



  
spring garden church  
Spirituality Grace Community

# Delve

## December 2023

# Quick Calendar



## WEEKLY

Sun	10am Sunday Worship in person or watch <a href="#">Online</a>	pg 21
Tue	10am-12pm Pastoral Team Meeting	pg 21
Thur	10am Moms' Meet Up	pg 21
1st & 3rd Thur	12 - 2 pm Lunch - Prayer - Share	pg 21
	Weekly and Biweekly Home Groups	pg 10

## UPCOMING

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Dec. 10	Ukrainian Newcomer Welcome Tea	7
Dec. 11	Volunteering at Willowdale Manor	8
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Dec. 17	Light of the World	9
Dec. 19	Blue Christmas	9
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See more at [www.springgardenchurch.ca/events](http://www.springgardenchurch.ca/events)

January 2024 Delve submissions are due Jan. 1st. Delve submissions are due on the MONDAY before the LAST Sunday of each month but due to the holidays 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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## Our Values (back page)

**BONUS Christmas  
Word Search  
on page 16**

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



## Contemplating Christ's Birth

by Emily Kielstra

During the advent season, we often hear it said that the long awaited Messiah, Jesus Christ, was born as an infant. Our frequent exposure to the biblical assertion that Jesus came as a baby makes it easy to minimise how truly unconventional and surprising such a detail is. That the King of the Jews--God himself--would enter our world clothed, not in strength and power, but in fragility and vulnerability, not wearing a crown nor seated on a throne, but wrapped in cloths and laid in an animal's feed trough, is beyond human comprehension.

We read in John 1:10 that "though the world was made through him [Jesus], the world did not recognise him" as the Messiah, the One who's coming had been anticipated by God's people for many centuries. Recently I have found myself pondering, "If I were a first-century Jew, would I have recognised Jesus for who he was and claimed to be? Would I have been able to believe then,

without the benefit of hindsight, that God himself, in an act of the utmost humility, would willingly choose to take on the form of a weak, helpless, vulnerable infant? The Son of God as the son of an ordinary human being? His existence and well-being dependent on the sustaining care of a teenage girl?" While I cannot offer a response to these questions with any certainty, my pondering has lead me to notice something incredibly profound; namely that God frequently works in ways that don't make sense and his plans are far beyond anything we can understand.

I don't say this to diminish the sense of disorientation one may feel during a season of grief or suffering, as if to imply a recognition that God is present and active should be accompanied by passive resignation. Just because we acknowledge that God is always working in ways that bring about redemption and healing does not mean that we never experience an ache-filled sense of divine absence and abandonment. Nevertheless, recognizing the truth about God's ongoing redemptive purposes does help to stir up in us an enduring hope, specifically that the darkness and death which often threaten to destabilise and ultimately destroy us do not have the final word; for, the Life and Light of the world has not only come but He has overcome and will come again to consummate God's plan to reconcile all things to himself.

With this all said, I want to encourage us to allow ourselves to be transformed by the Holy Spirit as we contemplate and celebrate the birth of Jesus this advent season. For, as the Divine incarnated and took on human flesh, something which certainly seems unbelievable and impossible, let us consider how God is always present with us, working to bring about peace, redemption, and reconciliation in our world, even if such a truth seems incongruous amidst the painful and hopeless realities of suffering and brokenness.



## Advent 2023 Worship Series:

Throughout the Old Testament God brought visions of hope into times of displacement, slavery and exile. These promises would one day be fulfilled in Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us; in part now and in full when he returns. This Advent, a season of remembering God's coming in Jesus and in hopeful anticipation of Jesus' second advent, we look back to remember where God has made things new, to find God-with-us in the now and hope for the future. When God makes things new, it isn't simply making old things shiny again, but is a new act of creation in ways we would never expect or have anticipated.

## Financial Update as of October 31, 2023

by Jeff McGee

Expenses are \$511k, whereas revenue is only \$415k. Therefore we currently have a shortfall \$96k, twice what it was last year at this time. **Please prayerfully consider Spring Garden when determining your yearend charitable donations.**

As always, donations can be made via eTransfer, cash or cheque. If you want to donate shares or stocks please contact Koon at [koon.leung@sgbc.ca](mailto:koon.leung@sgbc.ca)

[springgardenchurch.ca/give](http://springgardenchurch.ca/give)



## Wrap-up to our Prayer Series

As a wrap-up to our series Postures of Prayer, we want to share again the many different and helpful ways to pray. Below, you will find resources that you can try, and we hope they may help you grow in your relationship with God.

