



## Meetings

### Today

**Sun. 11 am – Confirmation Class** (1.5 hours).

### This Week

**Thu. 11:00 am – Midweek Connection** – Zoom/phone meeting for fellowship.

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## Announcements

**Thank you from the Tapscotts** - to all our friends at Streetsville United who sent cards and messages following the passing of John's mother, Betty. We greatly appreciated your kind and thoughtful words. Betty very much enjoyed the warmth and friendship of the Streetsville congregation on her visits here. Blessings to all, Rev. John, Adelaide and Julie.

**Summer Tidings** – Please send submissions for Tidings to Kelly by Mon. June 6. Pictures are welcome!

**Harvest of Crafts Sale - Save the Date!** The Harvest of Crafts Sale is returning! **Saturday October 29 from 9:30 – 3 pm**. This will be a new and revised format for these times. We look forward to seeing you again!

We are also collecting the jam jars used over the last 2 years. These are the 250 ml size that require 2 piece sealing lids. They may be dropped off in the Fellowship Lounge

**Eden Food for Change Donations** - Please bring your non-perishable donations to the church and place in the bin in the Narthex.

**Tech Team Volunteers needed!** Help is needed to add to our team of volunteers who run the sound/video board for Sunday services each week. If you think you could offer your time during a service, even occasionally, or have any questions, please email the office at [info@streetsvilleunited.ca](mailto:info@streetsvilleunited.ca) Training will be provided.

## Sunday School

**This Week's Sunday School Activities – Claims of Freedom.** Here is a story of freedom. While we may be tempted to focus solely on the freedom brought to Paul and Silas from prison, there are other freedoms: freedom from slavery for the girl; freedom into new life for the jailer and family; freedom that challenges slavery and all systems of exploitation. We may grow discouraged but there is no constraining the spirit of the risen Christ and the liberation that Christ brings.

1) The Scripture Reading during the Service is Psalm 97 - The power of God expressed in Psalm 97 points toward the same kind of freedoms proclaiming that righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's reign. God's power is revealed in a passion for fairness, not in arrogant rule.

The Sermon is based on Acts 16:16-34, our focus scripture for this week. Worship and prayer highlight this story of liberation and freedom. It begins with Paul and Silas once again on their way to a place of worship and prayer. Worship is also in the middle of the story as Paul and Silas, not intimidated by prison shackles, are found praying and singing hymns to God. The story concludes with the baptism of the jailer and his family, now set free from the fear previously imposed on their lives by domination and being exploited. A slave girl that Paul and Silas meet on their way to prayer, sets in motion the liberating spirit of Christ. She continues calling out to Paul and Silas and sees them in a both a familiar and unfamiliar way-they are bound but they also have a freedom that is denied to her. Paul offers healing, which annoys her owners and is seen as a threat. That is why Paul and Silas are imprisoned. While in prison, there was a violent earthquake and the doors opened wide. All the men in jail were able to break out, break their bonds.

Additional Scripture Readings: John 17: 20-26, and Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21.

Reflections on the readings from this Sunday.

a) What was the accusation against Paul and Silas? How were they treated? b) What strength did Paul and Silas draw from their religious traditions during this ordeal? c) What kind of "chains" bound each of the main characters in this story? d) Who experienced freedom in this story? How did they gain it? e) If you were facing a challenging time,

which verses from Psalm 97 would give you strength and support? f) Who and what provided support to help you stand firm during difficult times in your life?

Acts 16:16-34 is more than a story of a divine jail break and more than a story of the main characters. It is a story about liberating love experienced by unnamed characters. It is a gospel not for the few but for the many. A story not just for the well-known but for the unknown also. The freedom God offers is life altering. It changes our way of living and our way of viewing God, who leads in a way so different from the world that we cannot help but sit up and notice.

2) Free us O God, from chains that stifle the free flow of your spirit. Lead us to rejoice in your presence, wherever your path may lead. Amen

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## Welcome Team

**Assisting This Week:** *Narthex* – Wendy Johnson *Sanctuary* – Ruth Kochanuk *Fellowship Lounge* – Jean Stopa *Elevator* – Terry Stopa *Reader* – Chris Monk

**Assisting Next Week:** *Narthex* – Kate Sparrow *Sanctuary* – Ev Courtney *Fellowship Lounge* – Bev Mathew *Elevator* – Anna Loughlin *Communion* – Katie and Bill Powell

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**Our Prayer Chain is available.** When you have a prayer concern, call Kate Sparrow @ 905-302-4549 or the church office.

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**Emergency Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Onsite**  
Located in the sanctuary on the landing going up to the balcony on the center of the wall.

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## Streetsville United Church

Supply Minister: Rev. Don Gibson [dongibson@streetsvilleunited.ca](mailto:dongibson@streetsvilleunited.ca)

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## Support those who support you

Giving thanks is an important part of living faithfully. We are extremely grateful for your past and continuing support. Without you, our mission to spread God's word and support our communities would be impossible. It is a way to sow, to *invest* in the church, so that all may reap the blessings to come.

Streetsville United Church needs you now more than ever. Please consider any of the many ways to invest in our church to continue supporting our congregation and surrounding communities. Small changes like a slight weekly or monthly increase or more regular giving go a long way. All giving methods are on the website or contact the office for help.

- You can e-transfer directly to the church (use [info@streetsvilleunited.ca](mailto:info@streetsvilleunited.ca)) or to the UCW (use [stvlucw@bell.net](mailto:stvlucw@bell.net)).
- Canada Helps (tax receipts provided by Canada Helps).
- Mailing in a cheque or post-dated cheques to the church (or drop off at secure mailboxes front and back of the church)
- Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) - automatic monthly deposits to the church. For more details, contact Bev Mathew at [bev.mathew@rogers.com](mailto:bev.mathew@rogers.com) or 905-826-5005.