



spring garden church
Spirituality. Grace. Community.

Delve

March 2023

Quick Calendar



WEEKLY

Sun	10am Sunday Worship in person or watch Online	pg 27
Tue	10am-12pm Pastoral Team Meeting	pg 27
Thur	10am Moms' Meet Up	pg 27
	12 - 2 pm Lunch - Prayer - Share	pg 27
Weekly and Biweekly Life Groups		pg 16

Feb 23 - Apr 6	Thursday Evening Prayer Online at 8pm	pg 11
Mar 2, 16 & 30	Support Local Seniors	pg 12
Mar 3	YOUTH: Watch Party	pg 19
Mar 4	A Night Out	pg 12
Mar 5 & 19	YOUTH: Sr. High Life Groups	pg 19
Mar 10	YOUTH: Games Night	pg 19
Mar 24	YOUTH: Jr. High Life Groups	pg 19

See more at www.springgardenchurch.ca/events.

Delve submissions are due March 20st. Delve submissions are due on the MONDAY before the LAST Sunday of each month. To submit for the next issue of Delve, e-mail: delve@springgardenchurch.ca



Features

- See You Soon 3
- On Trees 5
- Why I'm Moving to Lille, France, to Work with a British Mission Agency 7
- Introducing our Interim Pastor of Missional Discipleship 9
- Reflections on Being an Elder 10

Community Corner

- Lent Series: Seven Words 11
- Evening Prayer 11
- Lunch - Prayer - Share 11
- Supporting Seniors 12
- A Night Out 12
- Volleyball Night 13
- SGC Retreat 13
- Summer Day Camps at SGC 13

Discipleship Ministries

- SGC Kids 15
- Spring Youth 18

The Resource Centre

- Book Recommendations 21

More Info

- How to Give 23
- Life Groups 14
- Leadership Directory 23
- Weekly Calendar 25
- Upcoming Calendar 26

Our Values (back page)

*Teach me your way,
Lord,
that I may rely on
your faithfulness;
give me an
undivided heart,
that I may fear your
name.
I will praise you,
Lord my God, with
all my heart;
I will glorify your
name forever.*

Psalm 86:11-12

Design, Cover & Editor:
Dale Forder

Contributors:
Abby Davidson
Eva Sham
Anne and Garth Barron
Sam Chaise
Emily Kielstra
Myrna Frost
Jeremy Ranasinghe
Karen Cassel

Copy Editors:
Greg Kay
Karen Cassel

Features

Digging a little deeper into Spring Garden



See You Soon

It's been two years since I started here at SGC as your Pastor of Missional Discipleship. I started a year into the pandemic and met most of you over zoom as the building wasn't yet open. Then gradually, and joyfully you returned to this place of worship. I was able to put faces to names and names to voices and learn who the people are who make us Spring Garden Church. Bruce, Miles and I really found a home here among you. We've loved worshipping with you, eating meals together, running around after worship (okay, that one's all Miles) and learning about your lives.

I rarely refer to being a pastor as 'work'. Somehow that word has never seemed to encompass my calling or describe what I do. But starting a maternity leave definitely puts it in that realm as I plan to step away from 'work' for a while to focus on my family. I am so excited to welcome this newest addition, but I am sad to be leaving pastoral ministry for a while. Of course, this does not mean stepping away from our church. This is not a 'goodbye' but more of a 'see you soon!'. While we

will definitely take a break as we get settled into a new rhythm as a family of four, I look forward to coming back to introduce you to baby girl and being among you in an unofficial capacity. You have all become an essential part of our lives and you've each impacted us in different ways. We have so appreciated all the love and support we've received and continue to receive from you.