- [Practicing Lament](#) - Prayers of lament give voice to the pain, hurt, and rage experienced in the face of suffering and injustice, whether individual or communal.
- [The Breath Prayer](#) - Breath Prayers are short prayers, one phrase that can be either petitions or praises. They are usually no longer than 7-9 syllables. They help still our busy minds to focus on one thing—God.
- [The Prayer of Examen](#) - The Prayer of Examen is not an introspective examination of self, but rather inviting the Holy Spirit to search us and speak to us. “Lord, You have searched (examined) me and You know me” (Psalm 139:1).
- [Imaginative Prayer](#) is entering into the narrative of Scripture through engaging the imagination while reading and contemplating a passage of Scripture.
- [The Labyrinth](#) - A prayer labyrinth is a sacred pattern that leads you on a prescribed path to its center and back out again.
- [Lectio Divina](#) is Latin for “divine reading”, an ancient way of reading and meditating on scripture dating as far back as the 5th century, with the value of reading to be formed rather than informed.
- [The Lord's Prayer](#) - A Contemplative Approach
- [Visio Divina](#) - (Divine Seeing) What we behold is what we become. As we are beheld by so many different images, it is essential for us to take the time to behold the Lord



You may also find these now and in the future at

[www.springgardenchurch.ca/spiritual-practices](http://www.springgardenchurch.ca/spiritual-practices)



## Sunday Morning Bible Study

On November 26th, December 3rd, to December 10th, you are invited to join Ben Reynolds and

Eva Sham for a three part Sunday morning Bible Study from 9am-10am. The Bible study will look at the three Advent themed prayers in Luke 1-2. We will meet in the children's theatre in the church basement. Please join us and bring your Bible. For those with kids, there will be childcare. If you have any questions, email Emily at [emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca)



## Potluck Sunday

We are excited for another church-wide potluck on December 3rd after Worship in the basement Multipurpose Room. Please bring whatever nut free food you would want to share, perhaps even a favourite Christmas food and please indicate if your food is free of allergens, such as gluten, dairy, etc.



## Ukrainian Newcomer Welcome Tea

Join us on Sunday, December 10th from 3pm - 6pm to give a warm welcome to newcomers from

Ukraine. We are looking for volunteers who can help with any of the following things: set-up, clean-up, table hosting, and/or providing a savoury food item for the potluck. If you have any questions or you would like to volunteer in any of the capacities named, please email Emily at [emily.kielstra@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:emily.kielstra@springgardenchurch.ca).



## Volunteering at Willowdale Manor

Are you interested in connecting and supporting seniors in our community? If so, Willowdale Manor and NeighbourLink North York are inviting us to participate in a Christmas dinner event

happening on **Monday, December 11th from 4-6PM** at Willowdale Manor (175 Cummer Ave.).

Volunteers of all ages are welcome to come to the event where they will connect with and offer support to the seniors who will be there. If you are interested in receiving more information or you are available to volunteer at this event, please contact Emily at [emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca).



## Advent Missional Engagement

This year, we will be putting together gift bags for our Ukrainian neighbours who attend the Newcomer Welcome Tea in December. As such, we are looking for the following donation items:

- Toiletries: e.g. shampoo, body and hand lotions, and deodorant.
- Packets of dried (NOT canned) beans to make dried chili jar mixes: e.g. six bean medley,
- kidney beans, black beans, pinto beans.
- 1L/30oz mason jars with lids.

In addition to these donations, we invite you to join us on Saturday, December 9th from 10AM - 12PM to assemble the gift bags and make homemade Christmas cards which will then be given to our Ukrainian neighbours at the Newcomer Welcome Tea. If you have any questions or you would like to help out with this, please email Emily at [emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca).



## Blue Christmas

While Christmas is a season of celebration, it can also be a difficult time for many. A Blue Christmas Gathering is a space for those who feel particularly burdened during this season because of grief or hardships that they are facing. On Tuesday, December 19th between

7-9PM, we will gather in the lounge to acknowledge and lament our grief as well as hear about the consolation found in God's love. Refreshments will be provided. If you have any questions, you can email Jeremy at [jeremy@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:jeremy@springgardenchurch.ca).



## LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Join us at Spring Garden on

December 17th, 2023 at 6:30pm as we sing our favourite Christmas songs with an upbeat band and eat lots of great desserts! A free, safe and fun event where you can invite all your friends and family.

If you are able to provide nut free baked goods to add to the celebration, please contact Cheryl Chapman [cheryl.chapman@s gbc.ca](mailto:cheryl.chapman@s gbc.ca)



## 2024 Church Wide Retreat

May 31 - June 2, 2024


We believe in a communal God that 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! EARLY BIRD PRICING ON NOW.

