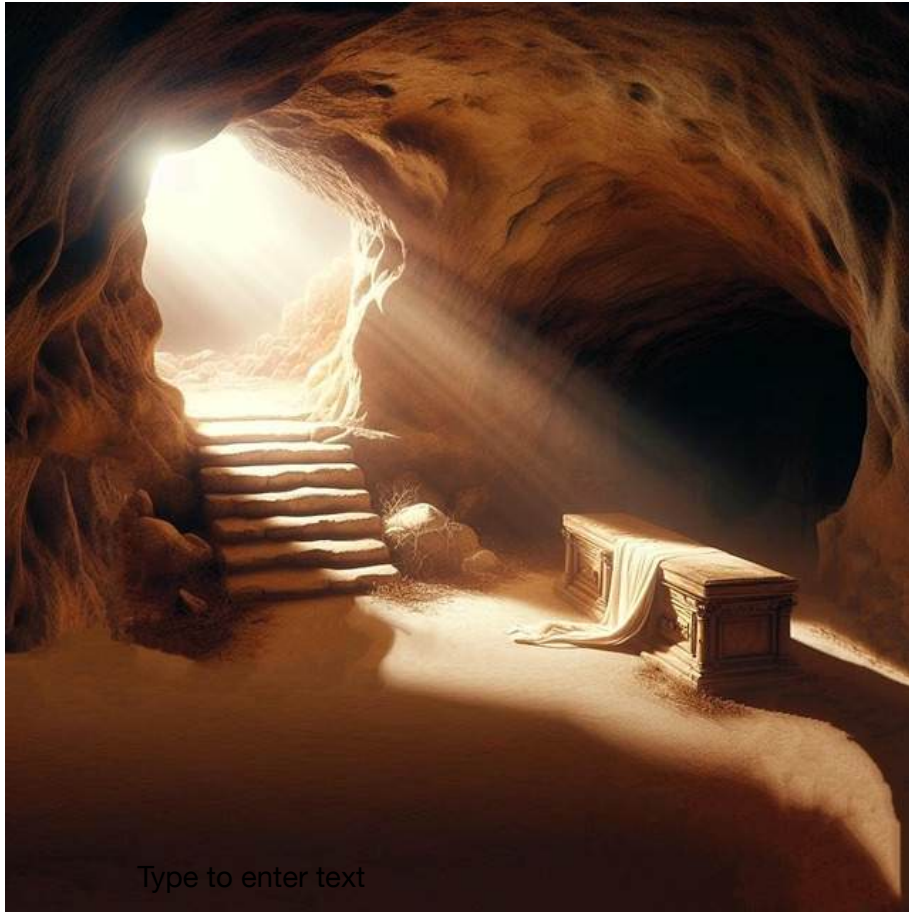


# *News From The Pews*

*April 2026*



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*He is Risen! Hallelujah!!*

## **St James United Church**

400 Burnhamthorpe Rd. M9B 2A8. 416 622 4113

[www.stjamesunitedchurch.com](http://www.stjamesunitedchurch.com)

# April Events

## **Sundays - Worship 10:30 a.m.**

**5** - Easter Sunday. - **Jesus is Risen** - Hallelujah!

**12** - 1st after Easter

**19** - 2nd after Easter

**26** - 3rd after Easter - Transition Team Forum. **Your voice matters!**

**Mondays** - Reiki 1pm and 2 p.m.

**Tuesdays** - Reiki 7 p.m.

- Euchre **14th and 28th.**

**Wednesdays** - Yoga. 11 a.m.

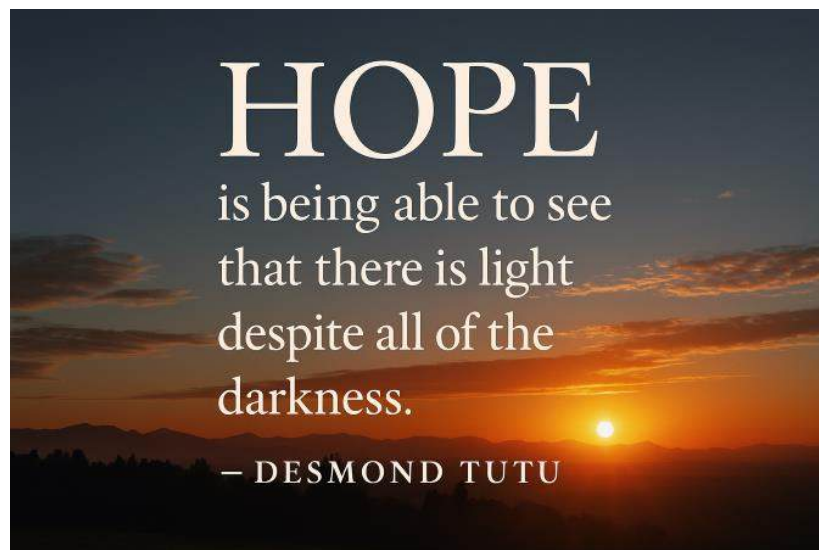
**Thursdays** - Choir Practice 7:30 p.m. JOIN US!

