

**The Life & Work of  
Applewood United Church  
an Affirming Congregation**

*"Planting seeds -  
watching them grow."*

December 21, 2025  
Volume 16, Issue 16



***How to Contact Us***

Minister

**Rev. Joanne Hedge**

905-277-4162 ext 102

416-951-7911 (cell)

[minister@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:minister@applewoodunited.ca)

Music Director

**Christina Mulligan**

905-277-4162 ext 104

[christina@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:christina@applewoodunited.ca)

Office Administrator

**Jo-Anne Prentice**

905-277-4162 ext 101

[office@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:office@applewoodunited.ca)

Office hrs: Mon, Tues, 10 am—1 pm

Wed, Thu, Fri, 10 am—2 pm

Digital Media Technician

**Katrina Kite**

905-277-4162 (church office)

Treasurer

**Lori Coleman**

416-998-4782

[treasurer@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:treasurer@applewoodunited.ca)

Interac E-transfer

[treasurer@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:treasurer@applewoodunited.ca)

(no password needed)

Prayer Chain

**Anne Moore** 905-279-0557

[wmoore1321@rogers.com](mailto:wmoore1321@rogers.com)

**Joan Marshall** 905-273-9824

[andrewamarshall@sympatico.ca](mailto:andrewamarshall@sympatico.ca)

Community Visitor

**Leslie West** 905-990-2109

[leslieryan@rogers.com](mailto:leslieryan@rogers.com)



**Minister's Musings**

The special music of the season fills our church, our homes, even waiting rooms and retail establishments. Everyone I know has a favourite, whether it is a beloved carol like *Silent Night*, classical fare such as Tchaikovsky's score to *The Nutcracker* or excerpts from Handel's *Messiah*, or more recent additions like *White Christmas*, *Do You Hear What I Hear?* or *All I Want for Christmas is You*.

The music we share in this season of Advent and Christmas is important! It brings us joy, helps us to tell our faith story, helps us to celebrate but can also bring us into a deeper experience of worship. The cantata that the choir and friends will share during worship this Sunday will help to create what will likely be our best-attended service of the year.

We continue with music-centered worship in December, raising our voices with carols and songs that inspire, bring comfort, and spread joy. Let me know your favourites by email, or a quick call or text, and we'll see how many we can include in the services to come! May we all enjoy a music-filled Christmas!

*The minister and staff of  
Applewood United wish  
you all a safe, joyous and  
blessed Christmas and all  
the best for the New Year.*

*Rev. Joanne, Jo-Anne,  
Christina, Leslie, Katrina  
and Nancy*



There will be no AppleLog next week, December 28, but will return with a new edition on Friday, January 2. Office hours: closed on December 24 at 12 pm, December 25 and 26 and January 1.

**NEW**

## Worshipping with Applewood United - December 21 and 28

**UPDATE**

This Sunday, join us at Applewood or on ZOOM for a service celebrating the fourth Sunday of Advent including the Choir Cantata "Peace". On Sunday, December 28 we will sing carols and have hot chocolate in the sanctuary! An informal refreshment time will follow the service on December 21 if volunteers are available. If you are attending on ZOOM, a direct link will be emailed as an attachment on Friday, along with a copy of the service. To participate in the ZOOM worship over your telephone, call 647-374-4685 or 647-558-0588, and when asked enter this meeting ID: 827 5263 8086 and this Pass Code: 753101.

### December 21

**Co-host - Susan Eccles**  
**Announcer - Carol Culbert**  
**Reader - not required**

**Greeter - Joan Marshall**  
**Usher - Andrew Marshall**  
**Refreshments - Lynn Detcher and Lori Coleman**

**Sound - Wayne Detcher**  
**Tech - William Miller**

### December 24

**Co-host - tba**  
**Announcer - tba**  
**Readers - tba**

**Greeter - Ian Prentice**  
**Usher - Joanne Prentice**  
**Refreshments - not required**

**Sound - The Carruthers**  
**Tech - The Carruthers**

### December 28

**Co-host - tba**  
**Announcer - Lori Coleman**  
**Reader - Lori Coleman**

**Greeter - Lynn Detcher**  
**Usher - Sarah Moore**  
**Refreshments - Lori Coleman**

**Sound - Wayne Detcher**  
**Tech - Len Vantol**

## Meetings and Events - December 21 and 28

**UPDATE**

<b>Sunday</b>	December 21	10:30 am	Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love - Cantata
<b>Wednesday</b>	December 24	9:30 am	ZOOM Men's Group
		7:30 pm	Christmas Eve Worship with Communion
<b>Thursday</b>	December 25		<b>MERRY CHRISTMAS!</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	December 28	10:30 pm	First Sunday of Christmas – carols and hot chocolate!
<b>Wednesday</b>	December 31	9:30 am	ZOOM Men's Group—tba
<b>Thursday</b>	January 1		<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>