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



**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  
At Spring Garden Church (in person)

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

 Every second Sunday from 1 pm to 3 pm  
At Spring Garden Church (in person)

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)



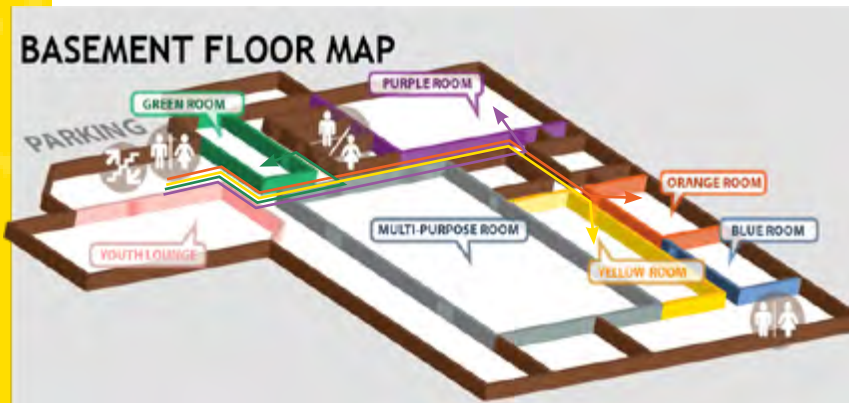
Christmas Eve Candle Light Worship - Dec. 24 @ 7pm



Hey Everyone!

As we head into December, here's some info we want to share with you!

- 1. Nursery:** Our revamped Blue Room is open for parents with babies (0-18 months) to use and enjoy freely during worship on Sunday mornings. We've renovated the room with new items to use with your baby and a livestream connection. **\*\*Please remember to clean up and supervise your child as the room will not have active supervision by ministry volunteers.\*\***
- 2. Kid's Groups Combined!:** Our Toddlers & Pre-K, and JK/SK groups, will now meet as one group in the **Orange Room** for their worship on Sunday mornings. - **\*\*New Group: Toddler - SK Group (2 - 5 years)\*\***
- 3. Big & Small Groups:** Both Grades 1-3 and Grades 4&5 will meet for the God Story teaching in the **Purple Room** for drop-off and end in separate locations for pick-up:
  - a. Grades 1 - 3** will continue in the **yellow room** for their small group following the God Story.
  - b. Grades 4 & 5** will remain in the **purple room** after the God Story.



## C&Y Registration Forms 2023:

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. Please fill out our form through this link [tiny.cc/SGCFamilyRegistration](https://tiny.cc/SGCFamilyRegistration)



## Sunday Morning Registration:

On Sunday mornings, you'll be able to register children for worship at the child and youth check-in area. If you require assistance with this either Jeremy or Sam can help!

We will have sticker name tags printed out for our children to wear along with a security label displaying the unique code also printed on your child(ren)'s name tag.

**\*\*Please keep your security labels each Sunday for pick-up to help our new volunteers get to know and be familiar with you\*\*.**

## Sunday Morning Kids' Worship

Here is what we will be talking about on Sundays!

## Christmas Vacation!! | A 5-WEEK SERIES ON Christmas!

The graphic features a festive title "CHRISTMAS vacation" with a snowman and palm trees. Below the title is a 5-week schedule with themes for each week:

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5
God sent <b>Jesus</b> for a reason.	We can <b>trust</b> God's timing.	God gives us what's <b>best</b> .	Jesus is why we <b>celebrate!</b>	Jesus is <b>God's gift</b> to the world.

At the bottom, it reads: "The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world." John 1:9 (NIV)

Grab your sandals, sunblock, and swim gear because it's time for a Christmas Vacation! We'll be making sand angels and roasting chestnuts around an open bonfire on our tropical getaway. You've never experienced Christmas like this! In this five-week series, we'll focus on the birth of Jesus and the way God had been planning things from the very beginning. We'll see how God sent Jesus for a reason, learn to trust God's timing, understand why God gives us what's best, and see how Jesus is why we celebrate because Jesus is God's gift to the world.

**The true light that  
gives light to everyone  
was coming into the  
world.**

**JOHN 1:9 (NIV)**

## 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 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>



## Sunday Morning Worship Gatherings:

**December 10th & 17th 24th:** 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.

**Dec 31st:** On the last Sunday of each month our youth will be part of the upstairs worship gathering along with the adult congregation. On these Sundays, we encourage youth to participate in and/or to serve in another area of the church's ministry. For those interested please speak with Jeremy and fill out the following form [tiny.cc/YouthLIT-Fall](http://tiny.cc/YouthLIT-Fall) or QR code:



## Youth Home Groups:

Our Home Groups for Sr and Jr Youth are on a break this December during the busy holiday season, so there will be no meetings for either group.

