



spring garden church
Spermiability Grace Community

Delve

May 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

UPCOMING

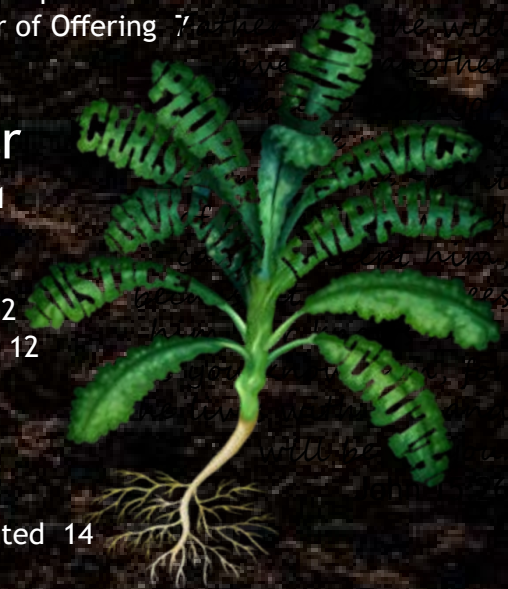
Date		Page
May 5	YOUTH: Watch Party	20
May 6	Willowdale Move-a-thon & BBQ (Neighbourlink)	11
May 7	Small Group Sunday	12
May 7	Sr High Life Group	13
May 12	YOUTH: Craft Night	20
May 13	Single Mom's Mother's Day	12
May 17	Volunteering at Willowdale Manor	12
May 26-28	SGC Retreat: Spring Alive	13
May 31	Volunteering at Willowdale Manor	12
June 4	Annual Meeting	13

■ Features

- Deacon Insights 3
- More Teen Life in Lebanon 5
- A Note from the Property Stewardship Team 6
- The Widow of Zarephath: A Prayer of Offering 7
- The Missing Pew Bibles! 9

■ Community Corner

- Willowdale Move-a-Thon & BBQ 11
- Small Group Sunday 11
- Single Mom's Mother's Day Tea 12
- Annual Spring Garden Clean-Up 12
- Volunteering at Willowdale Manor 12
- Spring Alive: SGC Retreat 13
- Annual Meeting 13
- Bike Blessing & BBQ 13
- Summer Day Camps at SGC 14
- Gaining Ground with Youth Unlimited 14
- Lunch - Prayer - Share 15
- About Our Current Series 16



■ Discipleship Ministries

- SGC Kids 17
- Spring Youth 19

■ The Resource Centre

- Book Recommendations 21

■ More Info

- How to Give 23
- Life Groups 16
- Leadership Directory 23
- Weekly Calendar 25
- Upcoming Calendar 26

■ Our Values (back page)

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www.springgardenchurch.ca/events

Delve submissions are due May 22nd. 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



www.springgardenchurch.ca

Deacon Insights

by Ben Reynolds

The Deacons were asked a few months ago to consider writing an article in Delve about what it is like to be deacon. The following are some of my insights and reflections on my three years as a deacon. There are two points that have been helpful for me to remember while I have served as a deacon. First, “deacon” essentially means “servant” (Greek *diakonos*). Stephen and Phoebe are two named deacon-servants (Acts 6:1-6; Rom 16:1). Second, Spring Garden Church bylaws state, “The administrative and temporal affairs of the Church shall be the responsibility of the [Deacon] Board...” Our elders, on the other hand, have the primary responsibility to pray for our church and to consider the spiritual health of our church.

The deacons’ responsibilities are structured into portfolios that fluctuate based on the make-up of the deacon board and the needs of the church and pastoral staff. Currently they include: Adult Discipleship, Children’s and Youth Discipleship, Community Life, Membership, Missions, Worship, Finance, Property, and the Chair’s responsibilities. Deacons work closely with the pastoral staff and each other. Each deacon has one or two portfolios that they are responsible for. That includes staying in touch with the pastor overseeing the various areas covered by those portfolios: Greg-Worship; Sam-Community Life; Jeremy-Children and Youth; Abby/Emily-Adult Ministry and Missions. Finance, property, membership, and chairing responsibilities are primarily carried by deacons. The Deacon Board meets monthly and provides updates on each of the ministry areas. Ultimately, deacons are responsible for the church’s financial well-being, upkeep and renovation of facilities, and program support so that the ministries of Spring Garden can flourish,

so that we, as the hands and feet of God, have what we need to accomplish that work.

