

October 9, 2016

Thanksgiving Sunday

October 30, 2016

Reformation Sunday

Melrose Muse

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Psalms 118: 24 – This is the day which the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Please refer to www.melroseunited.ca
for this month's activity calendar.

Minute for Mission: Overwhelmed with Gratitude

The Rev. Melody Duncanson Hales, Mission & Service Animator for Manitou Conference, reflects on getting to share her ministry with many congregations.

“My name is Melody, and I am your minister.” This is the way I introduce myself in Manitou Conference. I serve The United Church of Canada in northeastern Ontario and northwestern Quebec in the area of Mission and Stewardship animation. I am a minister for 60 pastoral charges, from Hornepayne, Ontario, to Val d’Or, Quebec, from Kapuskasing to Manitoulin Island.

On paper, my “job description” seems detailed and overwhelming. In any given week, I might lead worship and learn with a congregation about stewardship, meet with church leaders to plan their annual giving program, facilitate a conversation about refugee sponsorship and overseas partnership, resource a group concerned about environmental protection, share the stories of our Mission & Service, and pray with a youth group on retreat.

I love this church, this place, and these people. I am the churches’ cheerleader: listening, encouraging, and telling their stories of hope and generosity wherever and whenever I can. Good Friday moments in saying goodbye to ministries, resurrection moments in celebrating new ministries – these are part of it all, and what a privilege to be a witness!

We are thankful for our generous gifts for Mission & Service, allowing those in ministry to see the gospel being made real all over Manitou and across the church.

Loving God, we are called to be your colours in the world, to walk with each other, to share in love through our gifts for Mission & Service. Guide us to shine brightly in the world. Amen

<http://www.united-church.ca/oct-9-minute-overwhelmed-gratitude>

TGIF Updates:

Plan to join us on **October 28 @ Melrose for an evening of fun. There will be a potluck. There will be candy. There will be games. There will even be costumes.**
October 28 @ 6:30pm



Santa's Breakfast

Yes, we are aware that it is only October. Don't worry – this is just a save the date! Santa is a very busy man! Mark your calendars:
December 3 @ 9:00am



Thanksgiving Sunday

On Sunday October 9 the children will be making cookies to share with the congregation during the service as a way to say thanks for all of their support. If you like cookies plan to attend.

More Important News

Thursday's are for fun!

Every Thursday evening plan to join us for an hour of fun play and music. From 6:00-6:30 we will have organized open gym time followed by music with our church's choir director from 6:30-7:00. A snack will be provided at the start of the hour. All ages welcome however if under the age of 6 parental accompaniment is required.

Advent Play: Do you want to be involved?

With the help and expertise of Gillian Webster plans are moving ahead for a special presentation. If you would like to be involved let Michelle know. All ages welcome.

A devotional for your day:

Read: [Luke 17:11-19](#)

How often do we forget to say, 'Thank You'? Just two little words that say so much. Imagine what it would feel like to give a present to someone, but all they did was grab it and rip the wrapping off without as much as a 'thank you'. That's how God must feel when we don't say thank you to Him. But there is so much to be thankful for if we'd only stop and look. Here are just a few ways we can say thank you to God each day:

- Each morning thank Him for the new day.
- Thank Him for the little things so often missed throughout the day.
- Thank Him for answered prayers.
- Thank Him for all He's yet to do in your life.
- Thank Him for the simple fact that He loves you.
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Every little thing you have in your life is a blessing from God and something to be thankful for. If you take some time to think about all you have, you'll be surprised at how much there is to be thankful for – because it's not about how much you have or don't have. You may have very little worldly possessions, but still have much to be thankful for. God loves it when we have thankful hearts and will honour that. He looks at the heart, not the outward circumstances. So give God the thanks He deserves.

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In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. - [1 Thessalonians 5:18](#) (NKJV)

Lord, I pray I'll always have
A thankful attitude
And see your blessings every day
With a heart of gratitude

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Upcoming Sunday School Lessons:

October 2: Super-Heroes of the Bible - Jonah

October 9: Thanksgiving and cookie making

October 16: Super-Heroes of the Bible – Joshua

October 23: Super-Heroes of the Bible – Noah

October 30: Super-Heroes of the Bible – Miriam

Youth Connexion

October dates:

October 1 – Westdale United

October 15 – Melrose United

October 29 – MacNeil Baptist

Each evening runs from 5:30-7:30 pm and begins with a light dinner for the youth.

Youth Connexion is a fun interdenominational youth group formed through a partnership of West Hamilton Churches and McMaster University. Open to youth in grades 5-8.

Nursery:

Please note that while there is not always regular coverage in the nursery caregivers are always welcome to access it during church programs.