We look forward to resuming our gatherings in the New Year!

## Friday Youth Gatherings:

**Dec 8th: Games Night** - We will meet at our building to play some of our favourite games and enjoy each other's company and friendly competition. To ensure enough food is prepared, please email Jeremy to reserve space by 12:00 pm the Thursday before along with any allergies or dietary concerns we need to know!

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

**Cost:** \$5 per youth (Dinner included)



**Dec 15th: Youth Christmas Party** - Join us at our building for a festive Christmas Party! Let's celebrate the holiday season with fun activities, music, and great company. We have our annual potluck and White Elephant gift exchange. The gift exchange has a twist: either bring a gift purchased with a \$10 maximum or use your creativity with a homemade DIY gift (we'll have extra gifts for anyone who doesn't bring one!). There's even a grand prize for the most creative gift made!

Please email Jeremy to confirm your attendance and potluck contribution by 12:00 pm the Thursday before. Also, let us know of any allergies or dietary needs.

**Time: 5:00pm - 9:00pm**

**Cost: \$0 (Potluck Dinner)**

### Winter Retreats:

This coming winter our youth will have an opportunity to join either our Avalanche (Jr High) or Blizzard (Sr High) Retreat. It's a chance for youth to see that they are not alone in navigating life and faith, as we join with over 300 other youth from our CBOQ churches across the province. Through small group experiences, musical worship and engaging teaching, these retreats aim to inspire students, whether Christians or not, to begin taking steps in their young faith journeys. Beyond that there are so many great games, activities and a lifetime of memories made on these weekends.

**Avalanche 2024 (Gr 6-8) - January 19th-21st**  
[tiny.cc/SGCAvalanche](http://tiny.cc/SGCAvalanche)



**Blizzard 2024 (Gr 9-12) - February 9th-11th**  
[tiny.cc/SGCBlizzard](http://tiny.cc/SGCBlizzard)



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

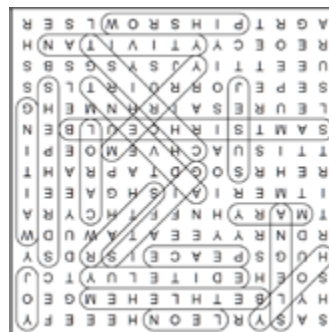
<http://tiny.cc/YouthCal>

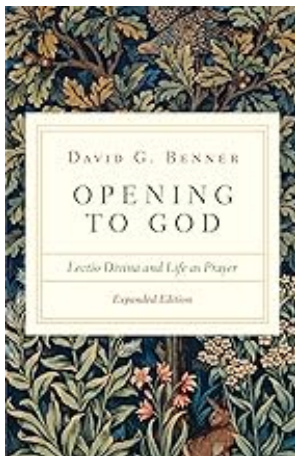


## SGC- Christmas Word Search



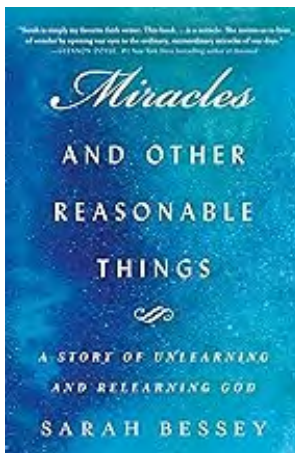
- |                |          |           |           |
|----------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| BLUE CHRISTMAS | JESUS    | CHRIST    | ANGELS    |
| HOLY           | ADVENT   | PEACE     | CAROL     |
| GIFTS          | MARY     | BETHLEHEM | NATIVITY  |
| NOEL           | YULETIDE | MERRY     | SHEPHERDS |
| WAITING        | WORSHIP  | STAR      | JOY       |





## Opening to God: Lectio Divina and life as prayer, by David Benner

Most Christians want to experience spiritual transformation. But many are frustrated by the limited progress of our spiritual self-improvement efforts. We find our praying burdened by a sense of obligation and failure. But prayer is not merely something we do; prayer is what God does in us. Prayer is not just communication with God—it is communion with God. As we open ourselves to him, God does the spiritual work of transformation in us. Spiritual director and psychologist David Benner invites us to discover openness to God as the essence of prayer, spirituality, and the Christian life. Prayer is far more than saying words to God; all of life can be prayer when offered to God in faith and with openness. Using the four movements of lectio divina, Benner explores prayer as attending, pondering, responding, and being. Along the way he opens us to a world of possibilities for communion with God: praying with our senses, with imagination, with music and creativity, in contemplation, in service, and much more.



