



"Music in the soul can be heard by the universe."  
- Lao Tzu

## Soulful Worship and Praise Returns for our 50th Anniversary Concert



We are thrilled that the Soulful Worship and Praise (SWAP) Gospel Choir is returning as one of the featured artists for our grand **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert** following a 3 ½ years hiatus. In addition to the rehearsals of The Choir of MCC Toronto, 12 featured performers, and Pride and Joy that have been taking place behind the scenes, the members of the SWAP Choir have been practicing Sunday following our recent Worship Services. We had a chance to talk to Catherine Meade (she/her) about SWAP, the heartwarming story behind the group, and how meaningful it is to have their participation as part of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

In the meantime, do you have your tickets yet? The October 19, 7 PM Concert is fast approaching! Tickets can be purchased at the Info Desk this coming Sunday or online!

BECOME A DONOR, BUY TICKETS, MAKE A DONATION

Tickets for the **50th Anniversary Concert** hosted on **October 19** cost \$75 (including HST), and special donor packages are available for \$250, \$500 and \$1,000. You can purchase [online](#) or at the Info Desk following this Sunday's Worship Service. While the **50th Anniversary Concert** is a critically important fundraising event for MCC Toronto, we are working to provide accommodation to folks wishing to attend but who may not have the resources. If you are interested in attending and require accommodation, please send an email to [office@mcctoronto.com](mailto:office@mcctoronto.com). Questions? Contact [giving@mcctoronto.com](mailto:giving@mcctoronto.com).



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## Musical Guest



**Alana Bridgewater** (she/her) is our Offertory Performer this Sunday!

Alana is a singer/songwriter who discovered her love of performing at a very early age. Alana is best known for her performance as Killer Queen in the Mirvish production of *We Will Rock You*. She was also featured in *Hannibal* (NBC) as Denise, the feisty orderly.

Her most recent credits include *Spoon River* (Soulpepper); *Shrek: The Musical* (The Grand Theatre, London); *Hairspray* (Charlottetown Festival); *Smokey Joe's Café* (StageWest Mississauga and Calgary); *In a Jam* (CBC Television); Women's Blues Revue, Toronto; CBC

Gospel Christmas Special (CBC Television / National Arts Centre); *Menopause Out Loud* (Toronto).

She has sung backup vocals for Carvin Winans and Johnny Reid and The Arkells, was a featured performer on the MCC Toronto choir's CD "Connected: Songs for the Heart," and has recorded two solo albums, "A Beautiful Christmas" and "Horizon."

**October 15 | 11 AM | MCC Toronto's YouTube Channel**

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

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## Help Award COP Grant(s) to Worthy Organizations!



**REMINDER!** Are you involved with community organizations doing good work in 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 support an annual prize of \$5,000 awarded to an organization/s doing good community work and with missions that align with ours.

Please help spread the word!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PARTNERSHIP GRANT

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## 50th Anniversary Coffee Cups - Now on Sale!



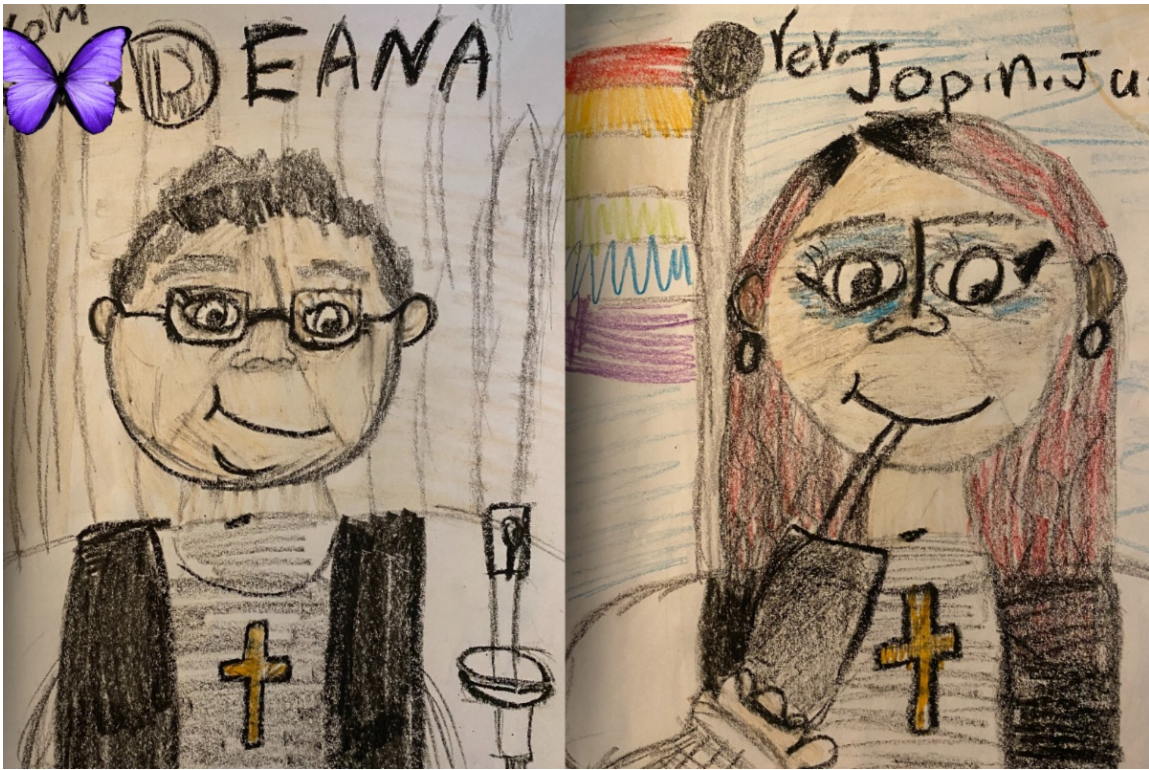
By popular demand, we are now making our fabulous 50th Anniversary Coffee Cups available for sale beginning this Homecoming weekend!