I began as a deacon in May/June 2020, so all meetings for almost two years of my three-year term were online. The board’s year begins following the Annual General Meeting in June when new deacons are voted onto the board. The first meeting following the establishment of the new board includes prayer and discernment around how the various responsibilities will be managed and cared for during the upcoming year. One deacon serves as chair and meets with the pastors to decide issues to discuss at the monthly meeting. Krysten Cameron has ably held that responsibility during my time on deacons. Co-chair and secretary are other official roles. As finance deacon, Jeff McGee helps prepare the budget, approves large expenses, communicates with auditors and insurance brokers, and helps us watch the bottom line of revenue and income so that we as a church can stay in the black while fulfilling our mission. Property deacons oversee the Property Stewardship Team that works on projects that include switching over light fixtures to LED lights, getting quotes on roof and HVAC replacements, renovating our rental at 106 Spring Garden Ave, and addressing any repairs. Recent repairs include radiator leaks, fence repairs, boilers, and AC. With Children and Youth, we have recently worked on and approved updates to our safety policies for those working with our children and youth so that our kids can learn about Jesus in a safe environment. We are planning to have an in-person safety audit of our spaces once all the renovations are completed in the downstairs classrooms. I could mention many more examples of what the deacons do, but I have mentioned those that I have been more closely involved with.

One of the surprises and joys of my time on deacons has been working with my fellow deacons and our pastors. My fellow deacons care about our church family and our growing in the Lord. We all come together to serve the community to keep the lights on, to keep the heat going, to take care of membership paperwork, update and approve policies, and steward the resources God has given us as best we can. Please consider becoming a member, if you are not a member already, and consider how you might be able to serve our community of Jesus followers.

More Teen Life in Lebanon

By Abdul and Rama Raso (forwarded to Jen Chrystman)



Hi future friends!

David said that we could write to you about our lives here in Tripoli, Lebanon this time. I'm Abdul and my sister is Rama. I think you might remember seeing the cool fashion dresses that she was drawing a few years ago. Right now, we can go to school and we leave at about 1 p.m. and

walk about 2k with our book bags. We also return home on foot. The bus is expensive so we get more exercise! On the way, we see school buses, taxis, motorcycles and workers. There are grocery and vegetable stores, and cows as well as street dogs. We also pass teens like David wearing work clothes. They can't afford to go to school, but help earn money to support their families.

In school, there are about 35 students per class. We enjoy group work and activities like drawing, sports, and food breaks. Along with drawing and fashion design, I (Rama) enjoy physics and English. I hope I can write and speak well enough to make friends and do well in school when I arrive in Toronto. I'll need some help with mathematics, so I hope one or two of you can help me! Abdul's favorite subjects are mathematics and chemistry, and the hardest subject for him is science. Yes, he might need some tutoring help with that, too!

We're so excited that our trip to the Canadian Embassy in Beirut was successful and our applications to come to Canada were approved. Yeah! Now, we're getting our medical forms submitted and then we hope to get permission to fly to Toronto soon. Could you please pray that we can arrive before school starts in September? We're really tired of living together in our one little room and we want to meet all of you! Please pray with us for speedy final approval. OH, if you want to write to us and tell us about your teen lives in Toronto, that would be amazing. Please send your short notes to jenchrystman313@hotmail.com and she'll forward it to us. Thanks, future friends!