## Miracles and other reasonable things: a story of unlearning and relearning God, by Sarah Bessey

In the brief instant Sarah Bessey realized that her minivan was, inevitably, going to hit the car on the highway on the bright, clear day of the crash, she knew

intuitively that it would have life-changing consequences. But as she navigated the winding path from her life before the accident—as a popular author, preacher, and loving wife and mother—to her new life after, inhabiting a body that no longer felt like her own, she found that the most unexpected result was how it shook her deeply rooted faith, upending everything she thought she knew and held so dearly. Weaving together theology and memoir, Sarah delivers “a well-written reminder of seeing the miracles in life’s highs and lows” (Library Journal). The road of healing leads to Rome where she met the Pope (it’s complicated) and encountered the Holy Spirit in the last place she expected. She writes about her miraculous healing, learning to live with chronic pain, and the ways God makes us whole in the midst of suffering. She invites us to a path of knowing God that is filled with ordinary miracles, hope in the face of overwhelming evidence to the contrary, and other completely reasonable things.



## Magdalene: it's never too late to begin a new life, by Angela Hunt

Mary Magdalene: The controversial woman with a past only one Man could forgive. “I was Miryam of Magdala, seller of fine fabrics and wife of Yaakov the fisherman. With my husband and son, I held a place of honor among my countrymen until a company of rogue soldiers took everything from me. I might not be Roman, but I knew injustice when I saw it. And I had been most grievously wronged.” In an era when women are sequestered and silenced, Miryam of Magdala lives a contented life until her son’s careless gesture evokes a hostile action that shatters her serenity. With no hope of justice, Miryam commits an unthinkable act...and descends into depths of darkness that threatens her life and her sanity. Even after Yeshua the Messiah dramatically restores her life, Miryam can neither forget nor forgive unresolved injustices. Prodded by a hunger for vengeance she will not deny, this woman of uncommon courage risks her life and her heart by drawing destiny into her own hands.

## Leadership Directory



### PASTORAL TEAM (alphabetical order by last names)

(Abby Davidson is on parental leave)

**Dale Forder** Ext. 221  
Office & Communications Administrator  
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**Emily Kielstra** Ext. 226  
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[emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca)

**Greg Kay**  
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[gregkay@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:gregkay@springgardenchurch.ca)

**Sam Lee** Ext. 227  
Co-Lead Pastor  
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**Jeremy Ranasinghe** Ext. 223  
Pastor of Students  
[jeremy@springgardenchurch.ca](mailto:jeremy@springgardenchurch.ca)

### 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)

**Darlene Boyd**  
Worship  
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**Krysten Cameron**  
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**Garry Lam**  
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**Jeff McGee**  
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**Esther Penner**  
Adult Discipleship & Membership  
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**Kishanth Seevaratnam**  
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**Debbie Tempelmeyer**  
Children & Youth Discipleship  
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### ELDERS (alphabetical order)

**Anne Barron**  
[anne.barron020@sympatico.ca](mailto:anne.barron020@sympatico.ca)

**Suzanna Lai**  
[suzanna.lai@sgbc.ca](mailto:suzanna.lai@sgbc.ca)

**Barrie Porter**  
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**Marcy Scott**  
[marcyscott@rogers.com](mailto:marcyscott@rogers.com)

# What's Happening

## Life in Spring Garden

# 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 10.	
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.	10am
Tuesdays	<b>PASTORAL TEAM MEETING</b> We generally meet on Tuesday. Please pray for us, for wisdom and inspiration.	10am - 12pm
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>	10am
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>	12pm

### Upcoming

Date	Event	Page
Nov. 26 - Dec. 10	Sunday Morning Bible Study	7
Dec. 3	Potluck, Intergen Worship, Communion and Baptisms	7
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Dec. 17	Light of the World	9
Dec. 19	Blue Christmas	9
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Candle Light Worship	9
Jan. 19 - 21	YOUTH RETREAT Avalanche 2024 (Gr 6-8)	15
Feb. 9 - 11	YOUTH RETREAT Blizzard 2024 (Gr 9-12)	15
May 31 - June 2 2024	Church Wide Retreat	10

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).

Keep your eye on our Events page at:  
[www.springgardenchurch.ca/events](http://www.springgardenchurch.ca/events).

# 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.

