

SGC 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition

# Delve



APRIL 2024

1949



1951



1962



1975



2024

# Quick Calendar

## WEEKLY

Sun	10am Sunday Worship in person or watch <a href="#">Online</a>	pg 33
Tue	10am-12pm Pastoral Team Meeting	pg 33
Thur	10am Moms' Meet Up	pg 33
1st & 3rd		pg 33
Thur	12 - 2 pm Lunch - Prayer - Share	
	Weekly and Biweekly Home Groups	pg 20

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April 7	Clothing Swap (setup is on April 5 10am)	17
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April 19	YOUTH: Games Night	26
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April 27	SGC 75th Anniversary Dinner @ 5:30pm	20

See more at [www.springgardenchurch.ca/events](http://www.springgardenchurch.ca/events)

May 2024 Delve submissions are due April 22nd. Delve submissions are usually due on but the Monday before the last Sunday of each month but due to the fact it would be only the 15th we are giving it another week. To submit for the next issue of Delve, e-mail: [delve@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:delve@springgardenchurch.ca)





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1976

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## ■ Our Values (back page)

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# Features

Digging a little deeper into Spring Garden

## The Phenomenal 50s

A old account of Spring Garden Church's past.

In this story of the early days of Spring Garden Church, we want to tell you of the devotion to God's work, the dedication from the members, touching events, humorous bits, a few near disasters and some of the accomplishments. His people know without God's care and love, progress could not take place. Facts and figures have been recorded in the Church Records and in Cornerstone Memories which can be borrowed from the Resource Centre.

There are achievements and stories to touch the heart, the warmth of friendship, the feeling of being at home in the church. These are personal to all of us and must be inserted by each one through our memories.

There was tension in the air! The Happy Kind! All through the short service one could sense, almost breathe in the excitement generated by the small congregation who were going to vote. There would soon be a Convention Baptist Church in the small town of Lansing, soon to be renamed Willowdale.

When private homes became too small for the growing number of attending prayer meetings at the Baldock and Gill homes - Ed Gill mentioned to Reg.



Hewitt of the Legion Hall that it had become necessary to seek larger premises. Mr. Hewitt said: "You've got the Hall". Well, it was partially built but we could rent the basement for \$20.00 a Sunday. Evening services began but it wasn't long before we had a morning service, a Sunday School and an evening service.

Deacon Dobby Dobson gave us a good laugh one Sunday morning. "How are you Dobby?" "Well I'm fine but my arms are tired, fanning you know, beer odours, and cigarette smoke from Saturday's frolic by members of the Legion."

Mr. Ted Gill and Mr. Walter Baldock were anxious to build a Sunday School where the children would obtain a good grounding in Bible and Worship. Talk about being unstinting with your time, these two men and their families were a perfect example.

One of our treasured memories is of our daughters coming home and demonstrating how Ted Gill led the singing with verve and joy. How the children loved Ted Gill! He was wonderful with children and staunch worker for his church.

Meetings were held twice a week and for any expenditure a special meeting had to be called. Money was very scarce. Young couples were building their houses or buying new bungalows and it was often difficult to find a dollar for Sunday collection and a dime for your children in Sunday School. One day a meeting was called suddenly. We required more hymn books for the following Sunday. So it was authorized that we should spend \$6.50 for hymn books.

Another time a meeting was called to authorize the cost of a rubber stamp which would simplify the secretary's work. Una Baldock was Secretary for the Church for twenty-five years, Secretary for the Sunday School, a member of the Choir and a teacher. The church honoured her and made her the Official Historian. If you ever have a reason to look at the Church Records in the McMaster Divinity College Archives you will see how diligently Una carried out this service. (One must have written permission from our pastor to see the Archive Records.)

This is definitely a story of growth in Christ, everyday happenings that gave heart to the people and strengthened their faith in God who answered prayer.

Ann Cross and her husband started a choir. They and their daughters sang beautifully and we were fortunate to have this



gifted family present cantatas and concerts with the small early choir.

Let me tell you a story about the children who are our future. Our first Christmas Party was held in the Hall. Children must have been anticipating it and passed the word at school. Two little girls and their cousin remember “the place was packed”. One lad who had been appointed “curtain puller” for the program of colourful pageantry was so enthusiastic that he grabbed the curtain - or so he thought, and flew through the air well into the middle of the stage. The young audience howled. He rolled up to a standing position, gave us all a big grin, bowed and left the stage. How the children loved it! They went home very happy, carrying their brown bags of an orange, nuts, and candy. They fully appreciated the solemnity of the Wise Men visiting Baby Jesus and the singing of carols and choruses.