A Note from the Property Stewardship Team

By Scott Moore and Brenda Forder

When we consider Spring Garden Church's mandate to engage people in following Jesus wholeheartedly, our property and its maintenance may not be the first thing that comes to mind. But I (Scott) think discipleship and our property are intimately related! Stewarding our property helps 'make disciples' in such ways as: creating a place of welcoming hospitality, demonstrating gratitude for God's gift of this space, and deepening relationships and fostering a community of love by serving together. Next month, we'll be introducing our Property Stewardship Team, but this month, we wanted to give you a few ways we can all participate in caring for our property:



- If you see trash on the property (outside or inside), please place it in the appropriate bins either in the building or outside on the west side (even if it's just 1 or 2 pieces - many hands make light work!). Unsure about which bin to put it in? Ask the City of Toronto's Waste Wizard App: <https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/recycling-organics-garbage/towaste-app/>
- Before leaving your pew on Sunday morning, check for garbage or any other items to be put away.
- If you notice something with the building or property that needs to be fixed or needs attention, please notify Scott Moore, one of our property deacons (scott.moore@sdbc.ca).
- When using the building, please clean up after yourself. Food crumbs attract ants. Dish cloths are available in the kitchen. For small floor messes, there is a broom in the south west corner of the Library and rags under the West Lounge sink for floor spills.
- When entering the church, using the mats at the door to shake/brush dirt and salt off of footwear will help keep the building clean and reduce wear and tear on the floors and carpets.
- Check that lights are turned off if you are the



last to leave a room/the building which will reduce energy costs.

- Join Spring/Fall Community Cleanup Saturdays which is a great opportunity to invest in both the inside and outside of SGC property together. Check SGC's event's page for the date.
- Help take care of the gardens - how our property is taken care of from the outside speaks volumes to our neighbours! If you would be able to adopt a small section of the church gardens to provide some much needed TLC, please contact Brenda Forder at nobleb14@yahoo.ca.
- Help reduce food waste and keep our fridges tidy - please label food in church fridge/freezer (ie Your Name, Sunday Refreshments, Please take home/give away). Please leave a note for any leftovers that can be used for Sunday Refreshments.



The Widow of Zarephath: A Prayer of Offering

By Emily Kielstra

We love and serve a God whose heart breaks for the oppressed, whose eyes look upon the innocent sufferer's pain with compassion, and whose ears are receptive to the cries of the

victim. As God's people, we are called to imitate him by embodying this same empathy. As it is written in James 1:27a, "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress." One way that we can intentionally and sincerely show care to those who are most vulnerable is by listening to their stories, willingly entering into their experience of pain, and in turn, allowing our own perspectives and actions to be positively shaped by that which they share with us.

For this reason, I have written a short prayer for the widow at Zarephath, a character whose story appears in 1 Kings 17:7-16. Although she has come to the end of herself, accepting the imminent reality of her death, she responds to the prophet Elijah's request for help with unmatched faith; for, despite having very little to offer and almost no reason to believe in Elijah's God, she demonstrates resolute trust in God's promise to provide and preserve her life and the life of her son.

As you read this prayer, notice the widow's feelings of desperation, insufficiency, and weakness. Consider how you identify with her experience and then allow your own faith to be shaped and challenged by her exemplary trust.

"God of Israel.

Why me? What could I possibly offer your prophet that would be of any significant value or lasting impact?

Am I not a dying widow? Yet you have commissioned me to preserve the life of a prophet.

Is my mouth not as parched as the barren land? Yet instead of sending rain you have sent a man to ask me for a drink of water.

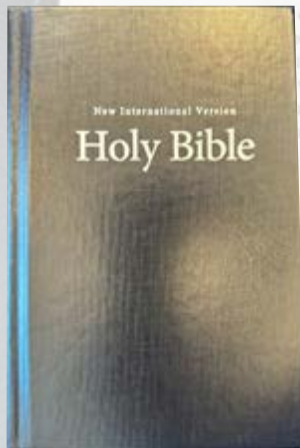
Am I not a starving mother, unable to feed my son? Yet you want me to provide food for a stranger.

What you ask of me is too great. Indeed, it seems impossible. Surely there is another person who is better equipped to heed the demands of your prophet, someone richer or stronger than I, someone of greater influence or one who belongs to the nation of Israel.

Is what I have to offer not too small? Yet I will offer it anyway.

Am I not too weak to do what you ask of me? Yet I will trust that you will faithfully carry me through.

My anxiety seems unbearable as I think about the uncertainty of my future. Will I ever experience true peace? Yet I will depend on you."