### Upcoming Worship Services

<b>Sunday, January 4</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	Epiphany with Communion Rev Joanne's last service before her medical leave
<b>Sunday, January 11</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	Regular Worship Service

**NEW**

**Congratulations to our Christmas present hunter from last week, Annemaria/Bryan Bakker.** Please contact Jo-Anne in the office to make arrangements for pick up. Thanks to all who participated and watch for another opportunity to win a Tim's gift card next month! **Merry Christmas!**

# News You Can Use

Please remember that announcements must be received by **Nancy Beatty** at [editor@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:editor@applewoodunited.ca) no later than 10 am on Wednesday so they can be included in the weekly AppleLog. Articles submitted must have the name of the contact person and may be edited for content and/or size.

Applewood has developed a **Media Policy** to ensure that the content included in all our media reflects our inclusive ministry. This policy was approved by our Executive and can be found on our [website](#). We encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with the policy as they submit future articles.

## Welcome to the Applewood United Church Community!

We are glad you are reading our newsletter! We gather on Sundays for hybrid worship, a combination of live + virtual participation (Zoom, when available). We work to stay connected via our [Facebook page](#), Instagram (applewoodunitedchurch), LED sign, telephone contact, visits, and delivery of materials to those without internet access. We are always looking for more ways to keep in touch! Please feel free to share this AppleLog, website links, contact information and any other documents we produce widely with friends or neighbours.

To access a written copy of our weekly services, or recordings of our services, please visit our website [www.applewoodunited.ca](http://www.applewoodunited.ca), and go to the Worship tab. You can choose 'Worship at home' for the written service, ZOOM recordings for the 'live' version. You can also call one of our friendly helpers, names and numbers listed on the last page of the AppleLog.

Our rooms and building are available for rental for special occasions and meetings. Please contact the office for more information and rates. [office@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:office@applewoodunited.ca)

## Christmas Eve Worship

NEW



Join us for carols, candlelight and communion in person or on ZOOM at 7:30 pm on December 24<sup>th</sup>.

This is an all-ages worship service – invite your friends, family and neighbours as we celebrate and share our Christmas story together. Rev Joanne

## Special Luncheon

NEW

Rev. Kathi Philips from Erin Mills United Church is retiring at the end of December, and a special luncheon to wish her well is being planned for after her final service on December 28<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Kathi enjoyed getting to know the Applewood UC family when she was our Pastoral Charge Supervisor during Rev. Joanne's medical leave in 2024, and would love to see members of the Applewood family at the event. An RSVP can be sent to [LCchair@emuc.ca](mailto:LCchair@emuc.ca) as soon as you are able.

## Sharing Christmas Greetings

UPDATE



Our Christmas greetings boxes are now in the Narthex, ready for your 'mail'. Don't forget to check the files for cards that might be addressed to you! Please 'file' any cards in alphabetical order - after the divider with the first letter of the recipient's last name. Any cards remaining after January 1 will be mailed through Canada Post. Rev. Joanne

NEW

## Lives in Transition

We hope this space in the AppleLog will allow the community to share news - joyful and sad - about their friends and family, former members of Applewood, or others who may be known in our faith community. Please send your notes to [editor@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:editor@applewoodunited.ca) by Wednesday morning each week. We will continue to inform you directly of deaths in the Applewood family when we have that information to share.

### Happy 80th Birthday Anne Moore!



Our Mum will be celebrating this special day on Sunday, December 21st. Let's shower her with love, laughter, and good wishes as she enjoys this milestone surrounded by family and friends. There will be cake! Catherine Ip, Sara and Jen Moore

It is with great sadness that we share the news of Roy Hick's peaceful death this week. Our prayers are with Roy's friends and family, especially his daughters Barbara and Shirley. Details regarding a celebration of Roy's life will be shared as they become available.