Part of me knows that the time will go by quickly but I will miss the rhythms of worship and the church year that guide my day-to-day. My new rhythm will be quite different! Know that while my time will soon be occupied by nighttime feeds, diapers, baby snuggles and naps, I will keep you all in my prayers over the next little while. And like I said, it won't be too long before you see Bruce and I (and hear Miles!) back worshipping with you. Please feel free to reach out and say hi and check-in. You can reach me at my personal email (abbyenpointe@gmail.com) anytime or on Facebook.

My prayer for you is that you will take delight in the Lord and understand more and more each day what it means that he delights in you.

See you soon,

Abby





On Trees

by Eva Sham

There is a tree at the edge of our church lawn. It stands like a solitary sentry as if to guard the border between the lawn and the road which gives the church its name. Children love to climb this tree and passers-by appreciate its shade in the hot summer days. The birds of the air find shelter among its leafy branches.

Reading Annie Dillard's *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* urges me to think about trees. They are not objects to be observed but "have a curious relationship to the subject of the present moment."

According to Dillard "there are many created things in the universe that outlive us, that outlive the sun," but she "can't think about them." She declares, "I live with trees." "There are creatures under our feet, creatures that live over our heads," she explains, "but trees live quite convincingly in the same filament of air we inhabit, and, in addition, they extend impressively in both directions, up and down, shearing rock and fanning air. doing their business just out of reach." ¹

Trees do not merely clean the very air we breathe in our shared space above ground. Their roots support a complex, dynamic underground ecosystem of fungi and microorganisms that enriches

the soil with important and life-giving nutrients for mutual benefit. Numerous scientific papers have been published describing this hidden life of trees below ground.

Sometimes to ease the tension of my muscles while weeding the church community garden, I pause to look at that leafy sentry. The visual image of a tree may not only bring relief during a time of stress, it can also enhance our contemplation of Scripture. David the psalmist uses a fruit-bearing olive tree to help us understand and internalize the joy-filled life of a person who trusts in God's steadfast love rather than material things (Psalm 52:79). ² When we juxtapose or bring together the visual image of a tree with this Biblical passage in prayer, we allow the Word of God to transform our very being so that joy in Christ becomes a reality in our lives. Like healthy trees which have their roots intimately connected with a vibrant underground ecosystem, our life in God is enlivened by being rooted in the everlasting, transformative love of Christ.

1. Annie Dillard, *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* (New York: Harper Perennial Modern Classics, 2007), 88.

2. For those interested, Saint Augustine's *Expositions of the Psalms* provide helpful insights into the meaning of the Psalms.

Do you want to share something God is doing in your life or that you see God working around you? Something that could be a positive influence for the readers? A poem, story, art, photos...? We really want to hear from you!

Email delve@springgardenchurch.ca if interested.



Why I'm Moving to Lille, France, to Work with a British Mission Agency by Sam Chaise

"A picture is worth a thousand words" - so goes the old saying. This picture (above) summarizes how our world is organized: every person is categorized by the citizenship they hold and the passport they carry. Some passports are more powerful than other passports, allowing you to move about freely from country to country. They also let you live in a safe country, maybe even a prosperous one. Others don't let you do this as easily. We belong somewhere because we are a citizen of that country (or are working towards that), and that gives us a "right" to live somewhere on the planet.

So then, what happens when the passport or citizenship that someone holds becomes worthless? What happens when your country becomes a "failed state", or when the government's secret police target you to imprison and perhaps torture you? What happens when your country falls into civil war, or when the army decides that your ethnicity makes you a threat to the state?

What happens is that you become a refugee: someone who no longer has anywhere on the planet where they have a right to live. "Refugee" or "asylum seeker" or "refugee claimant" or "forcibly displaced person" are all terms that are used to describe people in this state. Our world has always had refugees,

but in the last 8 years the numbers have skyrocketed to record levels. If you think Metro Toronto is big, imagine a city 15x larger. That is the number of forcibly displaced persons today: 103 million human beings who have no place to live. 103 million persons who are made in the image of God and who are loved by God and yet who have no place on the planet where they belong.

