

The Query

eNews for the MCC Toronto community



Continue to be who and how you are, to astonish a mean world with your acts of kindness.”

- Maya Angelou

Happy Pride Month – Join us for our Pride Month

Kick-off Worship Service!

HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE

MCC TORONTO'S

CHURCH *on* CHURCH

AT CHURCH
(115 SIMPSON AVE.)

JUNE 25, 2023 • 10:30 AM

Pride stands for courage. It stands for justice. And it stands for love. Happy Pride Month!

MCC Toronto will be kicking off Pride Month this Sunday (**June 4**) with a very special Worship Service featuring a guest sermon from Sherwin Modeste, Executive Director of Pride Toronto. All are welcome!



Later this month, we're hosting our legendary **Church on Church AT Church Pride Celebration Service** with a host of amazing musical guests and a brand-new start time of 10:30 AM. Help spread the word for our **Sunday, June 25** by joining the Facebook event [here](#). Information on all Pride programs and activities can be found [here](#).

And, if you are able, we'd be grateful for your consideration to make a Pride donation to support our work. All donors will be recognized in the **June 23** edition of the Query and at the Pride Celebration Service.

MAKE A PRIDE DONATION



BACK IN 1973 BOOKS

As MCC Toronto celebrates its 50th Anniversary in 2023, we have launched a new weekly column looking back at the year 1973 to identify the news, happenings and trends that defined the year of MCC Toronto's founding. This week we look at books!

Anyone who knows me – even a little bit – knows I love books. I have five floor-to-ceiling bookcases as well as an old-fashioned “spinner” rack filled with Agatha Christie paperbacks.

SPOILER ALERT: I don't own any titles on the New York Times best-selling Fiction Books list from July 15, 1973.

1. *Breakfast of Champions*, by Kurt Vonnegut
2. *Once is Not Enough*, by Jacqueline Susann
3. *Facing the Lions*, by Tom Wicker
4. *The Odessa Files*, by Frederick Forsyth
5. *Harvest Home*, by Thomas Tryon
6. *Jonathan Livingstone Seagull*, by Richard Bach
7. *The Matlock Paper*, by Robert Ludlum
8. *Evening in Byzantium*, by Irwin Shaw
9. *The Summer Before the Dark*, by Doris Lessing
10. *The Hollow Hills*, by Mary Stewart

I know most of these writers, but other than Thomas Tyron's *The Other* (about a boy whose evil twin brother may or may not be responsible for a series of deaths, published in 1971), I haven't read any of their works. And while *Jonathan*

Livingstone Seagull is a touchstone book for many – and indeed was one of the year's biggest sellers – I haven't read it either. Perhaps I am not as well-read as I thought?

Canadian literature was still in its infant stages in 1973. Established and upcoming Canadian writers like Margaret Atwood, Robertson Davies, Margaret Laurence, and Mordecai Richler did not publish in 1973.

Other notable books published in 1973: William Golding's *The Princess Bride*, *Sybil: The Classic True Story of a Woman Possessed by Sixteen Personalities* by Flora Rheta Schreiber, *Sulu* by Toni Morrison and *Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail '72* by Hunter S. Thompson. Most notable of all (to me, at least!), Agatha Christie's *Postern of Fate* became the Queen of Mystery's last novel published in her lifetime (two other novels were published after 1973, but they were both written in the 1940s; Agatha Christie died in 1976). It is said that next to the works of Shakespeare and The Bible, Agatha Christie is the world's best-selling author.

What books do you remember reading in 1973? [Let me know](#).

- John R. Farrell,
Senior Director of Development & Communications



50 Acts of Kindness | Share Your Stories!



Last Sunday, MCC Toronto kicked off 50 Acts of Kindness, a 50-day countdown to our 50th Anniversary date of July 17, 2023. We published seven recommended acts of kindness from

our staff team that you can [read here](#).

Now we need to hear from you!

MCC Toronto family members are invited to share with us a recommended act of kindness and a few sentences about why that act of kindness will make our world a better place. You can submit your recommendations and [stories here](#).

And in the spirit of kindness to Mother Earth and to one another, MCC Toronto will be hosting two very special workshops following Worship Services on **June 11** and **18**.

- **June 11** – a workshop with landscaper Leah Uchida on plants that require less water resources to thrive in our gardens.
- **June 18** – an interactive workshop with Janet Fitzsimmons on nurturing kindness to strangers.