Progress in growth and planning was evident from Sunday to Sunday. One day shortly after our meetings in the Hall began Mr. Percy Ward suggested that we start a Building Fund. What faith that small core of people expressed. Many of us wondered where the money would come from. Oh Ye of Little Faith! We should have known better. Guarantors pledged their money. We had money from the sale of the Glen Forest property. Our first Pastor, Mr. John Mildon lived in the house Glen Fores had owned. You see these two churched jointed together. We took over the paying of full salaries within the year. Talk about opening doors. God was good to us - He gave us men with great business acumen, far sighted-ness and an enormous wish to further God’s Kingdom on earth.

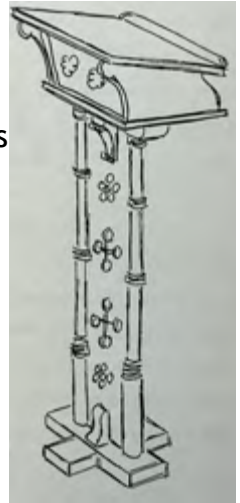
Two ladies had been appointed very early on to organize a woman’s work. Margaret Gill and Marg Alexander. Lanter on both Margarets admitted they want to hold the first meeting in their home. That did not spoil their friendship - on the contrary both wanted to see a Mission Circle established and Margaret G. helped the other become acquainted with Baptist Missions.

It was soon clearly understood that the women attending the meeting were eager to form a Mission Circle. We did not conduct much business - it was our first social time together. We were getting to know each other. Within a very short time we had two Mission Circles and a Women’s Organization. The women gathered

together the first medical supplies to go to overseas missions and, as well, supplies to needy groups locally. They started a White Cross Group - bandages, dressings and so forth. One group made beautiful quilts and sold them to our church ladies. Not too many and the proceeds were given to the needs of our church.

Mrs. Gill and Mrs. Baldock were early presidents and Mrs. Dolman and Georgina Roberts were capable and gracious leaders later on. We had talent to draw on so that it seemed that our needs were taken care of and that God was our Caregiver and our Guide. A knowledge that gave a feeling of great thankfulness. The church continued to grow steadily - but as a child, feeling its way and adding to its knowledge of needs and growth. Inevitably it showed signs of growth in faith and fellowship, a steady growth of interest in missions and neighbourhood outreach. The records show that in those early years a few new members were accepted month after month. Funds were low and meeting obligations was far from easy.

This small pulpit or lectern was used when our services were held in the Legion Hall. The lectern, possibly made by a member, is from the York Mills Baptist Church established in 1840, and whose roots go back to 1829. Early members of Spring Garden, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Gooderham and Miss Bathgate, came from families who helped establish the early Baptist work. The only part of the early church in existence today is a small cemetery near the property of St. John's Anglican Church, York Mills. The lectern was used at the entrance to our church for many years and more recently at the back door for registration purposes. It is now undergoing some slight repair work and this bit of our Baptist history in Willowdale (Lansing) will, we are sure, be put to good use.



In 1952 one project was to outline the duties of Boards and Committees to avoid confusion and overlapping. A church constitution was required - a hoped-for reality for 1953. This was not to be until the next decade.

“Spring” as the young people affectionately call our church as been so very fortunate over the years. God has blessed us with fine dedicated pastors.

Rev. J.K. Mildon      October 1949-October 1953

Rev. J. Slimon        November 1953-March 1957

Rev. W.V. Sturgess    June 1957-August 1968

We could tell pages of stories of the achievements in the church under our capable pastors and leaders. Not only was a church built in the first year, but by 1958 we began to plan an extension for a much larger edifice. We were an established church and progress was almost unbelievable as we review the things accomplished.

And now for a few of the serious and the humorous happenings - it is good to remember the lighter side of the hard work and efforts of the faithful few.

The day after the cement foundation was laid, we had a heavy rain which caused the north wall to bulge inward to a considerable degree. Fortunately they were able to re-align the wall without noticeable damage...



