

Social Action Spotlight: Housing Equity For All Have you seen what happens when a home has an unlevel foundation? Walls and floors separate. Concrete cracks. Load-bearing walls tilt. It does not feel safe and secure. For some, this is what it looks like to try to access secure and adequate housing. Systemic housing inequity is the result of many factors, including racism, economic disparity and access to education, employment and income. As a result, racialized and Indigenous communities, people with disabilities, woman-led single parent families, lone seniors and people experiencing domestic violence or human trafficking face much higher levels of housing insecurity. These factors are far beyond the control of any one person or family and point to a broken, unlevel societal foundation where housing is treated as a commodity instead of a necessity. Without secure housing, human health suffers and social and economic wellbeing diminish. Attaining housing equity for all requires that we reframe how we think about housing: a safe and adequate home is a right for all people. As a society, we are collectively responsible for building a level and just foundation so that no one faces housing insecurity. There are steps we can take to advocate for this just foundation.

- Advocate that elected officials approach housing as a human right, combined with appropriate benefits and services that are trauma-informed, culturally appropriate and reflective of the diverse lived experiences of those most vulnerable to housing insecurity to adequately address systemic barriers to affordable housing.
- Get involved and support cooperative and/or social housing initiatives in your community. Work to ensure that these initiatives are actually meeting the needs of those in your community who live with housing insecurity.

MISSION MOMENT: On World Humanitarian Day, we honour countless individuals who have dedicated themselves to making a difference in the lives of others. Humanitarian work is often challenging, and those undertaking it face many risks, yet they continue to work tirelessly, motivated to help others and improve the world. From PWS&D partners who deliver food, water, and other essential supplies to those who work without respite to rebuild communities after disasters, humanitarian workers play a crucial role in ensuring the well-being of those in need. We also recognize the need for sustained support and investment in humanitarian efforts to address the root causes of human-made crises and provide lasting solutions for those in need. On World Humanitarian Day, let us recognize humanitarian workers and renew our commitment to supporting their vital work.



PCC Daily Prayer - We give thanks for all who give their time and talent to the church throughout the year in big and small ways.



Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Monday – Thursday
 111 Elmwood Avenue E., London, Ontario N6C 1J4
 Phone: 519-438-3492 Hall: 519-438-3491
 Email: contact@elmwoodchurch.ca
 Website: www.elmwoodchurch.ca



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Community



Caring

Christ



Lost Sheep
and Faithful
Dogs
Sunday



Sunday, August 20, 2023

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton

Today's Worship Leader: Anita Evans

Music Director: Bonnie Neaves

Organist Emeritus: Bert Van der Hoek, ARCCO

Welcome!

Our mission as a congregation, with the Holy Spirit as our guide, is to share the good news of Jesus Christ in the world, and to fulfill our responsibilities to God and our neighbours.

An offering can be made in one of the offering plates upon entering or leaving.

*If able, please stand where indicated with an * asterisk.*

Prelude: Sheep May Safely Graze; Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring J.S. Bach

Flute: Mary Ann McDowell

Words of Welcome and Announcements

We Gather To Worship God

Lighting of the Worship Candle

*Call to Worship

*Hymn: **And can it be that I should gain**

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Prayer of Adoration and Confession

L: Lord, have mercy upon us

P: Christ, have mercy upon us

L: Lord, have mercy upon us

Prayer for the Day

P: Amen

Assurance of Pardon
Passing of the Peace
L: The Peace of Christ be with you all
P: And also with you

*Hymn: **We are God's people**

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Hear the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading: **Isaiah 56:1; 6-8** (pgs. 795-r, 719-w, 599-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

Responsive Psalm: **67**

***Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.*

Romans 11:1-2a; 29-32 (pgs. 1215-r, 1099-w, 921-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

St. Matthew 15:10-28, (pgs. 1052-r, 949-w, 796-NRSV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

*Hymn: **Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts**

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Sermon

Solo: Reflection & Intonation on 'Beach Spring'

Anne Krentz Organ

Flute: Mary Ann McDowell

We Respond in Faith and Service

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

L: Lord, in your mercy

P: Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer (debts)

*Hymn: **God who gives to life its goodness**

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*Commissioning and Benediction


Choral Amen

Postlude: Holy Manna

arr. Brian Henkelmann

Flute: Mary Ann McDowell

 Our thanks to flutist, Mary Ann McDowell for enriching our worship service this morning with her musical gifts!

 **Stewardship Moment:** It is more blessed to give than to receive

Acts 20:35



Welcome Visitors! - Thank you for worshipping with us today, at Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church. You have enriched our community and we hope the service held meaning and beauty for you. Please feel free to remain after the worship service and join us on the front lawn, weather permitting for refreshments. You may wish to visit us on the web at www.elmwoodchurch.ca to learn more about us and what opportunities are available for personal spiritual growth and service to others. If you are not an involved member of a faith community, but seeking one, we invite you to return here any Sunday for worship and fellowship.

If you would like to speak to the minister, or have him visit, you are very welcome to be in touch with him. Please contact the church office 519-438-3492 or email afullerton@elmwoodchurch.ca



This morning, we welcome back Anita Evans and thank her for leading us in worship. Anita decided to realize a long-term calling to ordained ministry. She has completed studies at Huron University College and Knox College, has been certified to seek ordination, and at this time is actively seeking a call to a congregation. As an accomplished flutist and musician, she can also be heard on several CDs produced by the choir of Oakridge Presbyterian Church.

Vacation: Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton is currently away until August 29.
Pastoral Emergencies: August 5 – 28, contact Rev. Keith McKee at St. George's Presbyterian Church, phone 519-455-5760 or email stgeorge@execulink.com



For the London Chaplaincy - It's that time of year again when the children are eagerly looking forward to outdoor activities. The intensity of the sun can be injurious to our skin so we are asking for donations of children's sunscreen. This is SPF 30 or higher.

London Chaplaincy works hard to curate high-quality summer programs for low-income children and youth and create equitable access to enriching summer opportunities. To run these programs, our fundraising goal is \$20,000. You can support this critical summer season by:

- Donating through your offering envelope marked London Chaplaincy
 - Donating online via Canada Helps at www.canadahelps.org and search "London Community Chaplaincy"
 - Donating a gift-in-kind of breakfast foods (i.e. cereal, peanut butter, jam)
 - Volunteering as a camp driver, please call our office: 519-685-2771
- Thank you!*

Today is Food Bank Sunday - Please leave your donations in the basket located in the Narthex. Thank you!

Fall Bazaar / Food Fare – Scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2023

While you are enjoying your summer vacation, please remember to work on your knitting, crafts and preserves etc. **We need your help and your support will be greatly appreciated.** If you need jars...a large selection of sizes stored downstairs in the church's youth room. Help yourself!