

## Step Onto the Lenten Pathway... 'Coming Back to Life'

During winter we are aware that much of the world lies dormant, and in spring a truly amazing thing happens, no less amazing because it happens every year: the world comes back to life!

As the days lengthen we become aware of the waking world, rising again. That's where the word 'Lent' comes from: an old English word for 'lengthen,' referring to the longer days. 40 days for waking up and getting ready for Easter, a festival of new life celebrating Jesus' resurrection and the new world that's on the way.

This year's Lenten theme is: **'Coming Back to Life'** and we invite you to use the Lenten devotional booklet (provided by the Worship Committee) available on the Welcome Table—devotions and activities for the season of Lent.

Additionally, begonia plants will be available for the next two Sundays (March 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>). Through the solemnity of Lent there is ample proof of home that comes to us in growth; Clear evidence of God's ongoing acts of Creation. You are invited to nurture your plant over the coming weeks, returning it in blossom for Easter Sunday worship to brighten and enliven our worship space.

You may wish to have a tangible reminder of your own personal journey through Lent; river stones are available on the Welcome Table; pick a stone that speaks to you and carry it through the season to Good Friday when we will place them at the foot of the cross.

This year's Lenten study, **'Something Sacred: Reflections on Music and Faith'** can be accessed by Zoom, every Wednesday evening between March 12<sup>th</sup> and April 23<sup>rd</sup> @7pm. (Details are in the announcements pages.)

Further Lenten resources can be found on the AUC website at: [auroraunitedchurch.ca](http://auroraunitedchurch.ca) with new resources posted every week.

The Worship Committee wishes you a meaningful Lenten season.



Palm Sunday-April 13<sup>th</sup>/Good Friday-April 18<sup>th</sup>/Easter Sunday-April 20<sup>th</sup>

Contacting Our Church Staff by Phone 905-727-1935 or Email

Rev. Lorraine Newton-Comar x 23 Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care  
Rev. Andy Comar x 22 Minister of Faith Formation & Pastoral Care  
Suzanne Whitehurst x 21 Secretary  
Affe Zhao x 24 Bookkeeper  
Margaret Heney x 26 Music Coordinator  
Lisa Kyriakides x 27 Handbell Choir Director

lorraine@auroraunitedchurch.ca  
andy@auroraunitedchurch.ca  
info@auroraunitedchurch.ca  
bookkeeper@auroraunitedchurch.ca  
margaret@auroraunitedchurch.ca  
handbells@auroraunitedchurch.ca



## Aurora United Church

April 6, 2025~11 am

Church Office Hours 9 am ~ 12 pm (noon) Monday ~ Thursday

Aurora United Church Office 905-727-1935 x 21 ~ [www.auroraunitedchurch.ca](http://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca)

Annual License w/Podcasting, no. A-718074 for Mar 01, 2024- Feb 28, 2025

*\*Hearing assists available on the Welcome Table and from the volunteer in the sound booth.\**



### April 6 to April 13~ Lent 5

Sun. Apr 6	11 am Lent 5 11 am Nursery (to age 4) 11:15 am Funday Sunday ~ children's program (ages 5-11) 12:30 AGM - Sanctuary
Mon. Apr 7	1:30pm - 3 pm UCW Seekers ~ Historic Chapel
Tue. Apr 8	7 pm Movie Night - Miss Potter ~ Binions Hall
Wed. Apr 9	10 am - 2 pm Aurora Community Café ~ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 10:30 am Chartwell Park Place ~ service 5 pm Welcome Table ~ Trinity Anglican 5:15 pm - 6:45 pm Faith-A-Peal, Handbells ~ Sanctuary 7 pm-8:15pm Bellissimo, Handbells ~ Sanctuary 7 pm Lenten Study Group ~ Zoom
Thurs. Apr 10	11:30 am — 1 pm Martha's Table ~ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 7 pm — 8:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
Sat. Apr 12	9:30 - 10:30 Rise & Shine Community Breakfast
Sun. Apr 13 Cash Card order	11 am Palm Sunday - Communion 11 am Nursery (to age 4) 11:15 am Funday Sunday ~ children's program (ages 5-11)



### RIISING FROM THE ASHES

We are filled with deep gratitude and joy as we announce that thanks to your incredible generosity we have surpassed the targeted amount in our Donor Matching Campaign for *Rising From The Ashes*. **Together, we have raised over \$25,785!** This achievement is a testament to the strength of our community and the spirit of giving. Your participation in the donor matching initiative has been wonderful. Thank you again to our anonymous donor for spearheading this campaign with an initial \$25,000. **The total amount raised is over \$75,000.**

**Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the life of Aurora United Church.**  
With heartfelt thanks and blessings,



### Annual General Meeting

Today following worship!