*\*Article from 'The Past That Lives Today; A Reflective History of Spring Garden Church' 1999*





1968



1974



2000

# Spring Garden Anniversary

Faith Holwyn

As I think about anniversaries, I think of a time to reflect on what has happened in the past, a time to celebrate and a time to dream about the future. I came to Spring Garden in 1996 following a time of pain in my life. My marriage had recently ended and I needed a place of healing where I could share my story or just be a part of the fellowship without feeling obligated to share any details.

Spring Garden became that place for me. Although I lived in Bowmanville I was driving to work in Newmarket five days a week to work in Southlake Regional Hospital. My daughter was attending Spring and invited me to come. “You drive to work, why not drive to Toronto on Sundays?” she asked me. So began my 28 years at Spring.

One Sunday stands out for me with such clarity. Margie McLaverty, the minister’s wife, was speaking on ‘The Father Heart of God’. Suddenly I found my heart opening in places of deep woundedness - and tears began to pour. I sat there sobbing - not feeling like I had to run and hide in a bathroom. Suddenly a friend sat down beside me and wrapped her arm around my shoulder. It was a pivotal moment in my healing, as God used the fellowship and acceptance of friends and the Love of God as demonstrated by the church to begin to heal the deep wounds I carried.

Shortly after I came to the church I heard about a 0600 Prayer Time on Sunday mornings. Several of us came together on the chancel steps to pray for the three services that would be held that day and for the needs of those God brought to our minds. The thought brings back the warmth of those times. After a short term mission trip to Armenia, Colombia, I felt a pull to pray for that community and the ministry of Shalom Iglesia. I asked the church leadership for permission to pray each Friday morning at 0600 in the church. They agreed and gave me the information for the alarm and requested that I add prayers for Spring Garden Church as well.



Another ministry that God led me to at Spring was women's ministry. For many years Spring had had a very successful ministry called Wednesday Women. I was not part of those groups, but became involved as that ministry



changed into Refresh - a wonderful group of women who met each Wednesday morning. We provided child care and invited all to come and be part of the relaxed group where we studied the




Bible and prayed for each other. Over the years we had many newcomers to Canada join and bless us before they moved on.

Tanya Salituro provided the leadership and I was privileged to assist and support her. We went as a group to houseclean the kitchen at the Oasis Food Bank and ministry at Dufferin Baptist Church. We had made up and donated to Oasis, 'birthday bags' that contained the decorations and cake mix and icing and candles for families to have birthday parties for their children.



When the pandemic shut down meetings in the church we began to meet on Zoom, with Bev Holtzman, Jen Chrystman and me leading, for prayer and fellowship and Bible study.

This year we faced the reality that we needed to look at what God was saying about Refresh and the noon hour Bible Study on Thursdays that Victoria Shipmaker had been leading for several years. As we prayed God led us to form the present group that meets the first and third Thursday of each month - Lunch, Prayer and Share. We meet to share our life's journeys and challenges, to pray for each other and to explore what God wants to say to us from the Bible. Once again, we welcome all women - young and old to come. We have several for whom English is not their native language and we are all enriched by the love we feel for each other and the wonderful love God shows us each time we meet.



I love to sit near the back of the church on a Sunday morning to see the mosaic of cultures and ages that make up our church family. It is inspiring to see how God has brought us together to grow into a loving community. As I listen to the sound of the children and youth leaving to go to their worship downstairs, I reflect on how blessed we are to have wonderful volunteers and dedicated pastors who value children - not as the future of the church, but as an integral part of the church family.

So what is my dream for Spring Garden Baptist Church? I see us continuing to be involved in the community - through our involvement with Neighbourlink North York, continuing to welcome new-comers to Canada to become part of our church family and to reach out to our neighbours, to continue to be a presence in our own neighbourhood.

I see us valuing art and creativity as that team create worshipful themes to draw us into meditation and thoughtful response. I see us growing to know God better through the themes of the sermons on Sunday mornings and the Home Groups that encourage us to pray for each other on our life's journeys. I see our yearly Retreat growing to include more and more of our church family in a relaxed weekend together, of Bible teaching and campfires and fun.

I see us opening up the doors of the church to the community so that our building becomes a place that is open and active every day - not just on Sundays. I envision a kitchen that has been modernized to Public Health standards where we could provide a space for individuals to be able to cook and create to sell or share the food they prepare. I would love to see us providing hot meals for the homeless or under housed and even being a shelter from the cold for individuals who are marginalized and often without resources.

