

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

*“Planting seeds -
watching them grow.”*

May 24, 2026
Volume 16, Issue 37



The AppleLog

Your Weekly Guide to What's Happening at Applewood United Church

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Minister's Musings

The May long weekend is over, and so now it is time to uncover my flower beds to see what plants (and creatures) are thriving this year. Despite the deep snow covering what seem like delicate branches, the purple sand cherry in my front garden bloomed beautifully and fragrantly. The anise hyssop is growing as well, now exposed to the sun after its leafy and snowy winter covering, and my coneflower plants are looking particularly vigorous this year.



I have stated many times that I am not much of a gardener and I definitely choose native plants for my garden spaces because they can thrive with little input from me! They are also often good pollinators or at least meant to thrive in our area. I feel lucky that there is a growing number of resources to help me choose the 'right' plants for my spaces, including one I just found recently, called [Pollinator Partnership Canada](#) which helped me to generate a list of native plants that might suit my little garden spaces.

Tending my gardens gives me a serene kind of joy – a deep feeling of connectedness with both what grows and with what thrives because of what is growing. My 'tending' is sometimes just pulling a few weeds and admiring the leaves or blossoms or watching the visiting bees and bunnies and small birds. Some of the plants spread beyond the garden, like the hyssop coming up along the edge of my driveway, or the columbine popping up in the lawn, and I am always surprised by this sign of vitality and endurance.



As I plan my retirement, I like to imagine I will spend more time in the garden. Perhaps not to plant or expand, but perhaps to just have a bit more time to observe, to talk to the bees, to wonder at the return of buds and blossoms each year, to breathe in the serenity. God is present there – in the new life that returns, in the thickening of branches and in the deepening of roots each season, in the glorious colours of blossoms and the diverse greens of each leaf. Thanks be to God for all the gardens and gardeners in our lives!

Worshipping with Applewood United - May 24

UPDATE

This Sunday, join us at Applewood or on ZOOM for worship celebrating Pentecost with 'the band'. You are invited to wear red or 'flame' colours. 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 - Sophie Cook
Reader - John Spence

Greeter - Jean Huntsman
Usher - Jan Pelletterio
Refreshments -

Sound - Michael Borlace
Tech - William Miller

Meetings and Events - Week of May 24

UPDATE

| | | | |
|------------------|--------|----------|----------------------------|
| Sunday | May 24 | 10:30 am | Pentecost with the band |
| Wednesday | May 27 | 9:45 am | ZOOM Men's Group |
| Thursday | May 28 | 9:30 am | Applewood Playgroup (AGCH) |
| | | 10:00 am | Knitting Circle (P) |
| | | 7:00 pm | Choir practice (P) |

Upcoming Worship Services

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Sunday, May 31 | 10:30 am | Trinity Sunday |
| Sunday, June 7 | 10:30 am | Annual Congregational Meeting |
| Sunday, June 14 | 10:30 am | Pride Sunday |
| Sunday, June 21 | 10:30 am | Indigenous Day of Prayer |
| Sunday, June 28 | 10:30 am | Rev. Joanne's last Sunday at Applewood |

Upcoming Events

- **Friday, May 29, 1:30 - 3:00 pm**, Minister's Spring Tea. All welcome! See page 3.
- **Saturday, May 30 - 8:00 pm and Sunday, May 31 - 3:00 pm**, St Matthew's Catholic Church, Oakville. Experience the electrifying power of **Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*** in a truly extraordinary community collaboration. See page 7.
- **Sunday, May 31 after worship**, The Affirming Committee will be hosting its last pre-summer Lunch and Learn in the parlour, during which we will show a 22-minute documentary film entitled ***Finding Peter Bryce***. See page 4.



This coming Sunday, May 24th, we observe Pentecost with special prayers, lively music, and bright colours. You are invited to wear red or other 'flame' colours this Sunday, share in blowing some bubbles or a pinwheel, wave a brightly coloured cloth or other 'props' as we share the story and celebrate the Holy Spirit. There will also be an opportunity to receive a blessing and laying on of hands to honour the 'seal of the Spirit' that many of us would have received at our baptisms. Contact Rev. Joanne for more information and see you on Sunday!

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



On Sunday, May 31st there will be prayers and recognition for folk who have recently decided to join Applewood United Church formally. Some of these new members have been part of our community for years, others are more recent adherents, and we celebrate with them all as we share our common faith. For the full list of new members, or to add your name to those joining, please contact Rev. Joanne.

Minister's Spring Tea



You are invited to join us on Friday afternoon, May 29, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm for a special Spring Tea. Music, games, goodies, and of course tea and coffee provided. All are welcome! RSVP to the office if you know you are able to attend.
Rev. Joanne

Downsizing

As Rev. Joanne prepares for retirement, she is working to find new homes for some of her books and other items that have been part of her ministry here at Applewood.

If you are interested in a book or some other memento of her time here, please contact her, or watch for items that need to be 're-housed' to be displayed.



Celebrate the ministry of Reverend Joanne Hedge

Sunday, June 28th at 12:30 pm
in the Ann Graham Community Hall

A light lunch will be served

Kindly **RSVP** to the church office
905-277-4162 or office@applewoodunited.ca

Do you have a fond memory or story to share; know a musical selection that is a favourite of Reverend Joanne? There will be a limited opportunity to offer these gifts during the gathering. If you are interested, please speak to Christina Mulligan.

