



Jubilation Express!

Special Fall Edition

What's Going on at Jubilee!

What We Did This Summer

This summer I did lots of things.

I got my hair cut really short. Partly because it was summer, and partly because there wasn't as much hair there as there used to be, so it seemed foolish to pretend otherwise.

I started my summer by getting a major sunburn. Apparently putting sunscreen on your children does not protect the whole family. Still, we spent that day swimming in one of my favourite places, surrounded by family, and even watched an eagle soar overhead. So, on balance, worth it.

I also got a new grandson in June, which was probably the biggest thing that happened. And I made my granddaughter laugh more than 100 times. I did not actually keep count, but I am confident this is accurate. Grandchildren are excellent for your self-esteem because they sometimes think you are hilarious for reasons that would impress no one else.

I planted two gardens with my kids. The front garden died despite our best efforts. The backyard garden flourished with almost no help at all. There may be a lesson there. We ate beans from the stalk, watched a sunflower bloom and spent weeks debating whether one mysterious green globe was a pumpkin or a watermelon.

I rode my bike a lot and did not get sunburned, which I believe demonstrates considerable maturity.

I went glow-in-the-dark mini-putting with the 20 Somethings. I did not make par, but had a wonderful time anyway.

I had long talks with my wife, and I wasn't even in trouble. We talked about important things, unimportant things and sometimes nothing much at all. Those may have been some of the best conversations.

There was a lot of Jubilee in our summers too...

Ukulele Camp filled the church with kids, music and creativity. There were lunches with our wonderful children and youth leaders, a Jubilee Cares picnic under the trees, Community Table evenings, and an unforgettable night listening to Erika Wood and friends sing an entire Adele album.

And people kept coming to church.

Jubilee didn't empty out the way churches once seemed to in the summer. Even most of the choir came and sat in the congregation, which must have been strange for them because they rarely get to see my face when I preach.

I saw two terrific musicals and discovered a French restaurant so good that it made me wish I were rich enough to eat there twice a week.

I spent some of the last days of summer sorting Lego. Piece by piece, colour by colour: sage with the greens, teal with the blues, cardinal with the pinks simply because it looks better there. At the same time, I was sorting school supplies, family schedules and all the routines that tell us September is coming.

I slept in. I read the newspaper every day. I spent quality time with my kids. I may even have reminded my wife why she loves me, although she has issued no official statement.

And somewhere in all of that, there was God. Not dramatically. No lightning bolts. No great revelations. Just casual, easy conversation — riding a bike, sitting in the backyard, planting a garden, sharing a meal, listening to music, sorting Lego, sitting quietly and being grateful.

And now, at Jubilee, we are doing a little sorting too — calendars, programs, gatherings, ideas and possibilities for the season ahead.

As you look through these pages, perhaps you'll find something that catches your attention: something familiar, something new, something that might bring you together with other people, or draw you a little closer to God.

It was a very good summer.

And we're very glad to begin the fall with you.

Revs. Norm and Anne

Labour Day has come and gone. Kids and teachers have returned to school, families and friends are back from vacation, and activities at Jubilee are resuming after the summer break. There is a lot going on! To help you find things of interest to get involved in here at Jubilee, we've put together this incredible list, divided into four categories. Most activities are free, but if there is a cost, the item will be marked with a \$\$\$. Likewise, if there's a more appropriate age group, an item might be marked with a C for children and youth or an S for seniors. **Let's look at the list!**

If you find something of interest, flip through the pages that follow to find out more about the specific activity. You can always contact the office for even more information.

WORSHIP

- Sunday worship service
- Godly Play -- C --
- Youth Group -- C --
- Common Ground Worship
- Ulterior Worship

SOCIAL / GROUPS

- UCW – United Church Women
- Prayer Shawl Group
- Men's Contemplation Group
- 20-Somethings
- Bridge Group (online)
- Euchre Group -- \$\$ --
- Community Table
- Tuesday Coffee
- Pizza and Movie nights
- Seniors Social -- S --

STUDY

- Bible Study (Rev Norm)
- Women's Bible Study (Rev Anne)
- Book Study (Krista Oks)
- Brown Bag and Bible
- Path of the Wise Woman -- \$\$ --
- Outreach Lecture Series
- Confirmation Classes – C --

MUSIC/SPECIAL

- Jubilee Choir
- Grove Music School -- \$\$ C --
- Jubilee Kids Open Mic – C --
- Jubilee Garage Sale
- Jubilee Market
- Jubilee Fitness -- \$\$ --
- Metropolitan Silver Band concert
- Brookbanks Fashion Show -- \$\$ --
- Jubilee Campfire

Find Jubilee at
40 Underhill Dr.
Toronto, ON

416-447-6846
admin@jubileeunited.ca

**JUBILEE REALLY DOES
WANT YOU TO
COME TO CHURCH**

We have a generous fund set aside just to pay for Taxis so that everybody who wants to come to Jubilee for Sunday Worship or an event at the Church (like Community Table) can join us. It is no charge to you and an important part of our community ministry.

