

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

*“Planting seeds -
watching them grow.”*

January 18, 2026
Volume 16, Issue 19



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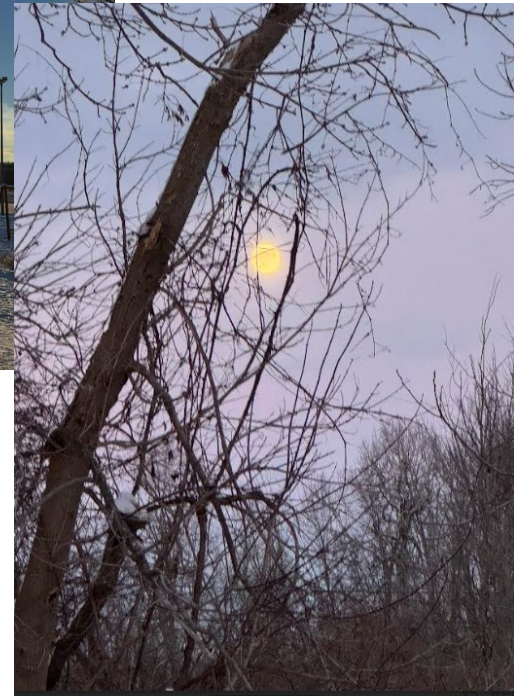
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Sunrise in Helsinki ,Finland on
January 11 at 8:05 am



Moonrise in Perth, Ontario on
January 2 at 4:48 pm

Sophie Cook

“A picture’s worth a thousand words” - the Minister’s Musings will once again be replaced with photos – from you! Pictures of the changing seasons, pictures of something warm—or cold! Pictures of something new or soothingly old, a special place you have visited or a special time in your lives are all welcome, with a few words of explanation. Submissions can be sent to [Nancy](#).

The early bird gets the worm – or the \$10 Tim Horton’s gift card! Hidden throughout the AppleLog this week are **snowflakes**, ready for you to discover as you read. The first person to find them all – and contact our AppleLog editor [Nancy Beatty](#) with the correct number - will be the winner! This is our thanks to the congregation for continuing to read and learn about the news at Applewood UC! The winner will be announced in next week’s AppleLog.

Worshipping with Applewood United - January 18

UPDATE

This Sunday, join us at Applewood or on ZOOM for worship led by Rev. Alison Nicholson. An informal refreshment time will follow the service 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.

Co-host - Erin Doherty
Announcer - Marilyn Newell
Reader - Marilyn Newell

Greeter - Bryan Bakker
Usher - Andrew Miller
Refreshments -

Sound - The Carruthers
Tech - The Carruthers

Meetings and Events - January 18

UPDATE

Sunday	January 18	10:30 am	Second Sunday after Epiphany - Rev Alison Nicholson
Monday	January 19	7:00 pm	Outreach Committee Meeting (P)
Wednesday	January 21	9:45 am	ZOOM Men's Group
Thursday	January 22	9:30 am	Applewood Playgroup (AGCH)
		10:00 am	Knitting Circle (P)
		7:00 pm	Choir Practice (P)

Upcoming Worship Services

Sunday, January 25	10:30 am	Third Sunday after Epiphany - Rev Alison Nicholson
Sunday, February 1	10:30 am	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany with Communion Rev Alison Nicholson
Sunday, February 8	10:30 am	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany - Rev Alison Nicholson

Emergency Pastoral Care

These local ministers have offered to provide EMERGENCY pastoral care while Rev. Joanne is on her restorative care leave. Please contact the office if you have any questions, or to share concerns.

January 9 - 16 Rev. Irene Ty Westminster United Church
irenety888@gmail.com 647-997-1378

January 17 - 29 Rev. Heather Weaver-Ortiz, Christ First UC
revheather@christfirst.ca 289-783-6313

January 30 - February 12 and February 18 - 20 Rev. Trevor Brisbin St. Stephen's on the Hill UC
trevor@ststephensuc.ca 905-278-9245

February 13 - 17 and February 21 - March 8 Rev. Joe Hopkins Streetsville United Church
revjoehopkins@streetsvilleunited.ca 905-826-1542 x2 (office), 647-200-7317 (cell)



News You Can Use

Please remember that announcements must be received by **Nancy Beatty** at 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, 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

A message from Rev. Alison



On Tuesday, I attended, as a member, the meeting of the congregational support commission of regional council. What is Congregational Support? The commission is primarily responsible for the relationship between communities of faith and the region and their partnership on matters requiring a decision by both the community of faith and the regional council. This can include the articulation of ministry and mission; the use of financial property resources; local governance; and the overall health and well-being of communities of faith.

As a member, I may be asked to supervise a congregation during the time when a minister has had a change of call, and the congregation is in the call process. Recently at Sheridan United Church, I represented the commission during an exciting time when the congregation was announcing a new call to the charge. Our members are also present to provide support during the close of a pastoral charge. I joined the commission in September 2025, and listening around the table, I am struck with the commitment, compassion and extensive knowledge of the members. We have met with a number of churches passionate about preserving their ministry through visioning future possibilities and also congregations that seek a future by letting go of a building to amalgamate or rent space in another building. The conversations are inspiring to hear how God is working through the church to meet the times we are facing as the wider body of the United Church. I invite you as a congregation to reflect on who you are as a congregation as you prepare for what lies ahead and how you will honour the ministry that has served you faithfully. Know that I am present with you at this time, and I am aware of your fears, anxieties and hopefulness for the future. Know too, we are not alone. May we value this time and these spaces, to breathe, reflect, communicate and pray. Shalom Alison

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 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.