The Church in Canada has been ahead of our culture in sponsoring refugees, having done this for over 40 years. However, today a significant number of forcibly displaced people are unsponsored, and for the last five years at Christie Refugee Welcome Centre I have been leading an organization that provides short-term emergency shelter and ongoing settlement support for these unsponsored refugees, which Canada calls "refugee claimants" (some countries call them "asylum seekers")

However, in June 2023 I'll be moving to France in order to serve with BMS World Mission (formerly the Baptist Missionary Society). BMS is based in the United Kingdom and is the oldest Baptist mission agency in the world, having sent William Carey to India in 1793. William Carey is a hero of mine because he practiced holistic mission (word & deed) and believed in empowering local leaders for sustainable locally-owned mission. He was more contemporary than some mission agencies today!

My new role will be "Head of Programme: People on the Move." BMS recognizes that many refugees from the Middle East and North and West Africa have moved and are moving to Europe, and BMS wants to proactively and strategically grow this area of ministry so that the European church increases in its ability to be a place of welcome, home, and new beginnings. I will be doing this by forming new partnerships with networks, organizations, and denominations, all with the intent that local grassroots ministries begin or that existing ones are strengthened. Christians have a practice that goes back 2000 years of offering "Welcome to the Stranger," which is why churches in many parts of the world have been at the forefront of welcoming refugees. However, the sheer record numbers of forcibly displaced persons means that churches in Europe need to be strengthened in their capacity for welcome, which is what I hope will be the outcome of my work.

So . . . if I'm working for a British agency why will I be living in Lille, France? Well, BMS is becoming a dispersed organization

so I could be based anywhere in Europe, Asia, or Africa. But my wife, SJ Holsteen, will be joining the Lille Ministry Team with International Association of Refugees, which is a Christian mission agency that focuses its work with forcibly displaced people in North America and various other parts of the world. SJ's work will be local, mine will be global, and we will live in Lille (which is in northern France, nearly on the border with Belgium).

I have valued the community and formation that Spring Garden Church has offered me during the 12 years I've been here, and will regret leaving. I am grateful that SGC will take me on as a "vocational missionary", meaning that I will have some level of contact with you and will be remembered regularly in prayer.



Hello!
My name is Emily and I will be serving as an Interim Pastor of Missional Discipleship starting this

Spring. I was born and raised in Zimbabwe but after graduating from High School, I moved to Canada in order to complete a post-secondary education. Since then, I have become increasingly passionate about studying Scripture, I have discovered more fully the beauty that comes with authentic community and given that I am yet to adjust to the winter weather, I have learnt to appreciate a warm pair of slippers. I love to write, enjoy spending time outside particularly when it is sunny and involves a furry friend, and always welcome a meaningful conversation over a cup of tea.

I am exceedingly grateful to have experienced God's transformative and faithful love as He has graciously directed my steps, strengthened my faith, and deepened my capacity to hope in Him. I am very excited to see how God will continue to enact his perfect purposes, both in my life and in the lives of the Spring Garden Church community, in order that He might receive glory, honour, and praise.

Reflections on Being an Elder

by Myrna Frost



My experience as an Elder at Spring Garden Church has been very fulfilling for me knowing that I am a small part of the Ministry here. It is a joy to be able to pray for the staff, the members of the Spring community and the broader outreach into this church's role in local and world-wide ministry. Now that I am retired from teaching I have the luxury of having more time to devote to prayer ministry and to reaching out, mostly by telephone to those who need a listening ear and a responsive heart.

I treasure the time spent with other Elders as we hear of the needs of those in our Spring Garden community and pray together for them. It is a privilege to lift up our staff in prayer, to hear their concerns and challenges and pray intentionally for each one.

It is also a joy to be able to lift up in prayer those who are struggling with life's challenges, who are lonely, who are facing health issues and who are out of work.



I am pleased to be able to pray for our students, children and young people in their pursuit of education and work.