The Missing Pew Bibles!

By Ben Reynolds on behalf of the Bible Committee

You may have noticed that there are no Bibles in the pew racks, and there haven't been since social distancing became a thing. While it would have made sense to return them to their racks already, not having an official pew Bible has allowed opportunity for rethinking which English translation is a better fit for our worship times together as a

community. Our previous pew Bible translation (Holman Christian Standard Bible or Christian Standard Bible) contained some style and translation issues that were no longer quite right for our post-pandemic community (The HCSB could be a bit stiff!). Pastors Greg and Sam gathered a small group of deacons and elders to discern what translation would be a better fit. The group met in mid-April 2023 and reviewed six English translations.

Like many aspects of North American culture, we suffer from too much choice when it comes to Bible translations. There are three different types of translation philosophies when it comes to the Bible: formal equivalence (word-for-word), dynamic equivalence (thought-for-thought), and free translation (broader than thought-for-thought). Ultimately, all translations attempt to put meaning stated in one language into the words of another language, but translation from one language into another is often difficult. Being "lost in translation" is a real experience. The translation of the Bible can be even more difficult than translating between modern languages because we are separated from the Bible's ancient languages of Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek by over 2,000 years of history and culture. The Bible translation discernment team discerned that the New International Version (NIV) (2011) is a better fit for Spring Garden. This does not mean the NIV is the best

or most accurate translation, but the NIV works well for our pew Bible because it has a grade 7 reading level and good readability, among other features. The NIV was translated by English-speaking, evangelical biblical scholars from countries in Africa, Europe, and North America, as well as India and Australia. The first full edition of the NIV was published in 1978, with revisions in 1984, 2005, and 2011. The latest update took into consideration changes of English use and also new discoveries from the biblical world.

The Spring Garden Church committee that discerned the choice of this Bible for use in worship would like to note that the NIV uses the term "mankind" to refer to "humanity" or "humankind." The original languages of the Old and New Testament use the term "man" (Hebrew: adam; Greek: anthropos) to refer to all human beings. In common, spoken English, especially in our church community in 2023, the vast majority of English speakers no longer use the terms "man" or "mankind" to refer to all humanity. So as you read the NIV 2011, be aware that "mankind" refers to all of humanity and substitute "humankind" or "human beings" as you read.

Although the NIV 2011 will be the main Bible translation used for scripture reading and for sermons, please continue to use whatever Bible translation is most familiar to you. A comparison of two to three translations is often quite helpful in studying the Bible, especially if they belong to different translation philosophies. All translations are attempting to make the original languages of God's Word as clear as possible. The Bible is the Word of God, and God speaks to us through his word. Hear the voice of the Lord as you read and listen to the Bible, no matter the translation or language.

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 want to hear from you!

Email delve@springgardenchurch.ca if interested.

Walk, Run, Bike
LET'S MOVE WILLOWDALE

COMMUNITY MOVE-A-THON & BBQ

\$25/PERSON
\$60/FAMILY INCLUDES LUNCH FOR 2 ADULTS/2 KIDS
BBQ ONLY \$10 PER PERSON

SUPPORT OUR FOOD PROGRAM

MEET NEIGHBOURS
LIVE MUSIC
DANCE WORKSHOP
DELICIOUS FOOD

SAT. MAY 6, 2023 • 12PM BBQ
WARM UP AT 10:45AM • 4KM WALK/RUN 8KM RIDE

REGISTER TODAY!
neighbourlink.org/letsmove

Visit www.neighbourlink.org/letsmove



Small Group Sunday

At Spring Garden Church, we believe there is a place for everyone to belong and participate in community engagement. Whether you are new or have been attending

for a long time, we invite you to join us on Sunday May 7th from 12-2PM downstairs in the multipurpose room where we will share a meal together, have a chance to engage in conversation about the sermon, and experience a taste of community centered on the gospel. There will also be age appropriate activities for children. You can sign up at tiny.cc/smallgroupsunday or by contacting Emily at emily.kielstra@springgardenchurch.ca.