Senior Pastor Search | Survey

The members of the Senior Pastor Search Committee (Joe Jamieson, Lee Sef Moran, Stephenie Naugler, and Kevin Willcock) would like to hear the congregation's thoughts and perspectives on the kind of Senior Pastor MCC Toronto needs to guide and steward us into the future. Please take a few minutes to complete the online survey below. Paper copies of the survey will also be available at the Info Desk beginning this Sunday (**June 4**). The Committee would be grateful to receive your responses by **Sunday, June 18** – completed paper surveys can be returned to the Info Desk.

[TAKE SURVEY NOW](#)

Musical Guest



Our Offertory Performer this week is **Kim Doolittle**.

I am a singer, songwriter, storyteller, musician, wordsmith, and entertainer. I was born a musician, and I did my first paid gig at 10. My Muse has shown me 60 percent of the globe, which I've travelled with guitar in hand. I consider myself a "Road Scholar," and I write from those experiences, sharing them through song.

I spent many years in Toronto, playing with fine musicians and learning the ropes. The competition was like boot camp, and I was schooled by some of the best. Nine original recordings and many years later, I have returned to my native Nova Scotia, where I have reconnected with my roots while working on my 10th full studio album, called *My New Old Hometown*, which wrote itself.

The songs are about coming full circle, back to where it all began—the friends, family, and music—while old roads lead to new musical directions. As always, they tell the story of the journey.

I look forward to playing for old friends while making new ones in 2023, guitar in hand. See you at the show!

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN US FOR THIS SERVICE ONLINE](#)

Children's Church | Returns June 11

Bi-weekly Children's Church returns **Sunday (June 11)** 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 take part!

Drag Bingo in Support of The Choir | June 15 @ 7 PM

MCC Toronto invites you to join us for *Drag Bingo Extravaganza*, a special one-night fundraising event in support of The Choir of MCC Toronto.

Hosted by the fabulous Messy Margaret, with an assist from the delightful Hillary Yaas, *Drag Bingo Extravaganza* is being hosted in the McCain Family Social Hall on **Thursday, June 15 at 7 PM**. Tickets cost \$15 and are available now via the link below. Tickets will also be sold from the Info Desk during our Sunday Worship Services, and at the door on the night of the event.



[LEARN MORE AND BUY TICKETS](#)



Have you made your submission to our 50th Anniversary Time Capsule project yet? Read more and participate via the link below, or pick-up a Time Capsule form at the Info Desk during our Sunday Services.

As part of our Time Capsule project, our resident photographer and friend Jim Woodbridge will be taking group photographs of our congregants at the end of next week's (**June 11**)

Sunday Service. Our goal is to print photographs of our congregants and our spiritual home to include in our Time Capsule. And if able, we will also be taking pictures of the kids in our Children's Church! Please get ready to say ... cheese!

[LEARN MORE AND GET INVOLVED!](#)



Our May Angels are our wonderful Info Desk volunteers!

Please join us in thanking Ron Beben, Mike Dodds, Allister Douglas, David Douma, David Manion, Precious Nwogbo, John Vigna, and Helen Wiber!



MCC Toronto is incredibly grateful to the hundreds of volunteers who help support our Worship Services and other public programs. Please note at this time we are unable to accept new applications for Worship Team volunteer demands due to a high volume of interest. Please check out our website for other great volunteer opportunities including:

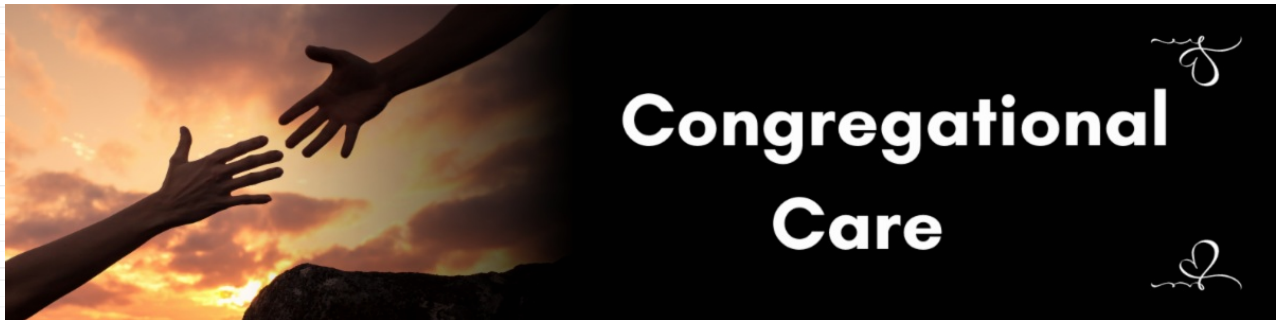
We are still looking for team members to help rejuvenate and maintain the church gardens and grounds between now and October 2023. It is expected that Garden Faeries will be able to dedicate up to 5 hours a month. No experience is necessary, just your love of nature and eagerness to make our outdoor space beautiful and welcoming for all who visit. Interested in this opportunity - sign up below!

[SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE](#)

Become a Monthly Donor



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 contact giving@mcctoronto.com for more information.



Taking care of ourselves or others is always important. 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](#)

This Week at a Glance June 4 - 10

Sunday:

11 AM - Online and In-Person Sunday Service

11 AM - Children's Church

Tuesday:

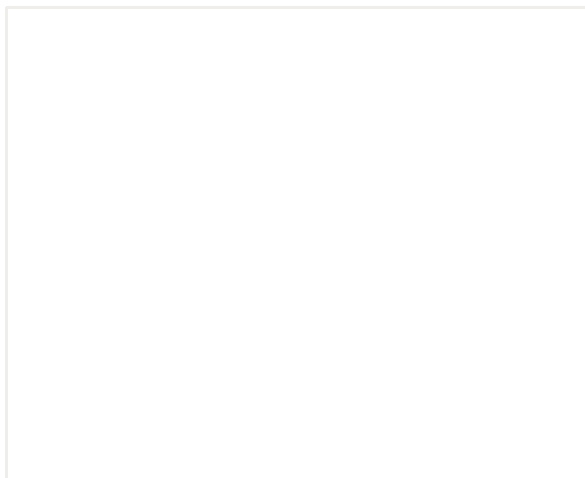
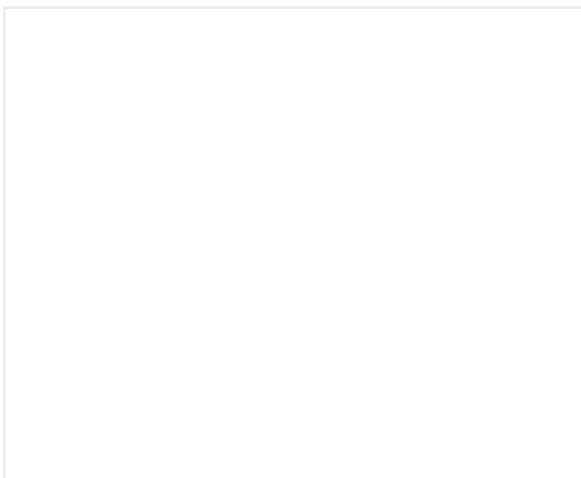
7 PM - [Bible Study](#)

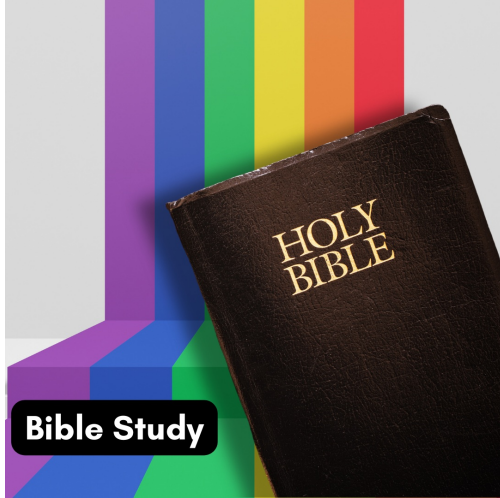
Thursday:

10:30 AM - Ever Wonder Group Discussion

(Email: everwonder@mcctoronto.com)

3 PM - [Digital Fellowship Hall](#)





Bible Study

Bible Study
Tuesday | 7:00 PM
[ZOOM Link](#)
Meeting ID: 897 1945 8479
Password: 559690



Digital Fellowship Hall

Digital Fellowship Hall
Thursday | 3:00 PM
[ZOOM Link](#)
Meeting ID: 889 7843 8853
Password: 560461



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

Connect with us at communications@mcctoronto.com



Sent with love 