I am also honoured to be asked to pray for those in our Church family who are challenged by difficult relationships, who have lost loved ones and are grieving.

I am pleased to join others in prayer for our Church in the community, to show support for efforts to reach beyond the walls of Spring, to welcome the stranger and help people to feel connected to our fellowship and to one another.

It is inspiring to hear of the work being done in our broader Christian community and to pray for our neighbouring churches and those in our Baptist Convention.

It is important to me to pray for the issues affecting people where there is war, conflict, poverty, racial tensions and natural disasters like the recent earthquake in Syria.

I pray that Spring will be a house of prayer and a community bonded together in love and concern for one another and the world around us - that Spring will be a place of committed Christians devoted to loving God and one another.



Lent Series: Seven Words

We believe that discipleship and growth happen in intentional community and that is why during Lent, we are offering a common curriculum based on the last words of Jesus. We will use the book *Seven Words* by Susan Robb as a guide for our Life Groups studies. *Seven Words* looks at Jesus' final sayings in their biblical and historical context and shows us how they offer hope and encouragement for today. This Lent study is not about what we give up during the forty days leading up to Easter but about growing in intimacy with Jesus as we listen to his voice.

If you are interested in joining a Life Group during the six weeks of Lent, you can visit tiny.cc/SGCLifeGroups. Groups meet at church, in homes and on different days of the week. We have online and in-person groups. To sign-up, fill out the form at the link above and a Life Group leader will contact you shortly.



Evening Prayer

As we journey through Lent, join us online on Thursday at 8 pm, for a time of reflection, liturgical reading, and prayer.

Email anne.barron020@sympatico.ca for the Zoom link.

Lunch - Prayer - Share

You are invited to join us every second Thursday from 12:00-2:00 pm in the lounge that opens off the worship area (the East Lounge). Bring a lunch, share our life journey, and pray for each other. Join us - women, men, young or older - for a relaxed time to get to know each other and God better. For more information call Faith: 416 805-7529 or

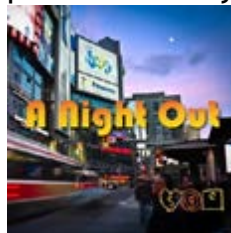
faith.holwyn@gmail.com



Supporting Seniors in our Community

Did you know that seniors are at an increased risk of isolation and loneliness? We have been invited by the residents of Willowdale Manor and Neighbourlink North York to offer support and Connection to vulnerable seniors living in our neighbourhood. Join us at Willowdale Manor (175 Cummer Ave.) on the following dates for board games, food and other fun activities.

The next events are: Thursdays, March 22 from 4-6 pm for music therapy. If you can attend one, some or all of these events then please let Emily (emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca) know.



A Night Out

Our "A Night Out" event, is on Saturday, March 4th, 2023, from 5 pm-9 pm. This evening is open to children aged 3 (potty trained) to 10 years old. Youth from grades 6-12 may join as LIT and should confirm with Jeremy they'll be joining.

We encourage you to extend this invitation to your neighbours and friends and take the opportunity to enjoy time with them without the regular responsibility of having kids with you.

Registration Link: <http://tiny.cc/SGC-ANightOut>

When: Saturday, March 4th, 2023, from 5 pm-9 pm

Where: SGC Basement

Cost: \$10 per child

Payments can be made through e-transfer to payments@springgardenchurch.ca or by cheque addressed to Spring Garden Church

Volleyball Night

What: Volleyball Gym Night

When: March 4, 6:30pm-8:30pm

Where: People's Christian Academy (245 Renfrew Drive Markham)

Cost: \$10 per person

To sign up, please email Sam at samlee@springgardenchurch.ca



SGC Retreat

We believe in a communal God that invites us into community. This year we want to come together as the family of God to belong and to be refreshed. Come join us for a time of rest and renewal as we spend time together at Fair Havens!

