

Jan. 14, 2026

Last week we all had to endure a day of very high winds. Now, I have to admit, I can tolerate heavy downpours of rain, blizzards, sleet, hail, etc. However, strong winds make me very uneasy. I had the “pleasure” a couple of years ago to witness a tree being blown over onto my back fence wiping out a good portion of it. Not only that, but spears of branches were impaled into the ground just as if Zeus himself had thrown them to earth. I do not like the sound of it as I experienced 2 tropical storms while on vacation in South Carolina many years ago. The sound was very unsettling, and I did not like it at all. Following is something that I found that is all about a more religious and spiritual outlook on severe weather situations. I particularly liked the line ***“True peace is not the absence of a storm, but the presence of Jesus in the midst of it.”*** I must try to look upon turbulent weather as a sign from God that He will protect me and mine and He will lead me through the storm whether literal or metaphorically.

A very windy day often serves as a powerful metaphor for the **storms and challenges in life**, prompting reflections on faith, God's sovereignty, and inner peace. The wind, unseen yet powerful, is frequently used as a symbol for the presence and work of the Holy Spirit.

Here are some religious reflections inspired by a very windy day:

God's Presence in the Chaos

The wind reminds us that even when life feels turbulent and out of control, a higher power is present and in ultimate control.

- **Jesus Calms the Storm:** The biblical story of Jesus calming the storm (Mark 4:35-41, Matthew 8:23-27) is a central reflection. The disciples panicked, but Jesus, who was asleep in the boat, awoke and commanded the wind and waves to be still, demonstrating His authority over all of creation. This story reassures believers that Jesus is in the "boat" with them during life's storms and has the power to bring calm.

- **A Call to Trust, Not Fear:** The wind and waves can induce fear and anxiety, but the spiritual lesson is to focus on God's presence rather than the size of the problem. The question Jesus asks the disciples, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" is a reminder to replace fear with trust in His protection and plan.
- **Strength Through Adversity:** Just as a tree strengthens its roots to withstand strong gusts, life's trials can strengthen our faith and force us to rely on God's strength rather than our own.

The Wind as a Metaphor for the Holy Spirit

In Christian tradition, the very word for spirit in Hebrew (*ruach*) and Greek (*pneuma*) also means "wind" or "breath".

- **The Unseen Force:** The wind is invisible, but its effects are clearly seen and felt. This is compared to the Holy Spirit, whose work in our lives may be mysterious but brings about real change and empowerment.
- **Stirring and Renewal:** The wind can sweep away what is stagnant, purify the atmosphere, and bring renewal, mirroring the Spirit's role in spiritual transformation and revival.
- **Divine Guidance:** A very windy day can be seen as God's breath (or "Spirit-Wind") actively moving things, prompting us to align with His will and purpose.

Cultivating Inner Peace

The external turbulence serves as a prompt to seek internal stillness and peace.

- **Peace in the Presence:** True peace is not the absence of a storm, but the presence of Jesus in the midst of it.
- **The Anchor for the Soul:** In times of overwhelming "wind" (worries, anxieties), prayer and focus on God's promises can anchor the soul and provide a "peace that surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7).

Ultimately, a windy day invites a moment of reflection on the power of the Creator and the invitation to trust in His unwavering presence and strength, no matter how fiercely the winds may blow.

For your listening pleasure here is Josh Grobin singing You'll Never Walk Alone from the musical Carousel.

<https://youtu.be/G1WpGqEOCOg?si=YgDsRNJWUdzvYrf9> You'll Never Walk Alone – Josh Grobin



Worship Calendar

Jan. 18	What Do You Want?	John 1: 29 – 42	Rev. Eric Lee
Jan. 25	Called to Follow, Sent to Advocate	Matthew 4:12-23	Rev. Eric Lee
Feb. 1	Blessed is the Upside-Down Kingdom	Micah 6:1-8 & Matthew 5:1-12	Rev. Eric Lee



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Angels Program for Food Basket Families

Thanks to the generosity of our church members, we were able to raise over \$1200 for our Christmas Angels Program. A donation in the amount of \$1225 was sent to the St James Food Basket and helped to provide frozen chicken and salmon for their client families. Outreach would like to thank all those who were able to contribute to this drive and helped bring a bit of food security to those in need.



It is that time of year again when we are looking for volunteers to serve coffee and tea after worship. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Adamson Lounge.

Jan. 18 – Susan & Nancy

Jan. 25 – Mission Team

Feb. 1 - ????

Feb. 8 - ????

Feb. 15 - ????

Feb. 22 - ????

Thank you to all of you who have given so willingly of your time and efforts. We appreciate you!!



PRAYER REQUESTS AND PASTORAL CARE

* Pray for the people of war-torn countries who are living in fear and uncertainty. Pray for those close to home who need your special love and guidance during trying times. Pray for our country, Canada.

- * **Ethel Waite's** nephew, **Bob Woolley** who is experiencing breathing issues related to heart problems.
- * **Nancy Green** has asked us to pray for member of her family who is hoping and praying to be accepted into a medical study in the New Year.
- * **Paul Mgobo** asks us to pray for his family back at home and for God to help him achieve and complete the mission that the Lord created for him to achieve.
- * **Paul Mgobo** also asks us to pray for the good health of his father-in-law who has been in and out of hospital.
- * **Godfrey Miringu** asks us to pray for the healing of his mother-in-law who is in stage 4 cancer, and for his daughter who is sitting her final exams. He also seeks our prayers for protection and guidance as he starts his new job as a Go Bus driver.
- * Pray for all of our young people as they start and try to start their own families. Give them hope and strength and joy in the coming year to truly trust in the Lord our saviour.

