



Oct. 28, 2026

As Halloween looms on the horizon, I am again prepared to turn off my lights and pretend to not be at home. As a child, I did go out trick or treating, but when I was made to answer the door to trick or treaters, I developed a strong aversion to Halloween. It might be the fact that trick or treaters who were well past the age of “cuteness” were at my front door with their identities disguised or it might be due to the fact that as a young child, I was terrified by a clown in the nearby shopping mall. (I detest clowns to this very day) Whatever the reason, I just cannot summon up the gumption to open my front door to trick or treaters. We all know about the “Grinch that stole Christmas”, well in my family I am the “Susan that dislikes Halloween”. In any case, I found some historical facts about the origins of Halloween. If you are a Halloweeners, by all means, enjoy the night. I, on the other hand, will be hunkered down in the family room watching TV in the dark.

Halloween originated over 2,000 years ago from the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in).

Celtic Samhain Roots

- **New Year's Eve:** The Celts—who lived in areas that are now Ireland, the UK, and northern France—celebrated their new year on November 1.
- **The Veil Thins:** October 31 marked the end of the harvest and the start of the cold, dark winter. The Celts believed the boundary between the living and the dead blurred on this night.
- **Bonfires and Costumes:** People lit large sacred bonfires, offered crops or animals to deities, and wore animal heads or skins to hide from or confuse wandering spirits.

Christian Influence

- **All Saints' Day:** In the 8th century, Pope Gregory III moved **All Saints' Day** (All Hallows') to November 1 to honor all saints and martyrs.
- **All Hallows' Eve:** The night before became known as **All Hallows' Eve**, which eventually shortened to **Halloween**.
- **Souling:** Over time, church traditions absorbed older customs, such as poor people going "a-souling" (begging for food or "soul cakes" in exchange for prayers for the dead).

Evolution of Traditions

- **Jack-o'-Lanterns:** Rooted in the Irish legend of [Stingy Jack](#), a man who tricked the Devil and was forced to wander the earth with a glowing coal inside a hollowed-out turnip (later replaced by pumpkins in North America).
- **Trick-or-Treating:** Evolved from a mix of British mumming, Scottish guising, and medieval souling, turning into a popular neighborhood custom by the mid-20th century.
- **Immigration to North America:** Irish and Scottish immigrants fleeing the Great Famine in the 19th century brought these customs to North America, shaping the modern, largely secular holiday known today.



Worship Calendar

Nov. 1	Turned Right Side Up pt. 1- The Gospel We Have Received	Micah 3:5-12	Rev. Eric Lee
Nov. 8	Turned Right Side Up pt. 2 Faithful to the Word	Micah 3:8 Revelation 22: 18-19	Rev. Eric Lee
Nov. 15	Do We Really Know Jesus?	Matthew 7:21-23 Luke 24:13-18, 30-32	Rev. Eric Lee
Nov. 22	Burning, Not Consumed: The Great I AM	Exodus 3:1-15	Rev. Eric Lee
Nov. 29	When Heaven Seems Silent	Psalm 13	Rev. Eric Lee
Dec. 6	When Waiting Wears Us Down	Psalm 42	Rev. Eric Lee
Dec. 13	When God Seems Unjust	Habakkuk 1:1-5, 2:1-4	Rev. Eric Lee
Dec. 20	The Silence is Not the End	Luke 1:5-25, 57-66	Rev. Eric Lee
Dec. 27	TBA		
Dec. 31	Who Holds Tomorrow?	Psalm 121 & Matthew 2:13-23	Rev. Eric Lee



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Come join us for refreshments and a talk by Laleh Teymour Nezhad, Community Engagement Manager from [Right at Home](#).

Learn what services are available to seniors who are still living at home and want to stay there. Sponsored by the Outreach Committee.

Where? Graceview Presbyterian Church
588 Renforth Drive
Etobicoke ON M9C 2N5
416-621-0888
office@graceview.ca

When? Monday November 16, 10:00 AM

Please let us know if you're coming so we can be prepared with refreshments.