These are big dreams, but that is what dreams are, isn't it - letting our imaginations carry us to places that stretch us beyond our comfort zone. They allow our Wonderful God to show us - as He has over the past 75 years, that Spring Garden is His house, and we are His cherished children - His hands and feet in a hurting world.



Refresh 2014



Refresh 2016



Refresh 2017



Refresh 2018





# Spring Garden Church in the 1970s











**Can you figure out where each of these pictures is taken?**



## SGC Gym Nights

April 6, May 4, June 8 from 7 pm - 9 pm

A night of sports including but not limited to Volleyball, Basketball, etc. at 1000 New

Westminster Dr, Thornhill, ON L4J 8G3. The cost will be \$5 per person, per event.

Sign up at: [tiny.cc/sgcgymnights](http://tiny.cc/sgcgymnights)



## Spring Clothing Swap

Join us at 11:30 am (after worship) on Sunday, April 7th for a Clothing Swap. We will

continue to collect children's, men's and women's clothing still in good condition until April 5th. Please drop off these items at the church's West Lounge either on a weekday between 9am and 3pm or on Sunday mornings. We also encourage you to reach out to one or two friends or neighbours to see if they would like to participate.

We will sort the clothing and set up for the swap on Friday, April 5th at 10am. If you would like to help with this, please contact Manuela at [stephensmanuela@gmail.com](mailto:stephensmanuela@gmail.com).



## Volunteering with Seniors

April 3rd and 25th

Are you interested in connecting with and supporting seniors

in our community? If so, Willowdale Manor and NeighbourLink North York are inviting us to participate in two events at 175 Cummer Avenue:



- Wednesday, April 3rd from 6:30-8:30pm—Show Choir Performance
- Thursday, April 25th from 4-6pm—Movement Class

They are looking for volunteers to connect with and offer support to the seniors who will be coming out to these events. If you are interested in receiving more information or you are available to volunteer at the events, contact Emily at [emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca).

### Neighbourlink Willowdale

*The Willowdale office of Neighbourlink opened in March 1995 with Spring Garden Church being in the first of four neighbourhood churches that participated in the programme. “Neighbourlink is an assessment and referral office which aims to link residents in the local community who have non-emergency needs, with church volunteers who are willing to respond to the need....” (annual report 1994/95)*

### Newcomers Welcome Tea:



**NEWCOMERS WELCOME TEA**

欢迎新移民茶会    صرف چای با تازه واردین  
 신규 이민자 이벤트    ВІТАЛЬНИЙ ЧАЙ  
 Bienvenida para recién llegados a Canada

**WHEN:** Sunday, April 7, 2024  
**TIME:** 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** Spring Garden Church, 112 Spring Garden Avenue

NeighbourLink NORTH YORK    springgardenchurch.ca

Join us to give and receive a warm welcome to newcomers from around the world!

Join us on Sunday, April 7th to give a warm welcome to our neighbours who are newcomers to Canada. We are looking for volunteers who can offer support anytime between

3PM and 6:30PM, whether it be helping with set-up, clean-up, table hosting, and/or providing home-baked treats. As many of the folk coming to this event are ESL speakers, it would be especially helpful to have volunteers who speak Cantonese, Mandarin, Farsi and Spanish. Email Emily at [emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca) if you are available to volunteer or you would like more information.

## 2017 *Community Garden UPDATE*



*We are excited to let you know that we will be moving ahead with starting a community garden on our green space! (see photo with orange cones marking out the location)*

*Our plan is to have a work morning to set up and plant the garden on Saturday May 13th at 9:00am. If you're interested in helping out with this, please let us know (email is below). We will then bless the garden Sunday May 14th during worship. (Delve May 2017)*



## Community Garden - Preparing the Garden for Planting

**Sunday April 21 11:45am- 1:30pm\***

**\*inclement weather dates Mon Apr 22 or 29 4:30-6:30pm**

We'll be gathering to divide and transplant our growing collection of perennial herbs in preparation for planting. We'll begin with a brief tutorial. Tools will be provided but if you have gardening gloves, a hand trowel or soil knife please bring them. Bring your own lunch to eat before we get started.

19 Email [garden@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:garden@springgardenchurch.ca) for more information.



## 75th Anniversary Dinner

**Saturday April 27 5:30pm**

Come celebrate Spring Garden Church's 75th anniversary, here with us on Saturday, April 27 at 5:30 pm.

A spaghetti dinner will be provided and there will be a gluten free option as well.