*** Also, please keep these people in your prayers:**

Giulietta Ponzini, Ryan Jory, John Thomas, Harold Hussey, Teresia Njoki, Roman and Adrian P., Ed Latimer, Ethel Waite, Lynne Bishop, Debbie Homebrooke and family, Margaret Munene's brother Simon, Lenore Carty, Shelia Thomas' grandson, Carter, the Jarvis family, Olive S.

Please keep these folks, and indeed, everyone in our church family and people around the world, in your prayers.

Note from your editor...could you please advise me from time to time on the status of your loved ones so that updates can be recorded and shared to prove that the power of prayer does work miracles.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- * Tuesdays @ 11:00 AM – Walking Group – All are welcome
- * Thursdays @ 2:00 PM – Worship service at Centennial Park Place
- * Thursday, Jan. 15 @ 9:30 AM – Sing! Etobicoke @ NPCC
- * Sunday, Jan. 18 @ 11:45 AM – Bell Ringers rehearsal
- * Tuesday, Jan. 20 @ 6:30 PM - Session
- * Monday, Jan 26 @ 6:30 PM – Mission Team meeting (Zoom)
- * Friday, Jan. 30 @ 2:00 PM – Music & Worship
- * Sunday, Mar. 8 @ 11:30 AM – Annual General Meeting

Prayer/Reader/Announcements for 2026

<u>Prayer Roster</u>	<u>Lay Readers</u>	<u>Welcome and Announcements</u>
Jan. 18	Susan Chopp	Chris Parr
Jan. 25	Pastor Eric	Susan Chopp
Feb. 1	Koko Ikele	Chuka Ikele
Feb. 8	Kathy Twynam	Jean Fox
Feb. 15	Margaret Munene	Maureen Screen
Feb. 22	Rachael Chen	Margaret Munene
		Kathy Twynam
		Nancy McPherson
		Susan Chopp
		Bob Twynam
		Kathy Twynam
		Nancy McPherson



Sing! Etobicoke

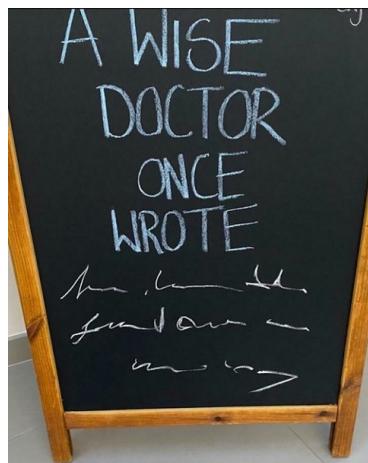
To register, please visit: <https://www.neilsonparkcreativecentre.com/event/sing-etobicoke/>
For information, please email: alex@neilsonparkcreativecentre.com or call 416-622-5294.

Sing! Etobicoke, Encore, 2026 Winter Schedule

2026-01-15	9:30 AM	NPCC	Songs of the North	W26ASE2
2026-01-22	9:30 AM	GV	A Day in the Life	W26ASE3
2026-01-29	9:30 AM	GV	Be My Light	W26ASE4
2026-02-05	9:30 AM	NPCC	Guest Day (with Men Aloud)	W26ASE5
2026-02-12	9:30 AM	GV	Love Me Tender	W26ASE6
2026-02-19	9:30 AM	GV	Singin' in the Rain	W26ASE7
2026-02-26	9:30 AM	GV	Catch a Falling Star	W26ASE8
2026-03-05	9:30 AM	NPCC	Do I ever Cross Your Mind?	W26ASE9
2026-03-12	9:30 AM	NPCC	Here Comes the Sun (Songs of Spring)	W26ASE10



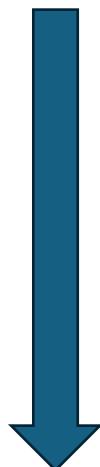
WEEKLY GIGGLE



Where to Find Us

Contact Person	Email Address	Phone Number	Role/Note
Susan Chopp	choppertini@hotmail.com	419-953-7582	Weekly News
Pastor Eric	pastor@graceview.ca	416-621-0888 (press #1)	Church related issues
Church Office (Halyna)	office@graceview.ca		Church Secretary
Dr. Glen DeLine	delineglen@gmail.com	905-849-0388	Music Director
Graceview Website	https://graceview.ca/calendar-events		
Facebook Page	Graceview Presbyterian Church		
Instagram Page	https://www.instagram.com/graceview.presbyterian?igsh=MnlpeXE5YTYYN2ly		

January Calendar



JANUARY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Sing! Etobicoke 9:30 - NPCC Service @ CPP 2:00	9	10
11 Rev. Sean Howard	12	13 Walking Group 11:00 Craft Club 11:00	14	15 Sing! Etobicoke 9:30 - NPCC Service @ CPP	16	17
18 What Do You Want? Rev. Eric Lee	19	20 Walking Group 11:00 Session 6:30 PM	21	22 Sing! Etobicoke 9:30 - GV Service @ CPP 2:00	23	24
25 Called to Follow, Sent to Advocate Rev. Eric Lee	26 Mission Team 6:30 PM via Zoom	27 Walking Group 11:00	28	29 Sing! Etobicoke 9:30 - GV Service @ CPP 2:00	30 Music & Worship 2:00 PM	31