Lunch provided by UCW



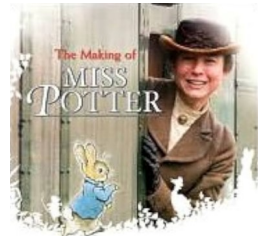
The Life and Work of our Congregation continues....

## Sunday Morning Nursery



Infants to 4yrs

If you are interested in serving as Nursery volunteer (ages teen to adult) contact the office at:



## Movie Night Miss Potter

Tuesday April 8  
7:00 pm  
Binions Hall,

*Miss Potter* is a 2006 biographical drama directed by Chris Noonan. It is based on the life of children's author and illustrator Beatrix Potter, and combines stories from her own life with animated sequences featuring characters from her stories, such as Peter Rabbit.



## Cash Cards

When you purchase gift cards - the church benefits, retaining a percentage of every purchase.

To purchase Cash Cards go to:

<https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/connect/cash-cards--43>



## Coming Back to Life

Be sure to pick up your free copy of 'Coming Back to Life: Devotions and activities for Lent', available on the Welcome Table today.

Also...add a river stone to your Lenten journey (Welcome Table) and return it to the foot of the cross on Good Friday.



## Affirming Ministry (Affirming is a verb!)

The Affirming Ministry Committee is looking forward to **welcoming all** to our annual **Pride Sunday** service on **May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025**.

The congregation is encouraged to wear bright colours to support our vision, "There is a place for everyone at AUC". This year's theme for pride Sunday is – "**Affirming is a Verb**". As such, we are asking all members to tell us what "Affirming is a Verb" means to you in a few short words.

You can submit your response by scanning the below QR code, leave your answer in the rainbow container at the welcome table, or simply speak to any member of the Affirming Ministry Committee.

We hope to see you all there as we **celebrate "love" together**.



## Lenten Study Group on Zoom

Copies of *Something Sacred: Reflections on Music and Faith* are available through the UCRD store

<https://ucrdstore.ca/products/something-sacred-reflections-on-music-and-faith>

You do not need to have the book to join the study group! Every Wednesday from March 12 to April 23 at 7:00 pm

Check out the AUC website for the Zoom link: <https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/news/something-sacred-reflections-on-music-and-faith>



## Funday Sunday— Children's Program

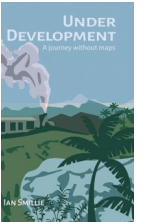
The Funday Sunday Children's Program is for children from age 5-11. Children go downstairs to Binions Hall following the lighting of the rainbow candle.

Children will return upstairs following the service.



## AUC Book Club – Author's Event Tuesday, April 29th - 7pm on Zoom – go to:

<https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/connect/book-club>



Ian Smillie will present his memoir,  
*Under Development: A Journey Without Maps*

Author and Order of Canada Member, Ian Smillie is a strong and effective proponent of Third World development and social justice. Former executive director of Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO), he co-founded and directed Inter Pares, a Canadian NGO devoted to the principle of partnership in development.

*Under Development* tells the story of Ian Smillie's 50-year journey of learning and action, fighting poverty and advancing justice in Africa and around the world.

Mr. Smillie will be introduced by his good friend, Charles Truax.

To prepare for the evening...check out this LRC review-  
<https://reviewcanada.ca/magazine/2025/04/an-aid-memoir/>

and this video from the Aga Khan Foundation- Global Books Event from October 2024

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wg06YrwYer0>



## RISING FROM THE ASHES

Check out the AUC website:

<https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/news/aur-rising-from-the-ashes>

As of Sunday March 30, we have raised **\$234,047.76**

**Thank you for your support!**



## Mark Your Calendars! Rising from the Ashes Spring Concert Saturday May 24 - 7 pm

The AUC Chancel Choir, Handbell Ensembles, and soloists are preparing for our upcoming Rising from the Ashes Spring Fundraising Concert

**Singers** are invited to join the Chancel Choir for this concert.

We will rehearse weekly on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm

**Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

The Life and Work of our Congregation continues.....