We are suggesting 5 Dollars

or more to cover this event. Please bring the money to the event or e-transfer it to [payments@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:payments@springgardenchurch.ca). Please fill out this form ([forms.gle/i5K5FwG1ik6ZHemt7](https://forms.gle/i5K5FwG1ik6ZHemt7)) by April 21st, so we may know the total number of guests that will be attending.

Also, please think about a memory you can write for our memory book the day of the event or email it to Darlene at: [darlene.boyd@gmail.com](mailto:darlene.boyd@gmail.com).

**Home Groups** As people who worship a triune God, we believe we are called to embrace spiritual growth as a collective, not simply as individuals. We also believe that we are all made in the image of God and are therefore created to belong in community. Home Groups are designed for us to pursue spiritual growth together and experience a deeper sense of belonging by creating opportunities to strengthen relationships with one another, engage in spiritual disciplines together, and participate in mission as a community. We have a number of Home Groups:



Wednesdays from 7:30 pm to 9 pm here at the church.

Wednesdays from 8 pm to 9:30 pm Online (Zoom)

Every second Sunday from 1 pm to 3 pm at here at the church.

If you are interested in joining a Home Group or you would like more information about Home Groups, please contact Emily at [emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca)



Come join us for a summer filled with fun, learning, and adventure at our SGC Day Camp!

Our camp is designed for kids aged 4 (must be potty trained) to 10 years old (finishing

Grade 5) who are ready for a memorable experience.

Each day at our camp, kids will engage in a variety of activities that aim to encourage growth, build relationships, and teach them about God's love. During one of five days of camp, the kids will go on a field trip as part of them experiencing what it means to be on an adventure with God.

Our day camp runs for 3 weeks, July 15 to August 2 from 9 am to 3:30 pm and creates a safe and inclusive environment for all kids to thrive in.

Don't miss out on this amazing summer opportunity! If you have any questions or want more information, please feel free to reach out to Emily Kielstra via email at [emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca) or by phone at (416) 223-4593 - Ext 226.

Sign up at: [springgardenchurch.ca/daycamp](http://springgardenchurch.ca/daycamp).

**We are also looking to hire team of Camp Counsellors** to help organize and run our day-camp. For more information, please check out our website: [springgardenchurch.ca/hiring](http://springgardenchurch.ca/hiring).



## 2024 Church Wide Retreat

May 31 - June 2, 2024

We believe in a communal God who invites us into community. This year, our theme is abiding in Christ through prayer. One great way of doing this is to come to a retreat to unplug, get away from the city, and to enjoy God's creation in community. Come join us for a time of rest and renewal as we spend time together at Fair Havens!

Register at: <http://tiny.cc/springabide>



## Do you want to make an impact on young people experiencing vulnerability throughout the Greater Toronto Area?

This Spring, join a city-wide movement with our staff team as we launch YU’s brand new “walk/run/bike-a-thon” to raise awareness and funds for the work of Youth Unlimited!

As urban ministry workers, our staff are working hard to build their support teams and **we need your help!**

Join us as a participant (runner, walker or biker) and invite your family, friends, neighbours and more to partner in the work of seeing transformed youth transforming our city by joining or donating to your team!

Here are the dates and locations where your Spring Garden vocational missionaries will be:

Saturday, April 27 @3pm - Aurora Evans Park - 40 km bike ride - Clem Lee

Sunday, April 28 @3pm Vic Park/DVP, 95 Jonesville Cres - 5km walk - Kathy Webb

Sunday, April 28 @3pm Spring Garden Church - 5km walk - Scott Moore, Monica Kay & Manuela Stephens

Learn more and register at [gaininground.yugta.ca](http://gaininground.yugta.ca)



# Discipleship Ministries

Partnering with Families



**Hey Everyone!**

*Spring is in the air! April is a beautiful time when new life appears, the trees start budding and birds sing just a little louder. With new life, we remember old times.*

*I would like to share with you some old pictures of our children in the 1970's, more then 50 years ago!*



*This is our multipurpose room in the 70s. There was no hallway/lounge to the right at that time.*

*I am not sure where this is in the basement, can you figure it out?*



*This looks like the blue wall of the multipurpose room, what do you think?*

## Here's what's happening for April!

For us to provide our ministry to the children of our church, we require new registration forms to be filled by their families every year as part of our policy to protect. If you have not completed this form since Sept. 2023, please fill out our form through this link <http://tiny.cc/SGCFamilyRegistration> or QR code:



### Sunday Morning Registration:

Please ensure you register your child(ren) for worship on Sunday mornings at the child and youth check-in area. If you require assistance with checking in, speak to either Emily or Sam.