IF YOU CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (416)447-6846 OR SPEAK WITH EITHER OF OUR MINISTERS WE WILL GET VOUCHERS FOR BECK TAXI INTO YOUR HANDS. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ORDER A BECK TAXI BY PHONE, FILL IN YOUR NAME AND YOUR DESTINATION ON THE VOUCHER, THE DRIVER CAN DO THE REST. YOU WILL BE TRANSPORTED TO AND FROM JUBILEE AT NO COST TO YOU. WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US WHEN YOU CAN, SO PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CALL - WE'LL DELIVER TAXI VOUCHERS TO YOU RIGHT AWAY!

**Jubilee
UNITED CHURCH**



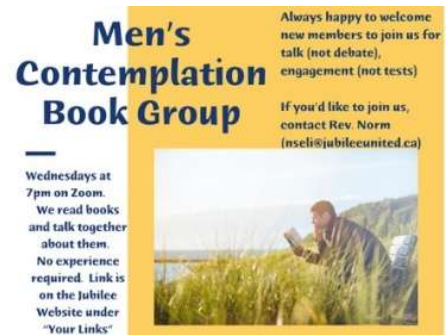
WORSHIP

- **Sunday worship service** is at the very heart of Jubilee. Rev. Norm Seli and Rev. Anne Dionisio lead the Sunday morning services starting at 10:30am. Come and join us in faith and fellowship. If you would like to join us at Jubilee but don't have ride, we are happy to provide a cab to or from Sunday services (and many other Jubilee events). The cost is covered by Jubilee's transportation fund, made available so that you can join us more often.
- **Godly Play** is our Sunday morning program for kids ages 3-12ish. Each Sunday, Jubilee has an excellent team of leaders who are excited to welcome and teach children and younger youth who attend Sunday worship service time.
- **Youth Group** is for the older kids (10+) as an age-appropriate alternative way to be part of our community during the Sunday worship service.
- **Common Ground Worship** is a 7pm worship service that takes place on the first Sunday of each month. This service features the Jubilee Grove Band and is based on open discussion between scripture, music and our lives.
- **Ulterior Worship** happens twice a month, scheduled for the second and fourth Mondays at 6:30pm. This is an informal service with typical attendance between 16 and 30 people with hymns and scripture. Rev. Seli shares a sermon and often the folks talk about it. The gathering is informal, but the feeling is very special.



SOCIAL / GROUPS

- **UCW – United Church Women** is a fellowship group open to all women of the congregation. They meet on the first Monday of each month at 12:00 pm for fellowship, food and fun. Please bring your own lunch and they will provide the dessert and beverages. After visiting over lunch, they enjoy a variety of monthly programs, including guest speakers, travelogs, games, book reviews, and more.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** has provided prayer shawls and lap blankets to many in the Jubilee community who have found themselves in need of some comfort since its inception in 2018. They also provide baby blankets for baptisms, shawls for new members, and hats and scarves for those in need. They enjoy sharing special moments in conversation as they create during their time together on Tuesday mornings. They always appreciate donations of wool and would be delighted to welcome new members.
- **Men's Contemplation Group** - a few men gather to talk about the book that they are reading together. This is not a debating society, just an informal and sincere sharing of experience and response to a couple of chapters of a book. Previous books include "Falling Upward" by Richard Rohr, "The Second Mountain" by David Brooks, "Is God Real" by Lee Strobel and "Mere Christianity" by C.S. Lewis. You are invited to join them mid-book if you like.



- **20 Somethings** group for young adults ages 20-30ish can be found after church heading out for casual activities including coffee, lunch, ice cream, bowling, walks, and rumour has it that there may be karaoke soon too! – Sundays after worship this fall on Sept 20, Oct 18 and Nov 15.
- **Bridge Group** (online) organizer Dick Patrick says, “If you are a bridge player looking for another opportunity to play the game you enjoy, consider the Jubilee Bridge Game, with a partner or we will try to pair you up with another player.” They play weekly on Monday afternoons using an online Bridge platform.
- **Euchre Group** is a long-standing group at Jubilee that plays Bid Euchre every Tuesday. There does seem to be a nominal cost to play.
- **Community Table** is the name of our monthly dinner at 6pm on the second Saturday of the month. This free meal is served to anyone who shows up - no donations, no cost. The menu varies and is not generally available in advance of the dinner date.