NEW

### Christmas Giving Envelope

It has been a tradition at Applewood that we include a **Christmas giving envelope** with the order of service to those who attend worship services. This year is no exception. The envelope will be included with your order of service on December 21 and 24. However, those on Zoom will not receive one of these special envelopes. We wish to appeal to all to support the church at this time of year with a special gift. Just note on your cheque or e-transfer that the gift is for Christmas. If not otherwise indicated, your gift will be split, 40% to the local church, 40% to Mission and Service, and 20% to the Benevolent Fund. Thank you in advance for your kind consideration.

Your Stewardship Team

Applewood Choir and Friends  
present

Peace

A Christmas Celebration

Sunday, December 21, 2025

10:30 am

Original and familiar carols are sure to inspire  
and warm your heart! You'll be singing along!

Applewood United Church, 2067 Stanfield Rd. Mississauga, ON 905-277-4162





## 2026 Canadian Church Calendars

**There are still calendars available for purchase!** The theme this year is "A New Heaven and a New Earth". The cost is \$10.00, same as last year! Please see Marguerite Porter in the hall on Sunday. Don't miss out!



**FOOD  
BANKS**  
MISSISSAUGA

Join our 2025 Holiday Drive to provide healthy and appropriate food to neighbours facing food insecurity.

By making a special gift today, you will ensure families across Mississauga can spend the holidays making memories around the table, instead of worrying where their next meal is coming from.

[\*\*DONATE NOW\*\*](#)



## Gifts with Vision

This holiday season, choose meaningful gifts from the comfort of your home, choose [Gifts with Vision](#). Support Mission and Service partners and their projects around the world. It's a simple, impactful way to spread joy and make a lasting difference. The United Church of Canada



## Men's Coffee Group

Wednesdays @ 9:45 am via ZOOM

Contact the church office - 905-277-4162 or [office@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:office@applewoodunited.ca)



## Applewood Playgroup

Join us for Applewood Playgroup on Thursdays, from 9:30—11:30 am. All are welcome! Our last day before the Christmas holidays will be December 18 and we will return on January 8, 2026.

Annemaria Bakker

## Knitting Circle



Knitting Circle will return on Thursday, January 8, 2026 at 10:00 am.



## Shooting at Hanukkah Event Denounced; Prayers for all Jewish Communities

*God of life and hope, console all who mourn.  
May they feel the comfort of your presence.*

*For those overwhelmed by fear,  
grant your peace and the assurance of community solidarity.*

*May we resist the forces that exploit, dehumanize, and marginalize, and defend the dignity of every human being.*

*Let fierce love combat hate, and violence be overcome, so your light of peace shines ever bright. We pray to the Holy who has many names. Amen.*

As the death toll continues to mount from the horrific shooting at Bondi Beach in Australia, we continue in prayer for the dead, grieving family members, communities, and those recovering, as well as the first responders, health workers, and all who were witness to this event, described as terrorism by the Australian police.

We lift prayers at this holy time for the whole of the Jewish community in Australia, globally, and here in Canada, recognizing the fear communities feel as they continue to mark the Hanukkah season—a festival of light, resilience, and hope. Read the [full news story](#).

*The United Church of Canada E-ssentials - December 16, 2025*



## Computer Help



If you need help accessing ZOOM, our 'Worship at Home' links, or our website, please call one of the volunteers below. They are 'standing by' to help! Rev Joanne

Erin Doherty (evenings) 647-209-1677 - Jo-Anne Prentice 905-272-4424

Anne Moore 905-279-0557 - Christina Miller 416-436-9234

Len Vantol 905-823-0574 - Blair Carruthers 905-275-5724/647-609-5723



### Donations to the Church by Interac e-Transfer

Go to the Interac transfer feature on your financial institution's website, enter [treasurer@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:treasurer@applewoodunited.ca) in the recipient box and follow directions.

There may be a small charge for this service, depending on your bank plan.

**The AppleLog is published weekly.** It is available on our website and is emailed and distributed in paper form by request to members and adherents of Applewood United Church, 2067 Stanfield Road, Mississauga, L4Y 1R4, 905-277-4162, [www.applewoodunited.ca](http://www.applewoodunited.ca).

**Editor:** Nancy Beatty, [editor@applewoodunited.ca](mailto:editor@applewoodunited.ca)

**Proofreaders:** Lynda Kudrewatych, Rev Joanne Hedge, Jo-Anne Prentice and Ian Prentice

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