Date: May 26-28

Location: Fair Havens Ministries

Cost: \$150 per adult, \$75 children/youth

You can find more information about Fair Havens through their website including accommodations. <https://www.fairhavens.org/>

Please sign up at tiny.cc/springalive.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to email samlee@springgardenchurch.ca or check out our [FAQ page on our event's page](#).



Summer Day Camps at SGC

Summer is just around the corner, and we're excited to announce our Summer Camps for kids in July and August 2023! We've opened up registration, and invite all the kids and families part of our church community and our neighbours in Willowdale to sign up. This is a great opportunity for kids to have fun, make new friends, and enjoy exciting activities. Let's make this summer one to remember! Register now and join the fun!

Week 1 and 2 are open to children 4 (must be potty trained) - 10 years old. Week 3, Adventure Camp, is open to children 5 - 10 years old (Grades 1 - 5 in Sept 2023).

Register at springgardenchurch.ca/daycamp

Life Groups

Life Groups are a place where we do life together in a community centered around Jesus. They are designed for you to pursue spiritual growth, community and mission together. We offer Life Groups so everyone can have a place to belong. Life Groups are small gatherings of people who form a community. Group members share life together through friendship, learn from the Bible and other resources, pray for and give support to one another, and participate in God's mission together. They are safe places where you can meet new people, discover your gifts for service, grow as a follower of Jesus, and have a lot of fun together.

Groups gather in homes or online throughout the week. Each group is as unique as the people in it. No matter where you are in life, there is a Life Group for you.

Please email Abby at samlee@springgardenchurch.ca to join or for more information.



Kevin & Suzanna
Sundays at 1pm
Every other week
In-Person at Spring Garden



Sam and Jin
Monday at 7pm
Every week for six weeks
In-person



Jeff & Phyllis
Wednesday evenings
Weekly
ONLINE



David
Thursdays
Weekly from 7:30pm - 9:30pm
Online and In-Person at Spring Garden

Interested in joining a Life Group, visit tiny.cc/SGCLifeGroups.

SGC Kids:

Hi Everyone!

Here is what's happening this month with our Kid's Ministry!

You can register children for worship on Sunday mornings at the child and youth check-in area. We will have sticker name tags for our children to wear so we can get to know each other during our worship time in the basement.

Here are the age groups we have available for children's worship on Sunday mornings:

Group Structure:

Nursery & Toddlers (0 - 2 Yrs) - Orange Room

Pre K - SK (3 Yrs - 5 Yrs) - Green Room

Gr 1 - 3 - Blue Room Drop Off - Yellow Room Pick Up

Gr 4 & 5 - Blue Room

Family Registration Forms 2023: For us to provide our ministry to the children of our church, we require new registration forms to be filled out by their families every year as part of our policy. Please fill out our form through this link <http://tiny.cc/SGCFamilyRegistration>

New Things Are Happening!!!

We are very excited to share that our kid's worship area is being refreshed and updated to have a new look and feel!

Here is some of what is happening!

- New flooring in our Orange and Yellow Rooms.
- We've merged two rooms to create a larger and more usable space
- Repainted the halls and created more worship spaces
- Changed over a few of the lights



We're not done yet! Here's what to be excited about!

- Creating a "Spring City" theme to label our spaces downstairs
- Designing a cityscape mural throughout the kid's ministry spaces
- Redesigning the inside of our rooms to feel more welcoming and conducive for kids to engage in spiritual conversations.

Stay tuned as we share the development and progress of this project! If you have any questions about what is happening, please contact Jeremy for more information!