Once you have checked your child(ren) in, sticker name tag will be printed out for your child(ren) to wear. A security label displaying the unique code will also print; please keep your security labels each Sunday for pick-up to help our new volunteers get to know and become familiar with you.

## Sunday Morning Kids' Worship

Here is what we will be talking about on Sundays!



Can you think of something which takes you back in time in such a way that it still feels real now? It could be the smell of a specific type of food, an old stuffie you've had since you were born, or a song you have always enjoyed listening to. Whatever it may be, we all have things that remind us of a moment in the past while still having meaning for us today. It's as though that thing is timeless.

In this four-week series, our kids will have the chance to see that the teachings of Jesus, though spoken two thousand years ago, still have meaning for us today. As we hear the words of Jesus in the gospels, we'll learn about the importance of being humble, showing forgiveness, living justly and fairly, and demonstrating love through action.

## Online Resources For Home

To help serve your family better, we have uploaded all our SGC Kids' curricula online. The following link can be used to access our curriculum and use it at home, as well as to find info pamphlets for following up with kids on what was discussed during their worship on Sunday mornings.

SGC Kids Curriculum Link: <http://tiny.cc/OnlineCurriculum>



This is our children and youth in the past. What year do you think it was and do you recognize anyone?





## **Sunday Morning Worship Gatherings:**

**April 7, 14, 21:** We will have regular worship gatherings for youth in grades 6-12. Following the children and youth's blessing, the youth will move to our lounge to continue in worship.

**April 28:** Stay in Morning Worship or Serve.

## **Youth Home Groups:**

**April 5: Jr. High** - We will meet in the Youth room from 6-9pm.

**April 12: Sr. High** - We will meet in the Youth room from 7-9pm.

## **Friday Youth Gatherings:**

**April 19: Games Night** - We will meet at our building to play some of our favourite games and enjoy each other's company and friendly competition. Please RSVP by Tuesday of that week via email so that we can know how many to prepare for.

**Time:** 6:00pm - 9:00pm

**Joy & Andy will be cooking (5:30pm)**

**Jr High Boys help with Cooking (5:30pm)**

**April 27: Church Anniversary Dinner** - We are encouraging everyone to attend the church's 75th Anniversary Dinner! Please register at [forms.gle/i5K5FwG1ik6ZHemt7](https://forms.gle/i5K5FwG1ik6ZHemt7)

**Time:** 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

**Cost:** suggested cost of \$5 (Dinner included) Etransfer to [payments@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:payments@springgardenchurch.ca) or bring it the day of.

**Staying Updated:** To stay up to date on what is happening for your youth, please visit our google calendar which has all of our planned events.

<http://tiny.cc/YouthCal>





# The Resource Centre

## Recommendations



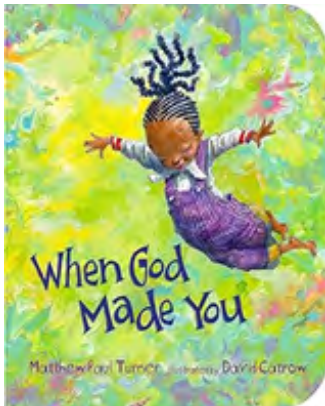
**Before the library was created, we had a tape library (sermon tapes etc.) and a Book Rack which began in 1973. A committee was then formed to create a resource facility with a “meaningful selection... of study materials for elective leaders, Bible study leaders, teachers, etc. and to provide leisure reading”. There was also a priority to create a children’s library. Ruth Thompson spearheaded this project. (1973/74 annual report). 300 books were purchased for the library the first year, and by 1978 there were 1000 books, and 2200 by 1979. (Close to what we currently hold in the library now).**





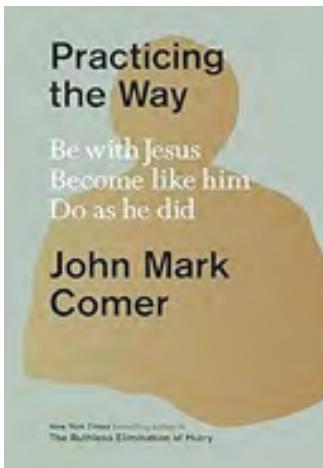
## Little songs for little souls: 30 favorite Bible songs

Filled with both contemporary and classic favorites, this collection introduces young children to Bible stories through hours of fun and entertainment. These best-loved Bible songs will remind children that they are loved and cherished by God.