Adorned with our 50th Anniversary logo, these cups are for sale from our Info Desk. **Cups cost \$15 each and can be purchased with credit/debit or by having exact change.**

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## Children's Church (VIPkids) | Oct 15



Children's Church is back for another year - with expanded opportunities and a new name!

MCC Toronto's **VIPkids program** is ready to welcome your little ones this **Sunday, October 15**, during the morning worship service. Classes for children from kindergarten to grade 5 will be held in the Butterfly Room. This year's classes will be held each Sunday morning instead of twice a month!

For the next few months, our VIPkids will be celebrating God's creation by reflecting on sacred stories about food, water, and animals.

Also new this year is a nursery in the Lavender Room! The nursery will be open each Sunday morning as a respite space for parents with children from birth to four years of age. While the nursery will not be staffed at this time, plans to add nursery staff and volunteers are in the works.

If you're interested in making your child or children part of VIPkids, please fill out this [online info form](#).

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## Not Cis Trans-ness and Spirituality | Oct 16 | 7PM

After a summer break, Not Cis Trans-ness and Spirituality is coming back this **Monday at 7 PM!** If you're not cis and would like to join us, you're welcome to come out to the Social Hall every third Monday at 7 PM.

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## Winter Clothes Donations Needed



Donations are needed! Clean out your closet and bring everything to MCC Toronto. All donations will be distributed to LGBTIA+ youth and newcomers at our winter clothing drive.

## Volunteer with us!

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.

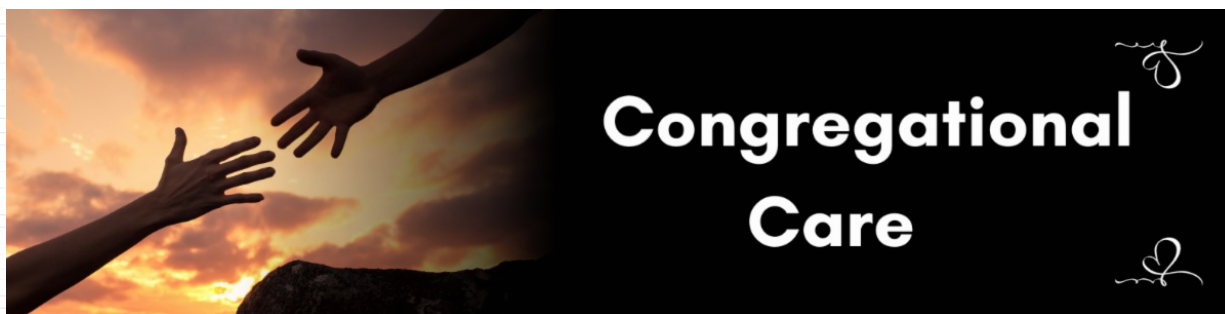
[SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE](#)

## 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](mailto: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 October 15 - 21

### Sunday:

**11 AM** - Online and in-person Worship Service  
**11 AM** - Children's Church

### Monday:

**1 PM** - LGBTQ+ Refugee Program Orientation Session for clients  
**7 PM** - Not Cis Trans-ness and Spirituality

### Tuesday:

**7 PM** - Bible Study

### Thursday:

**10:30 AM** - Ever Wonder Group Discussion  
(Email: [everwonder@mcctoronto.com](mailto:everwonder@mcctoronto.com))  
**7 PM** - 50th Anniversary Concert



### Bible Study

Tuesday | 7:00 PM

[ZOOM Link](#)

Meeting ID: 897 1945 8479

Password: 559690



### Children's Church

Resumes on **October 8**

Sign up your child/ren [HERE](#)





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

Connect with us at [communications@mcctoronto.com](mailto:communications@mcctoronto.com)



Sent with love 



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

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