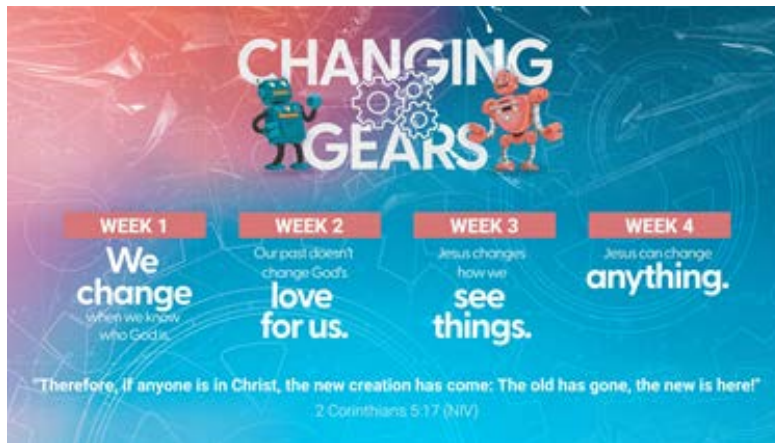
Here is what we will be talking about on Sundays!

This month's theme uses robots because all their moving gears and parts will help us talk about how Jesus can move and change things!

Changing Gears: A 4-Week Series On Jesus' Ministry -

Clank!
Beep!
Clunk! Kids love robots, especially ones that

can transform into something new or have really cool abilities. In this four-week series from Jesus' ministry on earth, we'll introduce kids to a different story each week that shows us how God's truths never change, but Jesus changes everything – including us! We'll see that we change when we know God and remember that Jesus changes how we see things because Jesus can change anything!



A Night Out:

Our "A Night Out" event, is on Saturday, March 4th, 2023, from 5 pm-9 pm. This evening is open to children aged 3 (potty trained) to 10 years old. Youth from grades 6-12 may join as LIT and should confirm with Jeremy they'll be joining.

17

We encourage you to extend this invitation to your neighbours and friends and take the opportunity to enjoy time with them without the regular responsibility of having kids with you.

Registration Link: tiny.cc/SGC-ANightOut

When: Saturday, March 4th, 2023, from 5 pm - 9 pm

Where: SGC Basement

Cost: \$10 per child + 4 hours of freedom = priceless!

Payments can be made through e-transfer to payments@springgardenchurch.ca or by cheque addressed to Spring Garden Church

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>

Spring Youth

Sunday Morning Worship Gatherings:

March 5th, 12th, and 19th: We will have regular worship gatherings for youth in grades 6-12. Following the children and youth's blessing, the youth can move into our lounge to continue in worship.

March 26th - Youth are encouraged to join our church's upstairs worship on the last Sunday of each month.

Youth Life Groups:

Sr High Life Groups: March 5th & 19th - Our Sr High life group will meet in our building following the morning worship. We will gather in our youth lounge to have lunch and talk about the life and ministry of Jesus. To ensure enough food is prepared, please email Jeremy (along with any allergy/food restriction info) to let us know!

Time: 11:30 pm-2:30 pm

Cost: \$5

March 24th: Jr High Life Groups - Our Jr High life groups will meet in our building this month. Unlike our regular youth events, Life Groups focus on intentionally living life as a community. We want to engage in conversations with youth about what is happening around us and the struggles we face.

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Cost: \$0 (Dinner will not be provided, but we will have snacks and treats)

Friday Youth Gatherings:

March 3rd: Watch Party - We are gathering at our building to watch a movie together. After the movie, we will also talk about the different challenges, themes and experiences we can see in our movie's story.

Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Cost: \$5 per youth (Dinner included)

March 10th: Games Night - We will meet at our building to play some of our favourite games. To ensure enough food is prepared, please email Jeremy to let us know!

Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Cost: \$5 per youth (Dinner included)



Staying Updated:

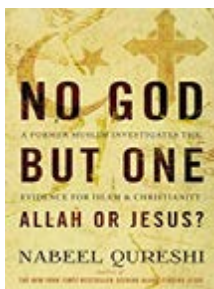
To stay up to date on what is happening for your youth, please visit our google calendar which has all our planned events.

