



# St. Mark's Newsflash

February 2018

## Important Dates

### Sunday February 4

Super Bowl Chili Lunch 11:00 am  
See [page 3](#) for more information

### Tuesday February 13

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper  
& Ash Wednesday service  
See [page 2](#) for more information

### Sunday February 25

Annual Congregational Meeting –  
11:30 am

### Monday February 26

Community Lunch Table – 12 pm  
See [page 2](#) for more information

### Saturday March 3 - 9 am - 1 pm

CPR & AED Recertification Course  
See [page 4](#) for more information

### Monday March 26

Community Lunch Table – 12 pm  
See [page 2](#) for more information

### March 25 - 31

#### Holy Week

Palm Sunday – March 25  
Maundy Thursday – March 29  
Good Friday – March 30

### Sunday April 1

#### Easter Sunday

Son-rise Service – 7:00 am –  
Rotary Sunrise Lake Park Pavilion

Easter Service – 10:00 am  
Followed by Easter Egg Hunt

### Saturday April 7

U.C.W. Annual Progressive & Live  
Auction – 1-5 pm  
See [page 4](#) for more information

### Sunday April 8

Holy Hilarity Sunday – 10:00 am

## The First Blades of Grass

January 31, 2018

Sitting this morning, enjoying the sun coming in my window, with beautiful white snow on the ground that has fallen today, I was thinking Lent is weeks and weeks away. Then...reality check. It's not. We are nearly at the end of the Season of Epiphany that will lead us straight into Lent.

We kick off this new time of the year with Shrove Tuesday and a pancake supper in the hall – pancakes, whip cream, syrup, sprinkles, sweet, sweet, sweet. Then, as is our practice, I move Ash Wednesday to about 7:30 p.m. that same Tuesday night as it will be Wednesday somewhere in the world. This allows us to have our Ash Wednesday service on Tuesday combining both traditional Christian celebrations together.

This year's first Lenten service will be Feb 18 and the 4<sup>th</sup> Whitby Scouts will be with us. I really enjoy this Sunday with the scouters and their leaders. The service will be one through which I will explain what we do, when and why we do it. We will be having communion, setting the table together, that all might understand the Lord's Supper better, and hopefully, more deeply.

As we move from Epiphany, through which God is revealed to us through Jesus, we enter into Lent. During Epiphany the scriptures draw us into 'getting it', that is, God revealed through Jesus and what that means. Then Lent invites us to go into ourselves and ask if we are living our lives following the way of Jesus. We learn more about him and hopefully about us too. Lent is a very powerful time. It can be life changing. I know for sure. It is like a time of offering and embracing who we are at our core, and then with Holy Week, emptying ourselves to start new Easter morning. It can often be filled with surprises!

I hope you might join with us for Shrove Tuesday pancakes, and travel with us through the weeks of Lent. May your journey take you fully, wholly, honestly, freely into your faith, your life, and where God is in your life. May you experience something new being born in you Easter morning as we look up to the sky, around at the trees, down to our feet where the first blades of grass just might be pushing up and out of the darkness of the earth. New life. Once again and always.

Peace to your hearts,

Rev. Deb  
dfoster@stmarkswitby.ca  
905-668-3091 ext. 222

## St. Mark's Book Club

9:30 – 11 am

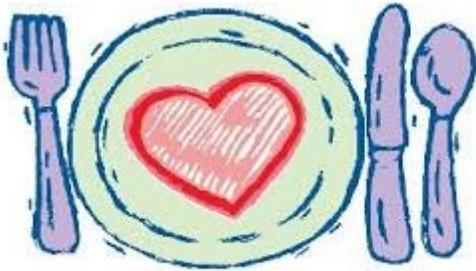
February 27, 2018  
*Hostages of Fortune*  
by Peter C. Newman

March 20, 2018  
*The Light Between  
Two Oceans*  
by M.L. Steadman



Contact Carole Beam for more information

## St. Mark's Community Lunch Table



Monday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - 12 pm  
Monday March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – 12 pm  
Hot lunch and fellowship offered  
to our neighbours and community!

Please RSVP with the office if you plan to attend  
either date 905-668-3091 x0

## St. Mark's Men's Club presents

*Shrove  
Tuesday* Pancake  
Dinner



Tuesday February 13, 2018  
Dinner: 6 pm  
Ash Wednesday service to follow

Gluten free pancakes available  
Free will offering



Help us keep St. Mark's a scent  
free zone.

Please refrain from wearing  
cologne, perfume, or other strong  
scents as they are harmful to some.