Single Mom's Mother's Day Tea

As we approach Mother's Day, it is important to take a moment to recognize the strength and resilience of single moms. As a way of honouring and celebrating these incredible women, NeighbourLink North York is inviting them to an afternoon tea on May 13th from 12-3pm right here where they will receive a special photo, self-care items, and fresh flowers. In support of this event, NeighbourLink is looking for female volunteers to connect and engage with the moms during the event, help with any childcare needs, and/or support the moms by donating self-care items such as face masks and toiletries. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Emily at emily.kielstra@springgardenchurch.ca.



Annual SGC Clean-up

Come out and help to cleanup our building and property as we have our annual cleanup day. Please see our [Event's Page](#) for the date and information.



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 two events:

Wednesday 17th May, 4-6PM

Wednesday 31st May, 2-4PM

They are looking for volunteers to connect with and offer support to the seniors who will be coming 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.

Spring
Alive

Spring Alive: SGC Retreat

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 - or just Sunday the 28th

Location: Fair Havens Ministries

Cost: \$150 per adult, \$75 children/youth or Sunday only (\$30/\$20)

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](#).



Annual Meeting

On June 4th after our Worship Gathering at 11:45am, we will be having our Annual Meeting. This event will be in-person and will have an option to join via Zoom. Please email us if you would like the Zoom link.



Bike Blessing and BBQ

On June 11 after Worship, we will be gathering outside for a bike blessing (and all other non-motorized transportations), a bike tune-up, BBQ and a ride through the neighbourhood. Bring your bikes, lawn chairs and have fun with us!



Summer Day Camps at SGC

We invite all the kids and families who are part of our church community and our neighbours in Willowdale to sign up for our summer day camps. 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 NOW FULL.**

Register at springgardenchurch.ca/daycamp

NOW HIRING: springgardenchurch.ca/hiring



Gaining Ground with Youth Unlimited

Greetings from your Youth Unlimited missionaries! We (Scott, Monica, Manuela, Kathy, and Clem) are so incredibly grateful for the gift of being sent by our Spring Garden Community, and for your ongoing faithful and generous partnership with our work and ministry throughout the city.

We are excited to be able to introduce you to our upcoming four-year strategy, "Gaining Ground", which builds on our existing work and will guide Youth Unlimited through to June 2027.

As we continue to share the person, work, and teaching of Jesus



Christ with young people, we will seek to 'gain ground' through these five commitments:

1. Address the urgent need for stable housing among youth and their families;
2. Develop multi-service spaces offering wholistic supports to youth and their families;
3. Mobilize neighbourhood churches to integrate community youth and their

families;

4. Launch new ministries among both under-served youth and neighbourhoods; and

5. Cultivate a collaborative partnership with YFC South Sudan.

We would love for you to pick up a copy of our "Gaining Ground" publications that are throughout the building to learn more (or visit gainingground.yugta.ca). Perhaps there is a commitment that resonates with you - we'd love to chat more! Your prayers are cherished as we embark on this next chapter of our work. And we are always eager to talk about how you can get involved in the ministry of YU, so find us after the worship gathering to chat!

Gratefully yours,

Scott, Monica, Manuela, Kathy, and Clem

Lunch - Prayer - Share

On the first and third Thursday of each month come and join us between 12 and 2 pm for Lunch, Prayer and Share. We sit in a circle around a coffee table in the east Lounge, eating our lunch, or sipping tea. Every week we look at what God is saying to us from the Bible, then share our praise and burdens with each other and pray, believing God hears and answers prayer. You are invited to join us whenever you can.

For more information contact Faith at: faith.holwyn@gmail.com

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 Emily at emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca to join or for more information.



Kevin & Suzanna

Sundays at 1pm

Every other week

In-person at Spring Garden



Jeff & Phyllis

Wednesday evenings

Weekly

ONLINE



David - Thursdays, Weekly from 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Online and in-person

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

About our Current Series:

GOD IS GOOD: Cultivating Goodness

God is good, all the time. But too often churches have not been places of goodness. Using the book *A Church Called TOV* as a guide, we will discover ways to further shape our church culture to live out the goodness of God in all aspects of our community.