St. James Food Bank

St. James Food Basket is once again in need of egg cartons. (**Cartons for a dozen eggs or a half dozen eggs only**). Please leave them in the cloakroom at Graceview and they will be taken to St. James. Thank you for your help.

Fall Devotional Update (October 12)

A **new** edition of **These Days** (October/November/December), as well as the current edition of **Our Daily Bread** (September/October/November) are available on the table in the church vestibule and in the devotional box on the church porch.

Scripture Readers

Please be advised that a printed copy of the psalms and the scriptures that are to be read on any given Sunday will be placed on the lectern for every Sunday worship service. It has come to our attention that some of our dear readers do not have the ability to make a copy of the readings that Halyna sends out every week. She will now be making a single copy which will be in place in case a reader is not able to have their own printed copy. This will, hopefully, prevent issues of reading the wrong scripture or the wrong version of the scripture. The printed version is exactly what appears on the screen so that everyone is on the same page!

Bible Study Dates

Please take notes of the remaining dates that the Bible Study will occur.

Nov. 3; Nov. 17

Coffee/Tea Sign Up

It is time again to volunteer for coffee/tea service after worship services. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Adamson Lounge. September is already full, but there are plenty of spots left for the remainder of the year. If you can, please sign up for multiple dates, so that we are not left short at the last minute.

Thank you

Nov. - Outreach
Dec. 6 - Susan & Kathy
Dec. 13 - Pat & Harry
Dec. 20 -
Dec. 27 -



Sing! Etobicoke

Sing Etobicoke! 2026 Fall Schedule

Date	Start Time	Location	Workshop Theme
November 3, 2026	9:30 AM	NPCC	Catch a Falling Star
November 10, 2026	9:30 AM	Graceview	The White Cliffs of Dover
November 17, 2026	9:30 AM	NPCC	Canadian Classics
November 24, 2026	9:30 AM	Graceview	La Mer
December 1, 2026	9:30 AM	NPCC	Movie Night
December 8, 2026	9:30 AM	Graceview	Road Trip!
December 15, 2026	9:30 AM	NPCC	Holiday Sing I
December 22, 2026	9:30 AM	Graceview	Holiday Songs (Guest Day II)

Sing! Etobicoke! 2027 Winter Schedule

Date	Start Time	Location	Workshop Theme
January 12, 2027	9:30 AM	Graceview	Voices of Winter
January 19, 2027	9:30 AM	Graceview	The Great American Songbook
January 26, 2027	9:30 AM	Graceview	A Day in the Life
February 2, 2027	9:30 AM	NPCC	Musicals and more (Guest Day III)
February 9, 2027	9:30 AM	NPCC	That's Amore!
February 16, 2027	9:30 AM	NPCC	A Morning of Ballads
February 23, 2027	9:30 AM	Graceview	Downtown
March 2, 2027	9:30 AM	NPCC	Stand By Me
March 9, 2027	9:30 AM	Graceview	Sunshine, Lollipops and Rainbows
March 16, 2027	9:30 AM	NPCC	Voices of Spring (Guest Day IV)



PRAYER REQUESTS AND PASTORAL CARE

* Pray for the people of war-torn countries (Iran, Ukraine, Sudan) 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. Pray for those who are afflicted with the Ebola virus in the African country of Congo.

* **Please keep these people in your prayers:**

Joan Kohar
Ethel Waite
Ali Tavosoli's family
Ruth Ann Ross
Roman and Adrian P.
Jarvis family

Bob Nixon
Anna Cherniak
Viralyne Goolcharan
Harold Hussey
Ed Lattimore
Lenore Carty

Ryan Jory
Margaret Munene's brother Simon
Olive S.
Teresia Njoki
Sheila Thomas' grandson, Carter