<http://tiny.cc/YouthCal>



Return to the root: reflections on the inner life, by Joyce Rupp
Rupp offers meditative, uplifting reflections--grown out of the seasons, the Church's liturgical life, and the small moments that adorn our days--that escort us through the year. With each reflection, we shift beyond the immediate moment to see the timeless truths within, including choosing to

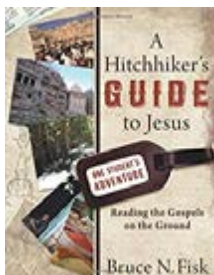
hold on to hope, trusting how God speaks to us and how we experience the Divine, and recognizing that there is always something for which to be grateful.



No God but one, Allah or Jesus: a former Muslim investigates the evidence for Islam's Christianity, by Nabeel Qureshi

In *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus*, Nabeel Qureshi recounted his dramatic journey, describing his departure from Islam and his decision to follow Christ. In the years that followed, he realized that the world's two largest

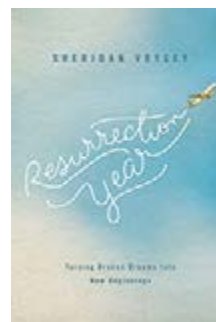
religions are far more different than they initially appeared. *No God but One: Allah or Jesus?* addresses the most important questions at the interface of Islam and Christianity: How do the two religions differ? Are the differences significant? Can we be confident that either Christianity or Islam is true? And most important, is it worth sacrificing everything for the truth? Nabeel shares stories from his life and ministry, casts new light on current events, and explores pivotal incidents in the histories of both religions, providing a resource that is gripping and thought-provoking, respectful and challenging.



A hitchhiker's guide to Jesus: reading the gospels on the ground, by Bruce Fisk

Rather than taking the standard pedagogical approach, Fisk creates a fictional character, Norm Adams, who

is on a quest to discover the truth about the historical Jesus. Norm is a recent college graduate who is going through "theological puberty" and journeys to the Holy Land to find the answers to all his questions. The book follows the travels of Norm as he encounters the key geographical and historical sites of Israel and explores how they match with what he reads about Jesus in the gospel accounts. Along the way, Norm interacts with a variety of characters (even his old college professor) that present new ideas and challenge his thinking. In short, the book is a fictional account of one person's theological discovery.



Resurrection year: turning broken dreams into new beginnings, by Sheridan Voysey

After ten years of tear-soaked prayers and repeatedly dashed hopes, Sheridan Voysey and his wife come to a heart-breaking conclusion: their dream of having a child is over. Empty and confused from a decade of disappointment, they leave their jobs, pack their bags, and embark on a journey in search of restoration.

Voysey chronicles the couple's return to life. From the streets of Rome to the Basilicas of Paris, from the

Alps of Switzerland to their new home in Oxford, Voysey and his wife begin the healing process while wrestling with their doubts about God's goodness. Voysey's story is beautiful, uplifting, and deeply thoughtful, assuring us that even after the most dead and shattered of dreams can come wonderful, invigorating new life.



The beggar and the bluebird, picture book, by Anthony DeStefano

The Beggar and the Bluebird is a modern-day fairytale. It tells the moving story of a little bird whose flight southward for the winter keeps getting delayed because of the strange requests of a local street beggar. The beggar asks the bird to deliver bread to a homeless man, money to a widow with children, and a gold cross to a sick boy in the hospital. As a

result of performing these acts of mercy, the kind bird gets caught in a massive winter snowstorm. All seems lost, until an astonishing turn of events reveals the true identity of the street beggar. An inspiring story of risk and sacrifice, *The Beggar and the Bluebird* teaches children the true meaning of gift-giving, and demonstrates that great love is always rewarded by God--though not in ways we can predict. The touching and miraculous ending is sure to bring happy tears to young and old readers alike.