Chili, Roll and Dessert \$7 – Take Out Available  
Hosted by Christian Education & Youth Group

### St. Marks welcomes Durham Montessori School and Daycare to Church House

We are pleased to be able to share with you that a lease agreement has been reached with the Durham Montessori School to occupy the Church House, to operate as a daycare facility.

For more about Durham Montessori, see [www.dmsd.ca](http://www.dmsd.ca), or the information below on this page.

When you may see or meet our new partners at Church House, please offer them the warmest of St. Mark's greetings. This is a great opportunity to celebrate the continued use of our Church House as we live out our vision and mission that we worked so hard to create and as we serve together in downtown Whitby.

#### Durham Montessori School & Daycare Daycare open all year round except statutory holidays

##### Toddlers Program

Ages 15 months(1.3 yrs) – 30 months(2.5 yrs)

**Ratio:** 1 RECE Teacher to 5 Toddlers

Our Toddler Program is based on the principle that young children learn best through direct hands-on experiences. Our toddlers are encouraged to discover the world around them by exploring and playing with a purpose. They develop relationships with their teachers and friends, thereby fostering a sense of security and trust. We have an abundance of materials and activities to stimulate the senses and promote holistic development. Our bright and cheerful rooms have lots of natural light. We provide parents with a daily report of their child's day. The Daily Report will include milestones achieved, foods eaten, diaper changes and more.

##### Preschoolers Program

Ages 30 months (2.5 yrs to 6 yrs)

**Ratio:** 1 RECE Teacher to 8 Preschoolers

At this stage of a child's development, they are becoming more independent and develop stronger social skills. Children who feel secure, respected and appreciated in their surroundings gain confidence. Our preschoolers learn school readiness skills to help them transition well into Kindergarten. We provide them with the perfect developmental materials, games, books and activities to occupy their curious, eager and energetic minds in the areas of science, math, language, sensory, creative arts and dramatic play. Weekly classes that include Music, Computers, French, Physical Education and Library enrich the program for our children's development.

Please feel free to contact us at [info@dmsd.ca](mailto:info@dmsd.ca)  
or call us at 905-665-0505 if you have any inquiries.

**St. Mark's United Church  
Women present**

*Annual Spring into Auction*

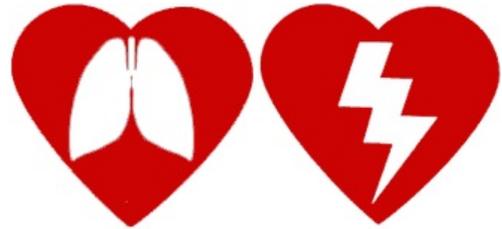
*Includes silent, progressive  
and live auction items*

**Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Open to the Public  
Free Admission

**AUCTION**



**CPR & AED TRAINING**

**Saturday March 3, 2018**

**9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**Sign up available on the sheet  
outside the Parish Nurse office  
or  
for more information contact  
Carole Beam or the Church Office  
905-668-3091**



**Save a life.  
Get CPR trained.**

**St Mark's  
United  
Church**

201 Centre Street  
South  
Whitby, Ontario  
L1R 4V7

905-668-3091  
[www.stmarkswhitby.ca](http://www.stmarkswhitby.ca)

For a full listing of what's on at St. Mark's, see the calendar on the Church website  
<http://stmarkswhitby.ca/calendar/st-marks-united-church-calendar/>

**Minister:** Rev. Deb Foster  
905-668-3091, Ext. 222  
[dfoster@stmarkswhitby.ca](mailto:dfoster@stmarkswhitby.ca)

**Organist:** Henry Remiz  
[chancelchoir@stmarkswhitby.ca](mailto:chancelchoir@stmarkswhitby.ca)

**Administrator:** Tori Hazlett  
905-668-3091, Ext. 221/0  
[office@stmarkswhitby.ca](mailto:office@stmarkswhitby.ca)

**Caretaker:** Jim Deveau  
905-391-6121

**Parish Nurse:** Carole Beam  
905-668-3091, Ext. 223  
[cbeam@stmarkswhitby.ca](mailto:cbeam@stmarkswhitby.ca)

**Sunday School:** Susan Iemma  
[sundayschool@stmarkswhitby.ca](mailto:sundayschool@stmarkswhitby.ca)

**Youth:** Meghan Coolen  
[youth@stmarkswhitby.ca](mailto:youth@stmarkswhitby.ca)



The United Church of Canada 