## When God made you, by Matthew Paul Turner

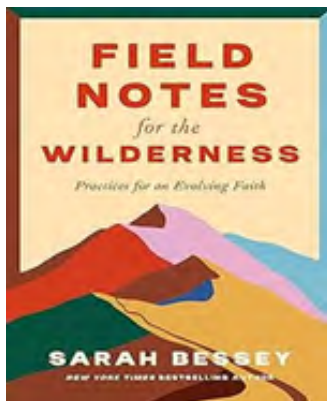
Through playful, charming rhyme and vivid, fantastical illustrations, *When God Made You* inspires young readers to learn about their own special gifts and how they fit into God's divine plan as they grow, explore, and begin to create for themselves.



## Practicing the way: be with Jesus, become like him, do as he did, by John Mark Comer

We are constantly being formed by the world around us. To be formed by Jesus will require us to become his apprentice. To live by what the first Christian disciples called a Rule of Life—a set of practices and relational rhythms that slow us down and open up space in our daily lives for God to do what only God can do—transforms

the deepest parts of us to become like him. This introduction to spiritual formation is full of John Mark Comer's trademark mix of theological substance and cultural insight as well as practical wisdom on developing your own Rule of Life.

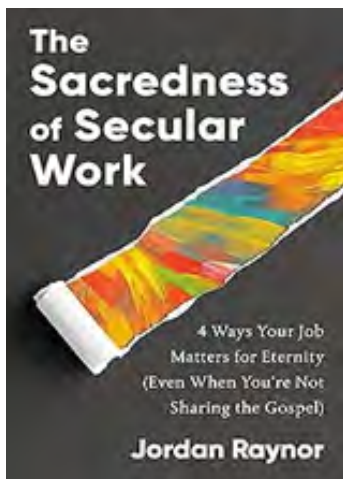


## Field notes for the wilderness: practices for an evolving faith, by Sarah Bessey

Field Notes for the Wilderness guides us through multiple principles to live by for an evolving faith, including

- practicing wonder and curiosity as spiritual disciplines
- mothering ourselves with compassion and empathy
- making space for lament and righteous rage
- finding good spiritual teachers
- discovering what we are for in this life, and moving in that direction

In this groundbreaking and nurturing book, Bessey becomes a shepherd for our curiosity, giving us a table for our questions, tools to cultivate what we crave, and a blessing for what was—even as we leave it behind.



## The sacredness of secular work: 4 ways your job matters for eternity (even when you're not sharing the Gospel), by Jordan Raynor

Jordan Raynor offers a revolutionary message about how our daily jobs—from baristas and entrepreneurs to stay-at-home parent and coaches—have intrinsic and eternal value. In *The Sacredness of Secular Work*, he reveals unexpected ways our work truly matters. In these pages you'll discover

- How a low regard of our work limits our understanding of God and His Kingdom
- Inspiring ways your work can reveal God's kingdom on earth here and now
- Surprising strategies for ensuring your vocation has an eternal legacy
- Vital insights on what God's view of work tells us about heaven







# Leadership Directory



## PASTORAL TEAM (alphabetical order by last names)

(Abby Davidson is on parental leave)

**Dale Forder** Ext. 221

Office & Communications Administrator [daleforder@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:daleforder@springgardenchurch.ca)

**Emily Kielstra** Ext. 226

Interim Pastor of Missional Discipleship [emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca)

**Greg Kay** [gregkay@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:gregkay@springgardenchurch.ca)  
Co-Lead Pastor

**Sam Lee** Ext. 227

Co-Lead Pastor [samlee@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:samlee@springgardenchurch.ca)

As we search for a new Pastor for our Children and Youth, please contact Emily for anything related to our care of children from grade 5 down and Sam lee for our Youth (grade 6 - 12).

## Spring Garden Church

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[office@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:office@springgardenchurch.ca) Fax 416.223.6126

Prayer Line 416.223.4038

**Giving** is one of the ways in which we can respond to a generous God. We give because it is a part of our discipleship and an act of worship. Please give as you feel led. For more information please go to our website at: <https://www.springgardenchurch.ca/give>.

