



"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of convenience and comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

# **Be Still My Soul**



### Last Sunday's Lesson for Life

Last Sunday the theme for my Lesson for Life was "God's Still in Charge." I took a little trip down memory lane to reflect on some of the many changes MCC Toronto has been through over the years – 50 of them, now! – and how blessed by God we have been through it all. Some of those changes were incredibly positive, and some of them were kind of difficult. And yet, we have come through them all, and so we enter this coming year celebrating 50 years of vibrant, inclusive, progressive ministry in Toronto.

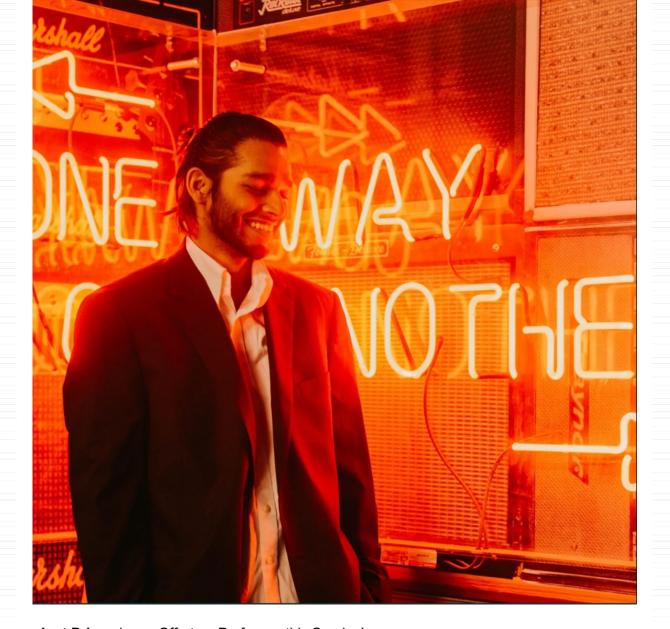
For those present, I don't know if any of y'all noticed, but during Communion, I asked our Music Director, Jason Jestadt, to play the old hymn "Be Still My Soul." For many people of faith, this hymn has long been a source of comfort and peace. In particular, these words spoke to me:

"Be still, my soul, your God will undertake To guide the future surely as the past."

This hymn is a powerful affirmation that God is still in charge. The tune, "Finlandia," is known worldwide and has been a blessing through many generations. It provides a calming sense and helps us to breathe easier when the weight of the world is upon us. I sometimes hum it to myself (or, more likely, whistle it under my breath, which unfortunately annoys my wife) when I am stressed or troubled. I hope you find it encouraging too.

Rev. Deana Dudley, Acting Senior Pastor

**Musical Guest** 



Just Prince is our Offertory Performer this Sunday!

Just Prince is a singer-songwriter based in Toronto. His music brings together colours of Eastern and western music in a way that's unique with the intention of humility and togetherness.

He has released 1 EP and 12 Singles which are in English, Hindi and Punjabi and is working on more music. He has also played venues like El Mocambo, Horseshoe Tavern and plays every other Saturday at Oud and Fuzz.

Check out his **Spotify** and **YouTube** channel.

January 22 | 11 AM | MCC Toronto's YouTube Channel

CLICK HERE TO JOIN US FOR THIS SERVICE ONLINE

# Reaching Out – MCC Toronto Staff at Your Service

Rev. Deana Dudley, Acting Senior Pastor (ddudley@mcctoronto.com) Rev. Junia Joplin, Associate Pastor, Programs & Congregational Care

(jjoplin@mcctoronto.com)

Shannon Malloch, Executive Director (smalloch@mcctoronto.com)

JJ Viviers, Office Manager (office@mcctoronto.com)

Bennett ("BJ") Jensen, Human Rights Director (bjensen@mcctoronto.com)

John R. Farrell, Director of Development & Communications (jfarrell@mcctoronto.com)

Dave Kerr, Director, LGBTQ+ Refugee Programs (dkerr@mcctoronto.com) Sheryl Pollock, Worship Logistics Coordinator (spollock@mcctoronto.com)

Communications: communications@mcctoronto.com

Donation Enquiries: giving@mcctoronto.com Facility Enquires: facilities@mcctoronto.com Finance Enquiries: finance@mcctoronto.com

# **Staff Update**

We're delighted to welcome back JJ Viviers as our Office Manager. They started their new role on January 9.

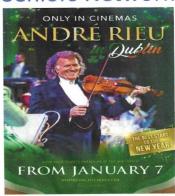
But not to worry! Our Cass Hicks didn't leave us. They joined our Human Rights Programs as Manager of Human Rights & Community Outreach to support and work with our Human Rights Director Bennett ("BJ") Jensen.

