of music making. Our own Monica Admiral will be at the piano.... And Garth, Brian, Paula, Bev L (and Tim B) are all in the choir!

Student in Need of Accommodation

Word has been received regarding a young male engineering student at McMaster, who will be entering second year in the Fall. He is looking for accommodation for the Fall, preferably within biking distance. Please see the bulletin board in the rear hallway for more information.

Prayer/Meditation Group

Consider beginning worship with a deep moment of meditation. All are welcome to the Prayer and Meditation group, Sunday morning from 9:30 to 10:15 in the Minister's Study. Please enter through the 'purple door' on King Street. Questions? Connect with Susan St John at sstjohn.macneill@gmail.com or 905-512-9897.

Prayer Requests

For the family of **Ruth W** as they mourn her passing.

For **Mary Lou, and sons Brian and Jonathan** as they mourn the passing of their father Al D.

Indra H. as she serves in support of her husband **Mel** and struggles with her own health issues.

Paul G., friend of Lynn and Bob, who is going through some serious and life changing health issues.

Lilly Grace, who continues to heal from surgery at home.

Ryan C, a friend of Susan S.'s family, who is struggling with addictions and severe health problems.

Dorothy F, cousin of Lynn B. She is undergoing chemo treatments for stage 4 lung cancer.

Ruth W who now living in St Joseph's Villa.

Ed S, who is dealing with the early stages of Alzheimer's.

Cheryl and Charles S who appreciate our ongoing prayers and concern.

Garth's parents, **Denny and Mair**.

Monica's nieces **Shelley K** and **Lyanne K**.

Martina S. whose health is quite fragile, and for John and son Danny who support her so well.

Bev M and Bruce W, friends of Nancy and John Douglas, who appreciate our prayers for their serious health issues.