



“Music is the language of the spirit. It opens the secret of life bringing peace, abolishing strife.”

- Kahlil Gibran

A Sunday filled with Pride and Joy!



As we get closer to celebrating 50 years of music with MCC Toronto on **October 19**, our Music Director, Jason Jestadt (he/him), has prepared something truly special for you this Sunday.

Jason has extended a warm invitation to Diane Leah (she/her), who served as MCC Toronto's long-time Music Director until her retirement in 2019, to guest music direct this Sunday's Worship Service. Moreover, our beloved Pride & Joy choir will accompany her.

As many of you know, Pride & Joy was founded by one of our dedicated long-time members, Mark Stephenson (he/him), 21 years ago. In his words, "Pride and Joy emerged

from a process of deep reflection and transformation that unfolded within MCC Toronto around 2001. The entire church community was engaged in clarifying its fundamental values, core beliefs, mission, and vision statement from the ground up, listening to the voices of our congregants rather than imposing them from the top down.”

Since their inaugural public performance at a memorial event at The 519 in October 2002, Pride & Joy have become fixtures at various occasions, including weddings, funerals, birthdays, and anniversaries. And Diane was instrumental in helping the group over the years through coaching and song arranging!

So, whether in person or online, we invite you to join us this Sunday and enjoy the wonderful music with Diane Leah and Pride & Joy!

Remember to become a donor or buy tickets for **the 50th Anniversary Concert**, which will feature Pride and Joy in the musical line-up! Click on the link below for all the details.

BECOME A DONOR, BUY TICKETS, MAKE A DONATION

Be Part of our 50th Anniversary Concert!

A blue banner for MCC Toronto's 50th Anniversary Concert. On the left, it says "50 years of Service Music" with "Service Music" in a large, stylized, brown font. On the right, it says "THURSDAY, OCT 19" in yellow, "7PM" in large yellow font, and "MCC TORONTO" in white. At the bottom right, it says "Tix: mcctoronto.com" in white.

MCC TORONTO'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

50 years of *Service Music*

THURSDAY, OCT 19

7PM MCC TORONTO

Tix: mcctoronto.com

Reminder! We are still inviting congregants and members to submit **wedding pictures** (whether you were married at MCC Toronto or not) or **pictures of you and your partner** to be included in a special digital presentation at our 50th Anniversary Concert. We are also looking for **candid photos showing MCC Toronto life over the years**, including pictures from any of our special events, gatherings or worship services. Through this photo call to action, our goal is to highlight the faces of our ever-evolving Toronto family and celebrate the love that brings us together week after week.

Please send your photos to communications@mcctoronto.com by Friday, September 29.

If you have not bought your ticket already, here's your chance! Just click on the link below.

BECOME A DONOR, BUY TICKETS, MAKE A DONATION

Help Award COP grant(s) to worthy organizations!

Community Outreach Partnership Grant Application

Are you involved with community organizations doing good work in the areas of 2SLGBTQIA+, human rights, health or social services? Do you know organizations that are making a difference in our community?

If yes, please send them this link (hyperlink to webpage) and invite them to apply for a 2023 Community Outreach Partnerships (COP) Grant before **Friday, October 20!** MCC Toronto's long-standing COP granting program is funded by congregants and members who contribute \$10 a month to help fund an annual prize of \$5,000 that is awarded to an organization or shared between a number of organizations that are doing good community work and with missions that align with our own.

Please help spread the word!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PARTNERSHIP GRANT

MCC Toronto 50th Anniversary T Shirts!



If you have pre-ordered a T Shirt, you can pick it up this Sunday (**September 17**) at the Service.

If you are interested in buying one, you can purchase with **debit/credit or exact change** at the Info Desk following **next** Sunday's Worship Service. Or you can order online below!

ORDER YOUR T SHIRT ONLINE TODAY

Musical Guest

Sterling Jarvis (he/him) is our Offertory Performer this

Sunday!

Sterling is an award-winning actor and singer who has recently returned from performing his principal role in the hit musical Book of Mormon on Broadway. His other theatre credits include The Lion King, We Will Rock You, Driving Miss Daisy, and Caroline or Change, for which he received a Dora Award for Best Actor in a Principal Role.

His TV and film appearances include The West Wing, The Sentinel, The Border, Covert Affairs, Aaliyah, Lost Girls, Suits, and most recently The Boys.

He has sung anthems for the Blue Jays, the Raptors, and the Toronto Maple Leafs, and can be heard on many TV and radio commercials. He also sings the themes for the popular kids' shows Donkey Kong Country, Wild Kratts, and Zaboomafoo.



September 17 | 11 AM | MCC Toronto's YouTube Channel

CLICK HERE TO JOIN US FOR THIS SERVICE ONLINE



LGBTQ+ Refugee Programs Info Session | Sept 24

Curious about our LGBTQ+ Refugee Programs? Want to dive into what MCC Toronto is doing for the LGBTQ+ community in Canada and beyond?

Come hang out with us on **September 24, right after Sunday Service in the Rainbow Room**. We'll talk about the amazing work of our LGBTQ+ Refugee Programs and how you can get involved!

If you can't join us in person and would like to participate in a Zoom meeting Info Session, please email:

communications@mcctoronto.com

Save the Date | Oct 1



Save the date for MCC Toronto's Homecoming celebration on Sunday, **October 1** at **11 AM**.

This Homecoming will also mark the return of our Sunday Worship Services to our beloved Sanctuary.

Mark your calendars!



Serving up meals to students in the Triangle Program is one of our most in-demand volunteer offerings! The Triangle Lunch Program returns for the 2023-2024 school year in September, and we need help in the kitchen! Volunteer opportunities are currently available on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and a Monday lunch program is in the works.

[SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE](#)



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](#) (she/her)!

[REQUEST CONGREGATIONAL CARE HERE](#)

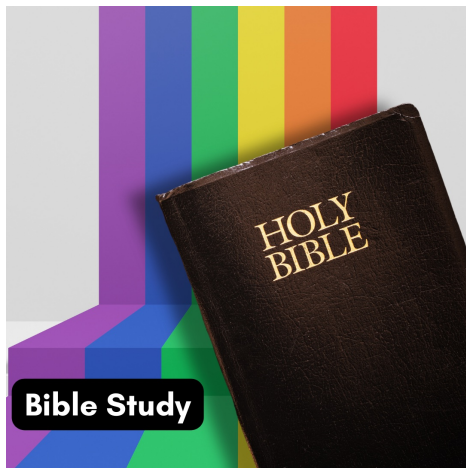
This Week at a Glance September 17 - 23

Sunday:

11 AM - Online and in-person Worship Service

Thursday:

10:30 AM - Ever Wonder Group Discussion
(Email: everwonder@mcctoronto.com)



Bible Study

Resumes on September 26



Children's Church

Resumes after Homecoming



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

Connect with us at communications@mcctoronto.com



Sent with love 



on behalf of MCC Toronto | 115 Simpson Avenue, Toronto, M4K 1A1 Canada

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