Watch the following video to get to know Cass and JJ better.



# YOU ARE INVITED TO START THE NEW YEAR WITH ANDRE RIEU & MCCToronto

### Seniors Network



Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup> 3:30 pm Cineplex VIP at The Shops of Don Mills. Lawrence and Don Mills Road. \$18.95 Act now! Small venue! Tickets available on line. Hosted by: Fran & Maggie. Questions call Maggie 416-606-9401

MCC Toronto's Seniors Network is making plans to catch renowned violinist Andre Rieu's upcoming show via live stream on **Sunday afternoon**, **January 29 at 3:30**. Senior groups will be watching the show together at two local cinemas - **Cineplex Yonge-Dundas and Cineplex VIP at the Shops at Don Mills**.

Tickets are \$18.95. Reach out to the Seniors Network at <a href="mailto:seniors@mcctoronto.com">seniors@mcctoronto.com</a> if you're interested in being part of this event.

### Children's Church | January 22

Our every second Sunday Children's Church returns this Sunday, **January 22**, for kids from kindergarten to grade five. No registration is required but please click **here** to tell us about your child/children should you be interested in having them join us.

## Save the Date - MCC Toronto Membership Class | January 31

Are you interested in becoming a member of MCC Toronto? Would you like to learn more about what church membership means, and what kind of church we are?

Tune in on Tuesday evening, **January 31** at **7 PM** for our next membership class!

Please note that this class was originally scheduled for January 17. After completing the class, participants may or may not choose to proceed with church membership.



Meeting ID: 811 1423 6966 Passcode: 610780

### Winter Clothes for Those in Need



For anyone planning to downsize their closets, please consider donating any gently used winter clothing for men, women, teenagers and kids. This includes coats, boots, hats, gloves, scarves, sweaters, backpacks, and of course, purses and bags! Our primary need is to keep people warm, but kitchenware and other household items are also appreciated!

**Items can be dropped off Tuesdays, Thursdays or Sundays**. To arrange a drop-off, or to request a pick-up of your items, **contact Margi** Wallace **here**. Thank you!



It is always a pleasure to acknowledge and celebrate members and congregants enrolled in our weekly and monthly giving program! The on-going support of our 300+ sustaining donors is so critical to the work MCC Toronto does everyday, and we are extremely grateful for your gifts. However, like a lot of churches, MCC Toronto has seen our weekly and monthly contributions decline over the past two years. Today, we invite you to consider joining our family of weekly or monthly donors. Whether your gift is \$5 a week, or \$25 a month, every bit helps support our operations. You can sign up on our website or contactgiving@mcctoronto.com for more information.



Taking care of each other is more important than ever these days, and if you are in need of some care we are here for you. Just hop on the link below and fill out the form to let one of our pastors know about your needs.

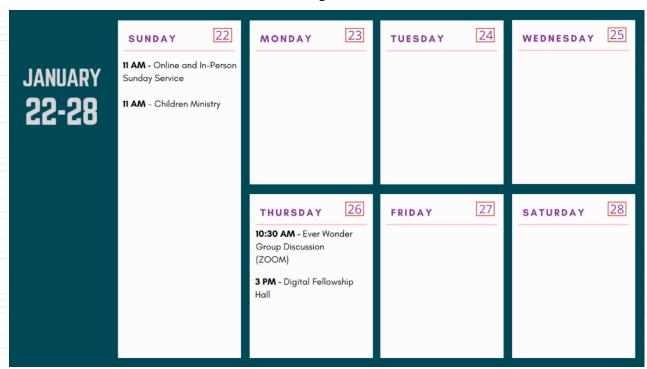
Want to learn more about our Congregational Care program? Watch this video by Rev. Junia Joplin!

REQUEST CONGREGATIONAL CARE HERE

Every Gift is a Blessing. Please consider making a gift to MCC Toronto.

**DONATE** 

## Online and In-Person Programming January 22 - 28



### Sunday:

11 AM - Online and In-Person Sunday Service

11 AM - Children's Ministry

### Thursday:

10:30 AM - Ever Wonder Group Discussion (Email: everwonder@mcctoronto.com) 3 PM - Digital Fellowship Hall



**Sunday Service Worship** Online | 11 AM | In-person | MCC Toronto YouTube

### **Share Us Digitally!**

If you know of anyone who might be interested in anything we're doing at MCC Toronto please invite them to join us digitally via the button below.

**SHARE THE QUERY HERE** 

Questions? Comments? Inquires? We'd love to hear from you!

Connect with us at communications@mcctoronto.com