## DEACONS (alphabetical order)

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Garry Lam  
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Kishanth Seevaratnam  
Missions

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## ELDERS (alphabetical order)

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Marcy Scott

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# What's Happening

## Life in Spring Garden

### Weekly

All Throughout the Week	<b>HOME GROUPS</b> <b>Connect for Community</b> Together through bible study, prayer and sharing, we meet online and in-person. Please email <a href="mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca">emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca</a> for more information or if you are interested in joining a Home Group. See more on page 6.	
Sundays	<b>SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP</b> Join us Sunday mornings as we go through different series' ( <a href="#">read more</a> ). Join us at: <a href="http://www.springgardenchurch.ca/live">www.springgardenchurch.ca/live</a> or come in-person.	10 am
Tuesdays	<b>PASTORAL TEAM MEETING</b> We generally meet on Tuesday. Please pray for us, for wisdom and inspiration.	10 am - 12 pm
Thursdays	<b>MOMS' MEET UP</b> Moms and moms-to-be are invited to join us along with their little ones every Thursday morning for a time of conversation and play. We meet in the Toddler Room located in the church building's basement. Contact Emily at <a href="mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca">emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca</a>	10 am - 12 pm
1st and 3rd Thursdays	<b>LUNCH-PRAYER-SHARE</b> Call Faith: 416 805-7529 or Email: <a href="mailto:faith.holwyn@gmail.com">faith.holwyn@gmail.com</a> <b>EVERYONE IS WELCOME.</b>	12 pm

Keep your eye on our Events page at:

[www.springgardenchurch.ca/events](http://www.springgardenchurch.ca/events).

# What's Happening

## Life in Spring Garden

### Upcoming

Date	Event	Page
April 3	Volunteering at Willowdale Manor	17
April 5	YOUTH: Jr. High Home Group	26
April 6	Gym Night	17
April 7	Clothing Swap (setup is on April 5 at 10am)	17
April 7	Newcomers Welcome Tea	18
April 12	YOUTH: Sr. High Home Group	26
April 19	YOUTH: Games Night	26
April 21	Community Garden - Prepare the Garden	19
April 25	Volunteering at Willowdale Manor	17
April 27	SGC 75th Anniversary Dinner @ 5:30pm	20
May 31 - June 2 2024	Church Wide Retreat	21
July 15 - Aug 2	SGC Day Camp	21

If you would like to receive a weekly e-mail update on what's happening in Spring Garden, please visit the SGC website ([www.springgardenchurch.ca](http://www.springgardenchurch.ca)) and add your email address at the bottom of our home page (scroll down).



# Our Values

We believe in a humble God who came not to be served, but to serve. Therefore we engage in sacrificial and active service to those around us. We strive to be good stewards of God's gifts and talents by serving one another in humility. We aspire to regard others as higher than ourselves, which liberates us to creatively take risks in serving others for God's glory.

We believe in a God of grace who came to save the world, not to condemn it. Therefore, as we are continuously receiving the gift of God's grace, we seek to grow in that grace and extend it to others. We strive to define ourselves by what we are for, not what we are against.

We believe in a God who knows us, and who desires to be known. Therefore we embrace a journey of faith that requires us to constantly strive for a personal, intimate and transformative knowledge of God. We strive to be led by God's Spirit in supporting and encouraging one another in working out our faith.

We believe in a creative God. Therefore we are open to expressing our faith in new and creative ways that reflect the beauty and complexity of our creator. We are called to use our creative gifts in worship and service as we engage with our world. We take joy in the diversity of gifts that allow us to delight God and participate in His ongoing story.

We believe in a triune, relational God who calls us to come together as a diverse community of believers. Therefore, we want to walk together, supporting one another physically, emotionally and spiritually. We strive to be a welcoming, inclusive family that goes through the joys and the trials of life together, acknowledging that God uses this community to deepen and mature our faith.

We believe in a God who loves this broken world and wants to reconcile us to Himself. Therefore we are commissioned by Christ to go out into the world, meeting the holistic needs of the local and global community. God calls us to participate in a redemptive work that he has already initiated; in humility, we will partner with others to work alongside and chase after Him.

We believe in a God who is our centre. Therefore where we are on the journey is less important than that we are moving towards a deeper relationship with Christ. We believe and participate in God's redemptive work in all people, which gives us the freedom to come as we are, and to accept others as they are. We each are on a unique journey to become who God has created us to be.