Cultivating Goodness



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

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 Children's Theatre Setup
- Refurnishing our Nursery Room
- Planning out spaces for our structure for the coming fall



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

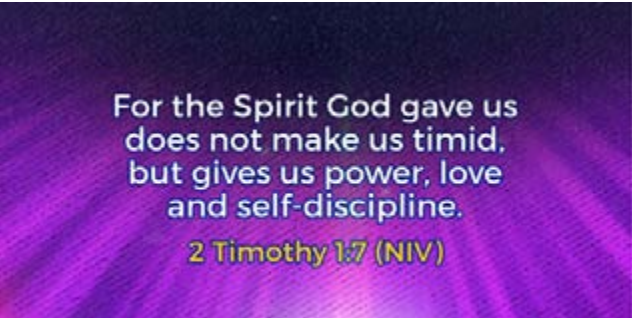


If you have any questions about what is happening, please contact Jeremy for more information!

Here is what we will be talking about on Sundays!

HEROIC: A 4-Week Series - Every kid wishes they had superpowers, but with Jesus, we don't need x-ray vision or invisibility to be heroes! In this four-week series, kids will hear stories about the heroes of the Early Church – the apostles and disciples who used their unique abilities to spread the good news of Jesus. Through their stories, we'll see that anyone can do great things for God because God gives everyone a mission, the Holy Spirit gives us power, and we're heroic when we work as a team!





For the Spirit God gave us
does not make us timid,
but gives us power, love
and self-discipline.
2 Timothy 1:7 (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>

Spring Youth

Sunday Morning Worship Gatherings:

May 7th, 14th: 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.

May 21st and 28th - Youth are encouraged to join our church's upstairs worship on these days.

Youth Life Groups

Sr High Life Groups: May 7th - 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: 12 pm - 2 pm

Cost: \$5

Jr High Life Groups - Jr High Life Groups won't meet this month due to the church's May retreat. But, for youth attending the retreat, there will be a special life group session during the 19 weekend. Contact Jeremy for details.

Friday Youth Gatherings:

May 5th: 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)

May 12th: Craft Night - We will meet at our building to work on personal crafts and art projects together. We will have various craft options for youth and a larger team project for our youth lounge. To ensure enough food is prepared, please email Jeremy to let us know!

We are continuing our larger wood craft in addition to smaller individual crafts

Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Cost: \$5 per youth (Dinner included)

Summer Staff 2023:

We're excited to announce that we're hiring for our summer staff positions for 2023! This opportunity is open to any Canadian resident between 15-30 years old. We encourage all eligible youth to submit their resumes and cover letters to me at jeremy@springgardenchurch.ca by May 10th, 2023.

For more information about the job posting, please visit '

https://christiancareerscanada.com/careers/12440?fbclid=IwAR0OBCiafS7BFWgEIY4Cbk0_2jsU28DXbqmsx17NHhXWbGHTn-WBX9RUXFw.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Staying Updated:

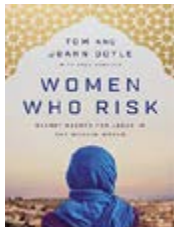
To stay up to date on what is happening for your youth, please visit our google calendar which has all our planned events.

<http://tiny.cc/YouthCal>



Adventures in missing the point: how the culture-controlled church neutered the gospel, by Brian McLaren and Tony Campolo - 270.83 MCL

Do you ever look at how the Christian faith is being lived out in the new millennium and wonder if we're not doing what we're supposed to be doing? That we still haven't quite "gotten it"? That we've missed the point regarding many important issues? It's understandable if we've relied on what we've been told to believe or what's widely accepted by the Christian community. But if we truly turned a constructive, critical eye toward our beliefs and vigorously questioned them and their origins, where would we find ourselves? Best-selling authors Brian McLaren and Tony Campolo invite you to do just that. Join them on an adventure-one that's about uncovering and naming faulty conclusions, suppositions, and assumptions about the Christian faith.



Women who risk: secret agents for Jesus in the Muslim world, by Tom and Joann Doyle

Explore the incredible work of the Lord in the hearts and lives of women in the Muslim world! In these gripping stories of Christ's presence straight from the underground church, Pastor Tom Doyle and his wife, JoAnn, show you how women in Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Iran are leading their communities to faith in Jesus—and how you can too!

