

News from the Pews  
September 2024



**Sunday School Begins with Ice Cream!**  
**Sunday September 8. 10:30 a.m.**



St. James United Church. 400 Burnhamthorpe Rd. M9B2A8  
416 622 4113 [www.stjamesunitedchurch.com](http://www.stjamesunitedchurch.com)

## Happy News!

Congratulations to Randy and Joyce Wilson on their 40th Wedding Anniversary on August 18. We wish them many more years of happiness together.

## Joey Had An Interesting Day At Sunday School



Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned at Sunday school.

Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

"When he got to the Red Sea, he had his engineers build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely.

"Then he used his walkie-talkie to radio headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked.

"Well, no. But if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"



**River Run 2024: Walk with Grassy Narrows for Mercury Justice!**

**Date: September 18th, 2024**

**Time: 12pm**

**Location: Downtown Toronto**

**Sign up: [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)**

Walk with Grassy Narrows youth and community members to show that we are with them on their path to achieve mercury justice and freedom!

**This is a family-friendly event. Rain or shine!**

Check out [FreeGrassy.net](http://FreeGrassy.net) for more details as the event approaches.

Go in a group - see Gord Burrell / Carol Jones

## FAITH FOR THE FUTURE:

This month, we wanted to highlight some of the many activities at St. James, and demonstrate how our church building is used for both church and community. St. James hosts a lot of activities for our surrounding community: Cubs, Beavers, Probus, Sparks, Girl Guides, Little Kickers (soccer for young children), Little Stars Theatre Group, Exercise classes for seniors, Filipok School, United Youth – a cooperative youth group with Islington, Royal York Road and St. James United Churches. Lady Bug Daycare has been a long-time tenant of St. James and recently we have opened our church kitchen to commercial rentals through SYZL.

While some of these groups pay rent, St. James supports others by offering access to the space rent free.

The church runs weekly Sunday faith services, Choirs, Sunday School, the St. James Food Basket, Integral Healing and Reiki, Lenten Study groups, Film and Faith events, adult and family gatherings such as the Car Treasure Hunt, Family Games Nights, euchre, yoga, retreats, and many once-a-year events.

All of these programs and partnerships offer a valuable service for the community and the congregation. The wide variety of the programs allows us to make important connections and supports the growth of the 4 pillars of St. James: music, wellness, social justice and Sunday School.

Thank you to our staff and many volunteers who are vital to the success of all of these programs and activities. Thanks to everyone who has already contributed to “Faith for the Future” - our church building is literally the foundation of these programs. For those planning to contribute, please try to do so before Thanksgiving! After all, each of us is thankful for the presence of St. James.

Submitted by Mary Lou Martin and Marie Truelove



# Join us for... 2024 GAMES NIGHTS!



**TIME: 7:00– 9:00pm**  
**Fun for Adults!**  
**Fun for Youth!**  
**Fun for Families!**



**3rd Friday of each month:**

**Friday, September 20th, 7-9pm**

**October – special Halloween event - TBD!**

**Friday, November 15th 7-9pm**



**MORE INFO?**

Family-friendly, all ages welcome - bring your favourite board game, or come without. Come and join in a group around a game that

appeals to you! Friends are welcome!

Questions? Contact [karen\\_forgrave@hotmail.com](mailto:karen_forgrave@hotmail.com)

# **Fun for EVERYONE!**

## Etobicoke United Youth Group

Thursday September 12  
Casa Loma Escape Room

We will be meeting at **5:30pm at Islington United Church** and then going together by TTC there, OR youth can choose to meet

at Casa Loma at 6:30pm. We are doing the "Dragon Song" Casa Loma Escape Room.



Here is the description of the Escape Room:

Be the hero. Discover the magic. Save the dragons. You have been asked to embark upon a dangerous quest: to save dragons from extinction. To do so, you'll need to sneak into a mysterious tower where the last dragon egg is rumoured to rest. Will you find the egg and learn the secret of the dragon's song?

The Casa Loma Escape Series invites you into a fantastic world full of strange science and mystical wonders - live actors are involved.

More about the adventure can be read online here:

<https://www.secretcityadventures.com/in-person-games/dragon>

**Sign up for this season kick-off youth event at the link below.**

Note the cost is \$30, which is being subsidized.

Registration Link for Casa Loma Escape Room (NOTE: Spots are limited - only space for 10 youth!)

<https://islingtonunited.org/casa-loma-escape-room/>

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## September Highlights

**Sunday 1st** - Welcome Back to St. James.

**Sunday 8th** - New Year of Sunday School. Ice Cream

Sunday/sundae

**Tuesdays - 10th and 24th** - Euchre Games

**Thursday 12th** - United Youth Group

**Friday 20th** - Family Games Night

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## The Auction is coming!

**Mark Nov. 9th on your calendar and invite friends!**

**Please think how you can help - by seeking donations or offering items, and getting involved.**



# *St. James Live & Silent Auction & Fundraising Dinner*



## Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024



It will be a great evening to support St. James!

Invite friends and coworkers – book a table of 6 or 8!

### **RIGHT NOW WE ARE LOOKING FOR AMAZING DONATIONS:**

★ **Donations from corporate sponsors** are greatly appreciated (e.g., tickets for sporting events, gift certificates from a restaurant or spa). You can get a generic auction request letter by asking [karen\\_forgrave@hotmail.com](mailto:karen_forgrave@hotmail.com). Charitable receipts are available for donations upon request.

### ★ **Donate Some Items (think about what you can offer):**

- **Do something for others** – tutor, drive, shop, clean, garden, sew
  - **Make something for others** –home baking/cooking is very popular!
  - **Extend hospitality** – in your home, cottage, club, boat, at an event!
  - **Treasured items** – **Regifting** is allowed! Have something new you haven't used? Make it an auction item or include as part of a themed gift basket!



*Give a Gift*  
**CHARITY AUCTION**



## A Message From The Music Director

Hi! I'm your new music director, Adrian! Some of you have met me already when I subbed in for summer services, and I can't wait to get started in creating worship and making a joyful noise to the Lord with all of you!

In the interest of getting to know the congregation a bit better and learn how best to serve you all, I hope you'll take a minute and fill out this short survey about the music program at St James.

[St. James Music Program Survey](#)

(Click on this link!)



If you have any questions, comments, or concerns for me directly, please reach out to my email at

[adrianmarchuk@gmail.com](mailto:adrianmarchuk@gmail.com).

Be well, and keep singing!

Adrian