Come and wish Reverend Joanne a



Lunch and Learn Film and Discussion - May 31



Your Affirming Committee will be hosting its last pre-summer Lunch and Learn after worship on May 31st in the parlour, during which we will show a 22-minute documentary film entitled ***Finding Peter Bryce***. Peter Bryce was Ontario's first Chief of Public Health, and in the early 20th Century, as the medical officer with oversight responsibilities for Canada's Residential School system, he identified the shortcomings of the system's response to widespread malnutrition and tuberculosis, and was subsequently relieved of his duties. In 1922 Bryce published *Story of a National Crime*, describing the tragic consequences of senior government officials willful neglect of the epidemics and Bryce's recommendations. Brian McIntosh will lead a brief discussion about truth and reconciliation following the film.

Plan to join us for this learning event by signing the registration sheet on the bulletin board outside the hall, so we know how many are coming and can prepare adequately for lunch.

Submitted by Brian McIntosh on behalf of the Affirming Committee

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.

June is Pride Month !!!!!

Join our fellow affirming ministries in Mississauga in support of the 2S/LGBTQIA+ community. Attend a Pride flag raising in Mississauga.

Two Opportunities - Pride Flag Raising

- ☐ June 1 at Noon in Celebration Square, City Centre Dr. Reception follows.
- ☐ June 10 am at Peel Region Police Headquarters, 7150 Mississauga Rd.
- ☐ Speaker and fundraiser lunch follows.

Participating Congregations

- Applewood UC
- Christ First UC
- Eden UC
- Erin Mills UC
- Meadowvale Community Church



Speak to your Affirming Team for details.



May Dates of Significance

NEW

May 22 - International Day for Biological Diversity

Biodiversity means the existence of a wide variety of plant and animal species in their natural environments. Today, over one million plant and animal species are being threatened with extinction. Three-quarters of the land-based environment and about 66% of the marine environment have been significantly altered by human actions.



The theme for 2026, “Acting locally for global impact”, recognizes that people at the local level whether as individuals, local authorities and organizations, or business and financial groups can plan and implement sustainable development and protections to ensure planet earth and its ecosystems remains healthy. This day is an urgent reminder that we are all dependent on healthy and vibrant ecosystems to face the challenges of changing climate, health issues, food and water security and sustainable livelihoods.

Submitted by Sophie Cook



Applewood United Church Foster Child Brenda Mirayla Lopez Alonzo



Brenda turned 13 years old on May 5 and lives with her parents and younger brother and sister. Her mother is a housewife and her father is a subsistence farmer. They grow corn for their own consumption which is made into tortillas. They are Catholic, speak Spanish and live in Jalapa, Guatemala.

She attends primary school which takes less than 30 minutes to reach. Her favorite activity is math. Brenda has completed all her basic vaccinations, is healthy and has not suffered from any serious illness. The nearest health facility is about a half an hour away.

The family's main source of water is a well that is close by. Brenda and her parents live in a house made of adobe with a metal roof and earth floor. They use wood for cooking and there is a latrine nearby with a flushing toilet.

It's that time of year where our continuing support for our foster child Brenda Mirayla Lopez Alonzo is needed. There will be a display table set up in the AGCH after worship on Sunday June 7th for you to make a donation. If you cannot make it to church that day you may send an e-transfer, mail or drop off a cheque made out to Applewood United Church with the words foster child in the memo.

Thank you, Leslie West on behalf of the Outreach Committee

Applications Invited for Trip to Woodland Cultural Centre (WCC) and Mohawk Institute former Residential School

At a lunch and learn late last year your Affirming Committee discussed organizing a daytrip to the Woodland Cultural Centre, the former Mohawk Institute Residential School, in Brantford, Ontario. We since expanded the idea, and the 3 cooperating Regional Councils in southwestern Ontario are now inviting applications to go on a group tour on Tuesday, September 8th. All United Church people are eligible to apply by May 30th.

Here's the relevant announcement circulated widely earlier this week:

Each of the three Regional Councils has 20 spots for United Church people to participate in this unique tour on Sept 8, 2026, and will be providing a bag lunch and transportation via bus or van pickups at central locations (locations TBD; they will be within 2 hours of Brantford). Some cost (\$20-\$60) to participants, spaces are limited; apply before May 30th. Here is the link for the registration: [Click for Information and to apply.](#)

Submitted by Brian McIntosh on behalf of the Affirming Committee and as Chair of the Tour Planning Committee





with special guests
Bach Elgar Choir
Georgetown Bach Chorale
Oakville Choir for Children and Youth



Featuring Grammy Award-winning Baritone Kevin McMillan
Clodagh Earls, Soprano | Chris Fischer, Tenor

Saturday, May 30th, 2026 at 8 pm

Sunday May 31st, 2026 at 3 pm

St. Matthew Catholic Church
1150 Monks Passage, Oakville



\$35 Adult | \$30 Senior
FREE Tickets for 30 Years of Age and Under

Tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/o/masterworks-of-oakville-4306527137>
or contact us a info@masterworksofoakville.ca

FLOWER DECO

Adult
LIFESTYLE
Communities

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INCUBATOR

OAKVILLE
ARTS COUNCIL

OAKVILLE

SolidSmith Management
www.solidsmith.com

Submitted by Brian McIntosh, a member of Masterworks of Oakville Chorus & Orchestra



United Church Raises Alarm Over Bill C-12 Risks to Refugee Communities in Canada



The United Church of Canada has urgent concerns about the implementation of Bill C-12, warning that refugee claimants—including families with young children—are being denied hearings and placed at risk of deportation without adequate protection. Through partnerships with migrant justice and refugee advocacy organizations, the church is hearing growing concern from communities across the country about the impacts of the legislation. The United Church is calling for the repeal of Bill C-12, or immediate amendments to ensure all current applicants have access to a fair hearing and protection from removal while their cases are unresolved.

[Contact your local Member of Parliament](#) and help raise awareness of this issue in your community. [Read the full story](#) and take action.

The United Church of Canada E-ssentials - May 19, 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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