**2nd** - Maundy Thursday Service - 7 p.m. at St. James

**Fridays** - **3rd** - Good Friday Service 10:30 a.m. at Richview U.C.

**24th** Family Games Night. 7-9 p.m.

**Saturdays** - Gentle Yoga. 10 a.m. (except 18th)



**Saturday April 18th - BROWSE AND BUY**

# BROWSE & BUY

APRIL 2026

**APR 18**  
**ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH**  
400 Burnhamthorpe Rd. Etobicoke

**FREE PARKING  
FREE ENTRY  
NO TAX**

**9AM-1PM**

  
**BOOKS, JEWELRY  
TOYS, PUZZLES, GAMES,  
COLLECTIBLES**

**BAKE SALE AND LUNCH**



Come early for best selection!

Bring your friends and neighbours!

## **Monthly Transition Team Discussion**

*Submitted by Jennifer Ling*

**In an effort to engage with the church congregation, the Transition Team has been hosting informal monthly discussions. On March 15<sup>th</sup>, our question to those who attended was:**

**On the reoccurring theme of community at St. James. How can we make groups using St. James feel more welcomed, and what are you willing to do?**

The following groups use/rent from St. James:

Bright Bloomers Studio

Etobicoke Senior Services (community service, no rent)

Lady Bug Day Care

Literacy Clinic

Little Kickers

Little Star Productions

Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA)

Scouts (community service, no rent)

Girl Guides

Sparks

Switzer Carty Transportation

Westway Probus

It was suggested that in the future, we invite these groups to share some information about themselves and provide a story. We would then share the stories during Sunday Service (like a mini minute for mission) or publish these in the News From The Pews.



As a first step to being more welcoming, one idea was to put these groups up on the T.V. monitors as people enter the church to make the people more aware of other ministries happening in our church.

We are agreed that our group should all get out of our comfort zones and practice reaching out to be more welcoming to new people. For example, we need to be more consistent and wear our name tags. Many of us know one another but there are new people coming to the church who don't know us and some may have memory issues.

Wearing name tags is helpful.

On the topic of name tags, perhaps symbols can be considered to show what committee one is on.

We had another idea for the Browse and Buy event. Instead of donating all unsold books at the end of the event perhaps we could leave them somewhere for groups with children and have an honour/free will system where they can purchase these books at a great price. This way we would get books into the hands of more children who otherwise may not have an opportunity to own books. During the Browse and Buy event, perhaps we could collect money in different envelopes to see what sells and this way, there would be better predictability in managing types of books. In previous years,

children's books have been given to the Food Basket for distribution. This would require coordination with The Food Basket. It's a matter of space availability. Nancy Violo will need to consider this avenue for book donations.

Now that Matty Wallace has an extended role as property manager, perhaps an email blast can be sent to these group to alert them to our events. Other suggestions to keep in touch with the groups could be to offer to highlight one of these groups on the LED sign outside the church so that those passing by the church are aware of who uses the church. This is needs to be further investigated as it could be a delicate matter when it comes to advertising. We would need to check with the Co-ordinating Committee since permission may be required. Perhaps guidelines can be developed in the future. Certainly, keeping in touch to see how the groups are doing may be a start to show them we care. Volunteer needed!

Our Facebook group is another avenue. At the moment we have a public and private site. Karen Forgrave is the administrator for the private Facebook site, Who for the Public Site ? - YOU??

The Korean church previously used to have a sign underneath the LED sign outside, perhaps it's time we now approach Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA) to see if they would like a sign.

As you can see, many good ideas were floated around. All these ideas would not have come from just the Transition Team and we appreciate those who attended to share their ideas. Our next meeting will be after Sunday Service on April 26<sup>th</sup> where we will be sharing how some ministers divide their time vs how YOU perceive the ministers divide their workload.

All are welcome to this interactive event. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail us at: [sjutransitionteam@gmail.com](mailto:sjutransitionteam@gmail.com).

With Gratitude From Your Transition Team,

**Gord Burrell, Jennifer Ling, Ariadne Reid, Nancy Violo**

 **April is Earth Month. Tru-earth Fundraising Promotions**

<http://tru-earth.sjv.io/stjamesunitedchurch>

**Week 1 – April 1–7: Buy More, Save More!**

YOU can save more as you add more to your cart, with discounts **up to 30% off**. This is a great week to stock up.

**Week 2 – April 8–14: Spend More, Save More!**

Savings increase based on cart total, with discounts ranging from **10% to 30% off**. The more you spend, the bigger the savings.

**Week 3 – April 15–30: Save 22% Site-wide**

YOU can enjoy **22% off everything** when you use **Promo Code: EARTHDAY22** at checkout.

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## BINGO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

St. James needs people who are available to volunteer for a 2-hour shift at the Delta Bingo and Gaming at 360 Evans Avenue (at Kipling) on WEEKDAYS any time between 10 am and 6 pm. We cannot choose our hours, and we have been given a lot of weekday hours.

We need more people who would be available during the day. If you have questions or are willing to volunteer, please contact Marie Truelove ([marietr@rogers.com](mailto:marietr@rogers.com) or 416-305-5286) or Nancy Polito ([nmpolito@gmail.com](mailto:nmpolito@gmail.com) or 647-226-8277).

**Maybe they had it right  
in the 60s and 70s.  
Love, peace, music, no  
bras, etc. All sounds  
better than this chaos  
we're living in now!**



Trust in the Lord with  
all your heart.

Proverbs 3. V 5