Despite enormous risks to themselves and their families, former Muslim women are now influencing their husbands and their children and bringing others to faith in Jesus Christ. No matter where they live, these women are the God-ordained spiritual gatekeepers of their families. Even though the level of oppression that women face under Islam is unfathomable to many in non-Muslim nations, these brave women stop at nothing to share their faith.

The Doyles believe that women are a major reason why more Muslims than ever are coming to faith in Christ. Over the years they have discovered that once God sets a

Muslim woman free, she becomes an unstoppable force for God. Women Who Risk takes readers into Muslim homes in Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iran, and other hot spots to see the power of Christ at work



Halfway Herbert, by Francis Chan

Halfway Herbert never completes anything. Homework remains half done, his room stays only partly clean, and dinner is never finished. Halfway Herbert somehow gets by. But when he tells a half-truth, he learns the importance of honesty and of following God with all his heart. (Picture book)



Deep church: a third way beyond emerging and traditional, by Jim Belcher - 262.26 BEL

Deep Church author Jim Belcher, has been both an insider and an outsider to the Emerging Church movement. Now he brings the best insights of all sides to forge a third way. With appreciative critique, he explores the proposals of the emerging church leaders and provides constructive models of what this alternate deep church looks like - a missional church committed to both tradition and culture, valuing innovation in worship, arts, and community but also creeds and confessions. Plumb the depths of Christianity in a way that neither rejects our postmodern context nor capitulates to it. Instead of veering to the left or right, go beyond the extremes and go-deep.



Healing our broken humanity: practices for revitalizing the church and renewing the world, by Grace Ji-Sun Kim and Graham Hill - 261.8 KIM

We live in conflicted times. Our newsfeeds are filled with inequality, division, and fear. We want to make a difference and see justice restored because Jesus calls us to be a peacemaking and reconciling people. But how do we do this?

Based on their work with diverse churches, colleges, and other organizations, Grace Ji-Sun Kim and Graham Hill offer Christian practices that can bring healing and hope to a broken world. They provide ten ways to transform society, from lament and repentance to relinquishing power, reinforcing agency, and more. Embodying these practices enables us to be the new humanity in Jesus Christ, so the church and world can experience reconciliation, justice, unity, peace, and love.

Leadership Directory



PASTORAL TEAM (alphabetical order by last names)

(Abby Davidson is on parental leave)

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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>.

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What's Happening

Life in Spring Garden

Weekly

All Throughout the Week	LIFE GROUPS Connect for Community Together through bible study, prayer and sharing. Meet online and in-person. Please email emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca for more information or to join one. See more on page 12.	
Sundays	SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP Join us Sunday mornings as we go through different series' (read more). Join us at: www.springgardenchurch.ca/live or come in-person.	10am
	ESL BIBLE STUDY 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.	11:40am
Tuesdays	PASTORAL TEAM MEETING We meet mostly on Tuesday. Please pray for us for wisdom and inspiration.	10am - 12pm
Thursdays	MOMS' MEET UP (at Spring Garden) Mothers coming together for fellowship in a baby and kid friendly environment. Contact Emily at emilykielstra@springgardenchurch.ca	10am
1st and 3rd Thursdays	LUNCH-PRAYER-SHARE See page 15 Call Faith: 416 805-7529 or Email: faith.holwyn@gmail.com	12pm

What's Happening

Life in Spring Garden

Upcoming

Date	Event	Page
May 5	YOUTH: Watch Party	20
May 6	Willowdale Move-a-thon & BBQ	11
May 7	Small Group Sunday	12
May 7	Sr High Life Group	13
May 12	YOUTH: Craft Night	20
May 13	Single Mom's Mother's Day	12
May 17	Volunteering at Willowdale Manor	12
May 26-28	SGC Retreat: Spring Alive	13
May 31	Volunteering at Willowdale Manor	12
June 4	Annual Meeting	13
June 11	Bike Blessing and BBQ	13
July - Aug	SGC Day Camp	14

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.