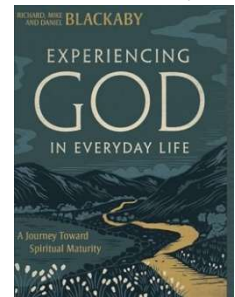
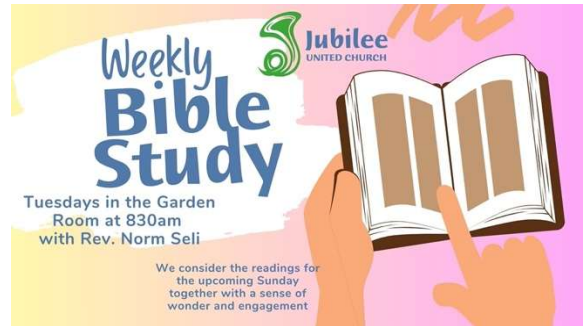
- **Tuesday Coffee** is a weekly informal social meet, greet, and chat over coffee, tea, and sweets. People gather around 1pm and hang around until 2:30 or so.
- **Pizza and Movie nights** have become such a hit that Jubilee Cares would like to continue their every-other-month gathering for ... you guessed it, pizza and a movie! Typically scheduled on the last Sunday of the month, every other month, at 5:30pm, please feel free to call the Jubilee office to confirm the next date and let us know you're coming.
- **Seniors Social** is a new activity planned for the seniors at Jubilee. Organizers are planning an afternoon of games (Monopoly, Uno, Cribbage, Scrabble, etc.), conversation, and fun. Light refreshments will be served. First event date is on Saturday, October 17, from 2-4pm. We hope this will become a monthly event not to be missed.

Have you found something new in our social and group listings? Turn the page for more information about our many study groups and other events!



STUDY

- **Bible Study** with Rev. Norm weekly on Tuesday mornings, 8:30-9:45am. Norm says, “No experience is required and no advance study needed. A small group gets together to consider the readings that will be included in the upcoming Sunday service and talk about them, not historically or like puzzles, but as living word – we talk about how we feel about the word and what it means to us. Everyone has a chance to speak, and we always discover something that we weren’t thinking about before. You are welcome to join us any time.”
- **Women’s Bible Study** with Rev. Anne meets twice a month, usually on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 2pm. This group starts back on September 22. The Women’s Bible Study centers on women’s voices in scripture. No prior knowledge of the passages is required.
- **Book Study** with Krista Oks is a new activity of faith exploration and book study of *Experiencing GOD in Everyday Life* – working together to strengthen our faith and get to know God better, recognizing God in our everyday lives. The book is available from the usual on-line sources for around \$30. If access or cost is preventing you from joining, please let Rev. Seli know. We have a couple of copies on hand and would be glad to share. The meeting sessions start on October 13 from 6:00-7:30pm and continue for 8 weeks.
- **Brown Bag and Bible** meets monthly for a group reflection and deep dive into familiar scripture passages, asking ourselves, “What does this mean to me?” No special effort required, just show up, maybe with a brown bag lunch, and Revs. Norm and Anne will provide the reading. Meeting again Sept. 13 and Oct. 11.
- **Path of the Wise Woman** is a monthly workshop facilitated by Roz Espin, in coordination with Rev. Anne, that invites participants to a journey of remembrance, healing and awakening to who we really are as souls. There is a workshop cost of \$30 per person, but bursary help is available if needed. Feel free to contact Rev. Anne for more information.
- **Outreach Lecture Series** is scheduled to return this fall, thanks to the hard work and planning of Pam Lock. While we don’t have details yet as to the speakers or topics, you can count on the “Be Informed, Be Entertained, Be Inspired” description being fulfilled. These are 90-minute lectures with Q&A after. Refreshments are served before the lecture and you are welcome to take them with you into the auditorium.
- **Confirmation Classes** are a youth program for young people who would like to learn more about faith and their connection to it. Please contact Spencer or Anne if you are or know of a youth who would like to participate. Classes will be held on Sundays starting September 20 @ 10 am.