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

Emily Kielstra Ext. 226
Interim Pastor of Missional Discipleship
emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca

Greg Kay
Co-Lead Pastor
gregkay@springgardenchurch.ca

Sam Lee Ext. 227
Co-Lead Pastor
samlee@springgardenchurch.ca

Jeremy Ranasinghe Ext. 223
Pastor of Students & Young Adults
jeremy@springgardenchurch.ca

Spring Garden Church

112 Spring Garden Avenue, Toronto ON M2N 3G3
www.springgardenchurch.ca Tel 416.223.4593
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 by last names)

Darlene Boyd
Missions
darlene.boyd@gmail.com

Krysten Cameron
Chair
krystencameron@hotmail.com

Cheryl Chapman
Worship
cheryl.chapman@live.ca

Jeff McGee
Finance
jeff.mcgee@sympatico.ca

Scott Moore
Vice Chair, Secretary & Property
scottgmoore@mac.com

Esther Penner
Adult Discipleship & Membership
esther.penner@sgbc.ca

Ben Reynolds
Property
bereynolds@gmail.com

Debbie Tempelmeyer
Children & Youth Discipleship
tempelmeyerdeb@gmail.com

ELDERS (alphabetical order by last names)

Anne Barron
anne.barron020@sympatico.ca

Gonzalo Librado
gonzlibrado@gmail.com

Margaret Sutton
margaretsutton242@gmail.com

Suzanna Lai
suzanna.lai@sgbc.ca

Myrna Frost
mfrost2254986@rogers.com

What's Happening

Life in Spring Garden

What's Happening

Life in Spring Garden

Weekly

All Throughout the Week	<p>LIFE GROUPS</p> <p>Connect for Community Together through bible study, prayer and sharing. Meet online and in-person. Please email samdavidson@springgardenchurch.ca for more information or to join one. See more on page 12.</p>	
Sundays	<p>SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10am</p> <p>Join us Sunday mornings as we go through different series' (read more). Join us at: www.springgardenchurch.ca/live or come in-person.</p>	
	<p>ESL BIBLE STUDY 11:40am</p> <p>Are you new to the English language and interested in learning more about Jesus? We are offering this weekly lesson on Sundays at 11:40am. There is no cost to attend and all are welcome. Please email Garth (garthbarron@sympatico.ca) if you would like to sign up.</p>	
Tuesdays	<p>PASTORAL TEAM MEETING 10am - 12pm</p> <p>We meet mostly on Tuesday. Please pray for us for wisdom and inspiration.</p>	
Thursdays	<p>MOMS' MEET UP (at Spring Garden) 10am</p> <p>Mothers coming together for fellowship in a baby and kid friendly environment. Contact Emily at emilykiestra@springgardenchurch.ca</p>	
Every other Thursday	<p>LUNCH-PRAYER-SHARE 12pm</p> <p>See page 12 Call Faith: 416 805-7529 or Email: faith.holwyn@gmail.com</p>	

Upcoming

Feb 23 - Apr 6	Thursday Evening Prayer Online at 8pm	pg 11
Mar 2, 16 & 30	Support Local Seniors	pg 12
Mar 3	YOUTH: Watch Party	pg 19
Mar 4	A Night Out	pg 12
Mar 5 & 19	YOUTH: Sr. High Life Groups	pg 19
Mar 10	YOUTH: Games Night	pg 19
Mar 24	YOUTH: Jr. High Life Groups	pg 19
EASTER EVENTS (springgardenchurch.ca/events)		
April 6	Maundy Thursday Communion and Prayer Online, Email Anne anne.barron020@sympatico.ca	
April 7	Good Friday Worship Gathering 10am in person	
April 9	Easter Sunrise Liturgy and Communion 6:15 am in person	
April 9	Easter Sunday Worship Gathering and Egg Hunt at 10am	
April 23	Newcomers Tea	
May 26-28	SGC Retreat: Spring Alive	pg 12

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) and add your email address at the bottom of our home page (scroll down).

Also keep your eye on our Events page at: 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.