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

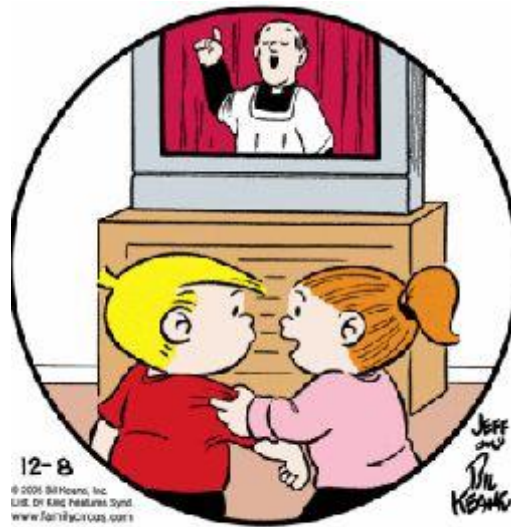
- ❖ Thursdays @ 2:00 PM – Worship service at Centennial Park Place
- ❖ Sunday, Nov. 1 @ 10:30 AM – Remembering Tree Sunday
- ❖ Tuesday, Nov. 3 @ 9:30 AM – Sing! Etobicoke @ NPCC
- ❖ Sunday, Nov. 8 @ 10:30 AM – Remembrance Day Service with guest speaker, Brenda Nash
- ❖ Monday, Nov. 9 @ 6:30 PM – Mission Team meeting
- ❖ Monday, Nov. 16 @ 10:00 AM – Right at Home session
- ❖ Friday, Nov. 27 @ 6:30 PM – Deck the Halls
- ❖ Wednesday, Dec. 16 @ 12 noon – Advent Lunch and Movie



Prayer/Reader/Announcements for 2026

	<u>Prayer Roster</u>	<u>Lay Readers</u>	<u>Welcome and Announcements</u>
Nov. 1	Margaret Munene	Al Bishop	Iris Lee
Nov. 8	Pastor Eric	Nancy McPherson	Susan Chopp
Nov. 15	Nancy Green	Vi Lobodowsky	Bob Twynam
Nov. 22	Susan Chopp	Nancy Green	Iris Lee
Nov. 29	Pastor Eric	Anna Cherniak	Kathy Twynam
Dec. 6	Susan Chopp	Bob Twynam	Nancy McPherson
Dec. 13	Maureen Screen	Harry Learoyd	Susan Chopp
Dec. 20	Pastor Eric	Chris Parr	Bob Twynam
Dec. 27	Nancy McPherson	Susan Chopp	Iris Lee

WEEKLY SMILE



**"Hear that? People in heaven have
ever-laughing life."**

Where to Find Us

Contact Person	Email Address	Phone Number	Role/Note
Susan Chopp	choppertini@hotmail.com	416-953-7582	Weekly News
Pastor Eric Church Office (Halyna)	pastor@graceview.ca office@graceview.ca	416-621-0888 (press #1)	Church related issues Church Secretary
Graceview Website	https://graceview.ca/calendar-events		
Facebook Page	Graceview Presbyterian Church		
Instagram Page	https://www.instagram.com/graceview.presbyterian?igsh=MnlpeXE5YTYyN2ly		

november 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 The Gospel We Have Received Rev. Eric Lee Remembering Tree	2	3 Sing Etobicoke 9:30 NPCC Bible Study 12:15	4	5 Service at CPP 2:00	6	7
8 Faithful to the Word Rev. Eric Lee Remembrance Service	9 Mission Team 6:30 PM	10 Sing Etobicoke 9:30 GV Craft Club 11:00	11 	12 Service at CPP 2:00	13	14
15 Do We Really Know Jesus? Rev. Eric Lee	16 Right at Home Session 10:00 AM	17 Sing Etobicoke 9:30 NPCC Bible Study 12:15	18	19 Service at CPP 2:00	20	21
22 Burning, Not Consumed: The Great I AM Rev. Eric Lee	23	24 Sing Etobicoke 9:30 GV	25	26 Service at CPP 2:00	27 Deck The Halls 6:30 PM	28
29 When Heaven Seems Silent Rev. Eric Lee	30					