MUSIC/SPECIAL

- **Jubilee Choir** always extends a welcome to new singers wishing to join. Led by Jeannie Wyse, the choir is an integral part of the Sunday worship services as well as our separate concert events at Christmas and again in the spring. Rehearsals are Thursday evenings at 7pm and again Sunday mornings at 9:30am before the worship service begins. If you've enjoyed listening to the choir and have had thoughts of joining, now would be a great time to come see how Jeannie brings out the best in her singers. Dianne says, "It's such a joy to sing in the choir at Jubilee!"
- **Grove Music School** is a Jubilee music ministry extension, providing "a welcoming and inclusive space where individuals of all ages and skill levels can explore the joy of music. Rooted in community, we foster creativity, self-expression, and lifelong learning by offering accessible, high-quality music education that nurtures artistic growth and meaningful connection." While most of the students are children, people of all ages are welcome to sign up for lessons. There is a cost for the sessions, but financial assistance is available if needed. Private lessons, ensembles, various instruments, and levels of instruction – the Grove Music School offers so much to so many!
- **Jubilee Kids Open Mic** gives us a fun, casual event where kids can take the stage and share their talents in a supportive environment. Music, dance, comedy, magic, or anything else they'd like to perform is welcome. Open to the wider community, the Open Mic events are hosted by Grove Music School and Jubilee Cares.
- **Jubilee Garage Sale** is at the heart of Jubilee's fundraising! It's coming again on - - - - **October 3, from 8am – 1pm.** - - >> Bargain hunters will abound at our second garage sale this year. We fill the building with generous donations of nearly new, gently used items of all kinds. This fall, we'll be accepting donations from Wednesday to Friday to stock up for our big sale on Saturday. There will also be a bottle drive to raise more funds for the ministries and programming here at Jubilee.
- **Jubilee Market** is a wonderful chance to meet direct sellers and artisans in our area. Not only will you find a multitude of art forms and other items you will not find in any store, but you could also meet with folks who may live in your neighbourhood. You'll also have a chance to see some of the things Jubilee has to offer, both tangible and intangible. Jubilee (Christmas) Market is happening again this November 14, from 9:30am to 2:00pm. No cost to enter, but there's a lot of opportunity to shop at our vendors' tables.



Do you have items to donate?

Quality, nearly new items only please.

Garage sale items can be dropped off:

Wed Sept 30 – 3-7pm,

Thurs Oct 1 – 10am-7pm &

Fri Oct 2 – 10am- 2pm

Call 416-447-6846 for large item pickup

We do not accept:

Mattresses, sofa beds, suitcases, large appliances, computers, typewriters, console TVs, baby car seats or cribs, or encyclopedias.

Bottle Drive

Collecting refundable alcohol beverage containers: including empty wine, beer, cider, cooler, spirits, bottles, cans.

Collecting canning jars to refill with jams, jellies, preserves for the November Christmas Market.

Drop off bottles with your donations or on Garage Sale Day.

- **Jubilee Fitness**, a low impact aerobics class led by a certified fitness instructor, will offer you the opportunity to enjoy a great cardiovascular workout and improve your strength and flexibility. There is a nominal cost for this activity. Classes are held on Wednesday mornings at 10am starting September 9.
- **Metropolitan Silver Band concert** – enjoy the brilliant sounds of brass at this free concert on Sunday, October 18, 7:30pm. Donations are accepted at the door. It's certainly not every day such an accomplished brass band shows up at Jubilee! We hope you'll come enjoy the show.
- **Brookbanks for African Grannies Fashion Show** fundraiser presented by Lady Sophisticate will be held at Jubilee Saturday, October 24, from 2-4:30pm. More details will be released soon, but it's going to be a fantastic afternoon, folks.
- **Jubilee Campfire** gives us the opportunity to enjoy the fun of camp without having to leave the comfort of the city. We'll meet on the labyrinth on Saturday, September 19 at 1pm. Hope you'll join us.



And of course, you know that things happen all time around Jubilee that simply aren't planned or scheduled. Conversations and projects come to life as the Spirit moves us, as we listen to and create with each other. Your ministers are readily available to talk, and you'll be amazed to discover how many folks are open and interested in new ideas or simple conversations. Jubilee is a vital place.



The Benevolent Fund

Back to school for many, back to work for some, back to rent, heating bills and groceries, all of which seem to only go up, for most. The requests made to our Benevolent Fund continue to increase and folks feel overwhelmed by the cost of living in Toronto. We continue to offer quiet, compassionate help to people and families who might otherwise fall through the cracks. Over the summer, we have helped with groceries, utilities, transportation, summer camp and now, school supplies and other urgent needs.

I am overwhelmed by your generosity and support as this summer's donations were far more than I anticipated and I want to take this the opportunity to say thank you. Jubilee continues to make a difference, offering help, dignity, and hope to people who need to know they have not been forgotten.

You can support the Benevolent Fund you can do so through the usual means simply by marking your gift "Benevolent Fund."

With deep gratitude,
Norm