January Dates of Significance



January 17 - Raoul Wallenberg Day



Raoul Gustaf Wallenberg was a Swedish architect, businessman, diplomat, and humanitarian. He saved tens of thousands of Jews in German-occupied Hungary during the Holocaust from German Nazis and Hungarian fascists during the later stages of World War II. While serving as Sweden's special envoy in Budapest between July and December 1944, Wallenberg issued protective passports (the Schutz-Pass featuring the symbols and colours of Sweden) and sheltered Jews in safe houses. He disappeared on January 17th, 1945 – dying several years later in a Soviet prison.

In 1985, Canada named Mr. Wallenberg its first honorary citizen, and in 2001, the government designated January 17th as Raoul Wallenberg Day, to honour his bravery and humanism. In 2013, a commemorative Canadian stamp was produced to recognize his heroic story.

The Toronto Holocaust Museum offers their annual film showing on January 18th to reflect on Wallenberg and others who risked themselves to save others. This year's film "The Future Awaits" shares the story of 13-year-old Tauba, hiding in a Paris attic, and her strength and resilience while she awaits the liberation of Paris.

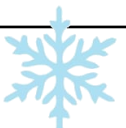
January 19 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day



A Federal holiday In the United States, Martin Luther King Jr. Day is always on the third Monday of January. People are encouraged to "reflect on the principles of racial equality and nonviolent social change espoused by Dr. King" according to the Congress of Racial Equality.

We remember Martin Luther King Jr. as an important leader in the civil rights movement and a great social activist. He campaigned against racial inequality through nonviolent resistance. His most famous speech was "I have a dream" and, at thirty-five, he was the youngest man to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. He was assassinated in 1968. As he said, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Continued on page 5



January Dates of Significance continued

NEW

January 21 - Lincoln Alexander Day



On November 28th, 2013, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario declared January 21st of each year Lincoln Alexander Day, citing Alexander's life as "an example of service, determination, and humility. Always fighting for equal rights for all races in our society, and doing so without malice, he changed attitudes and contributed greatly to the inclusiveness and tolerance of Canada today." On January 21, 2015, Lincoln Alexander Day was observed across Canada for the first time.

A 1.6 times life size bust of Alexander who was the first black Canadian Member of Parliament representing Hamilton West (1961-1980), black Federal Cabinet minister (Minister of Labour in 1979) and black Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario (1985-1991), was unveiled in a public ceremony at Queen's Park on January 21, 2024. Designed and sculpted by Toronto artist Quentin VerCetty, Alexander's commemorative bust along with some memorabilia has been installed in the Ontario Legislative Building at Queen's Park, where it will be displayed for public tours and educational programs.

Born in 1922 in Toronto, Alexander experienced the prejudice of the era but saw education as vital to his success. He moved to Hamilton after serving in the Royal Canadian Air Force during the Second World War and attended McMaster University and Osgoode Hall Law School. He became a barrister and solicitor in several Hamilton firms. In 1991, when his term of office was up, Alexander accepted a post as Chancellor of the University of Guelph, where he served an unprecedented five terms. In 2000, Alexander was appointed chair of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation, an organization dedicated to ending racism and racial discrimination in Canada. To the end of his life, he continued to be an active spokesperson on race relations and veteran affairs.

Submitted by Sophie Cook



From the Affirming Committee

NEW



If you haven't yet heard about the TV series entitled Heated Rivalry (based on the Game Changer book series by Rachel Reid) please consider checking it out. Many people feel this series is opening up discussions that may lead to changes within hockey culture. For past hockey players Matt Kenny and Brock McGillis, it meant validating their true identities and a hope for inclusion in hockey. Please read more [here](#).

Submitted by Christina Miller

Rev. Irene Ty shared the following need on behalf of a United Church clergy: "A United Church female minister new to Mississauga area is looking for a one-bedroom apartment for rent starting March 1. Preferred location: South of 401. Budget: Under \$1700. Contact: chenyunus@yahoo.com"



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 contact Jo-Anne in the office. Don't miss out!

United Church and Latin American Partners Condemn US Actions in Venezuela



The United Church of Canada condemns the recent U.S. military attack on Venezuela and the reported kidnapping of President Nicolás Maduro and his wife, calling it a clear violation of international law and the UN Charter. Church partners across Latin America, the Caribbean, and the global ecumenical community have expressed alarm, rejecting military aggression and affirming peace, justice, and national sovereignty as core ethical commitments. The United Church has also criticized the Canadian government for failing to explicitly condemn the attack.

In response, Canadian civil society organizations have sent an open letter urging federal leaders to oppose these actions and uphold international law. Lend your voice by contacting your Member of Parliament, Foreign Affairs Minister, and the Prime Minister. Full statements, partner responses, and supporting documents are available in the [downloads section](#) in the latest [news story](#).

The United Church of Canada E-ssentials - January 13, 2026



Men's Coffee Group

Wednesdays @ 9:45 am via ZOOM

Contact the church office - 905-277-4162 or office@applewoodunited.ca



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 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.

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